



city council minutes

MINUTES
December 3, 2019
CC Regular Session 6:30 pm

The Belle Isle City Council met in a Regular Session on December 3, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall Chambers located at 1600 Nela Avenue, Belle Isle, FL 32809.

Present was:

Mayor Nicholas Fouraker
Commissioner Ed Gold
Commissioner Anthony Carugno
Commissioner Harv Readey
Commissioner Karl Shuck
Commissioner Sue Nielsen

Absent was:

Commissioner Mike Sims
Commissioner Jim Partin

Also present were Attorney Ardaman, City Manager Francis, Chief Houston, and City Clerk Yolanda Quiceno.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fouraker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and confirmed quorum.
Comm Gold led the invocation and pledge to the flag.
Santa Claus gave an unexpected welcome to the Council and residents of Belle Isle.

PUBLIC HEARING

PURSUANT TO BELLE ISLE CODE SEC. 50-33 (6) CITY COUNCIL SHALL CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON A REQUESTED LOT SPLIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW A SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TO BE SPLIT INTO TWO LOTS, SUBMITTED BY APPLICANT ALBERTO SANCHEZ DE FUENTES, LOCATED AT 1534 HOFFNER AVENUE, BELLE ISLE, FL 32809 ALSO KNOWN AS PARCEL # 18-23-30-5120-01-730.

Alberto Sanchez owner of 1534 Hoffner Avenue said he desires to split the parcel for the development of a second primary single-family dwelling and bring to compliance the two existing structures on the property. The two homes will be family-owned.

Hudson Mcmurtrie residing at 1524 Hoffner Avenue said he shares the property line and forced him to be involved with the sale. He spoke in favor of the lot split.

Comm Nielsen said the report provided by staff seems to comply with the code.

Comm Carugno moved to approve the lot split application, as presented in the supporting documents.
Comm Gold seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 4:0.

Comm readey joined the meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mayor Fouraker called for a motion to approve

- a) Approval of City Council minutes – October 15, 2019.

Comm Nielsen moved to approve the Consent Items.
Comm Gold seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 5:0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor Fouraker opened for citizen comments.

There being no further comment, Mayor Fouraker closed citizen comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approval of Gene Polk Park Bid

Mr. Francis reported that the City advertised for the redevelopment of Gene Polk Park. The City received two responses: Price Construction \$371,040 and Cathcart Construction \$341,500. The budget for this project is \$400,000 with \$290,674 coming from FEMA. The staff recommendation is to accept the proposal submitted by Cathcart; however, when Council considers the motion, he reported that staff placed two alternates in the bid because they were not sure how close to the project price the bids will be. The alternates were received as follows,

- a. Remove and replace the driveway apron. Cathcart proposed \$1,687.50;
- b. Remove and replace the additional sidewalk portion and concrete slab (picnic bench) \$3,625.00;
- c. With the two alternates added to the bid and the main bid, the total amount for approval is \$346,812.50.

Mr. Francis announced that he, the Contractor and the City Engineer will be meeting with the neighborhood tomorrow at 4:00 pm.

Comm Readey motioned to accept the bid submitted by Cathcart with the modifications as described.

Comm Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 5:0.

Proposed dates for Council Workshops

City Manager Francis said Council decided to hold two workshops to allow the public the opportunity to speak on the proposed franchise ordinance. Mr. Francis said until the Council approves the Franchise Fees or allows a transfer from the General Fund Reserve, the paving and sidewalk projects will be on hold.

After discussion, Comm Nielsen motioned to place the Franchise Fees Ordinance back on the agenda in January and bypassing the scheduling of a workshop.

Comm Shuck seconded the motion, which passed 4:1 with Comm Gold, nay.

Regulation of Boating Activities on Lake Conway – Feb 10, Feb 13 or Feb 25

Mayor Fouraker asked if Council would like to move this discussion to the January 14th date that was made available for the alternative revenue workshop. Attorney Ardaman asked if the staff would like to receive input from the task committee before scheduling a workshop. Mr. Francis said he has not been able to reach out to the residents to form a committee. If the Council decides to hold a workshop and allows public comment, the City should invite the County, NAV Board and Comm Uribe to listen to what the workshop determines.

Comm Nielsen motioned to schedule a workshop on January 16th at 6:30 pm to discuss regulation of boating activities on Lake Conway.

Comm Readey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Council Workshops

Mayor Fouraker announced that starting February 2020, the Council will hold workshops on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. City Manager Francis said this was tabled from the last meeting to allow Comm Shuck to be present to vote. The purpose of the workshop is to provide an open forum for the staff, council and residents to share ideas.

Comm Nielsen said she does not feel a workshop is always necessary; however, she would consider on a trial basis the scheduling of workshops for the next six-months. Comm Gold gave a summary of the change that came about canceling workshops and allowing two voting meetings. Discussion ensued.

Comm Readey motioned a trial period of three months, starting in February 2020, a Council workshop on the first Friday of the month starting at 8:30 am for up to an hour and a half.

Comm Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Waiver of Non-Ad-Valorem Taxes for Disabled Veterans

City Manager Francis said the Council directed staff to research if any other municipalities waive Non Ad-Valorem taxes for disabled Veterans. He contacted the Florida League of Cities (FLC), and the FLC contacted the Government Finance Officers Association for assistance. The City heard from 10 cities and none waive these charges for services (i.e., cable, water). He provided a chart of exempt status from paying real estate taxes. Belle Isle currently has 23 Veterans and ten spouses that have their taxes waived totaling \$11,736.12 annually. Since franchise fees are not taxes, the staff is recommending denying the request. Discussion ensued.

Comm Nielsen motioned to not waive the Non Ad-Valorem taxes for disabled residents.

Comm Shuck seconded the motion.

Comm Gold said the vote is for permanently disabled veterans only and is in favor of the request.

The motion passed 4:1 with Comm Gold, nay.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT – No report.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Issues Log

City Manager Francis reported the following,

- Christmas Lights – Duke Energy has dedicated 2 crews to assist the City with placing lights on the poles around City Hall and Nela Avenue.
- Street Paving – Waiting for the approval of the ROW Fund before moving forward.
- Drainage – Added Derine Way and Chiswick to be completed after the holidays.
- Trentwood – The chicane has been demolished and new paving has been poured. It will go from two lanes to one as requested by the HOA.
- Traffic Changes – Waiting for contractor plans on Hoffner and Conway. The contractor is looking to prefab the median and pins it to the road.
- Wallace Field – The City has not heard from CCA However, and it may be an agenda item on their January board meeting.
- Acquisition –According to the broker Bank of America is reviewing the offer, and the City should hear back within several weeks. The staff is also looking at other properties for purchase.
- Charter School – Meeting with the CCA Financial Team.
- Strategic Plan – Staff continues to research the objectives of the report.
- Code Updates – The City is receiving many applications for guest cottages and accessory dwelling units. It will go first to P&Z for discussion then to Council. The council may consider a joint session with the Planning & Zoning Board.
- Paving Sidewalks – Council may need to open discussion on allowing residents to pave their sidewalks. In 2008-2009 an ordinance was passed to state residents are responsible for their sidewalks; however, it was never enforced by the City staff. Comm Gold said it is important that the City delineate where the sidewalk and the driveway start and end for safety reasons and to conform with the State Law. Attorney Ardaman said he would like to research the ordinance before moving forward. Discussion ensued.
 - Comm Nielsen motioned to have a joint meeting with the P&Z Board.
 - Due to scheduling issues, Council consensus was to reschedule a joint meeting for a future date.
- Fountain – Plaque has been mounted on a pedestal.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Houston reported on the following,

- Chief said she encouraged everyone to be cautious of their alcohol consumption while driving: Do Not Drink and Drive.
- Gearing up for Officer Training at the Oakridge Gun Range.
- Chief reported that someone crashed into the Nela Bridge and caused approximately \$5,000 worth of damage. If anyone has any information, please call the Police Department.
- Food Drive for CCA students – please drop donations to City Hall.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fouraker reported the following,

- Last week he signed the paperwork to annex Seminole and Daetwyler to be approved by BOCC on January 27th.
- Mayor Fouraker invited Council and staff on December 20th at 11:30 am for a pot luck luncheon.

COUNCIL REPORT

Comm Gold – District 1

Comm Gold reported that he had received some information on the email survey investigation. He said Linux is one of the most secure systems. He found an expert on the system and is looking to schedule a presentation to the Council and staff.

Comm Carugno – District 3

Comm Carugno reminded all of the upcoming events,

- Light the Way - Dec 11th
- Boat Parade – Dec 13th, 14th, and 15th
- Santa Ride – Dec 18th and 19th
- ANAC Meeting – Dec 13th

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Fouraker called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was passed unanimously at 8:00 p.m.

Yolanda Quiceno, CMC, City Clerk