



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 * 6:30 PM
MINUTES

Present was:

Mayor – Jason Carson
District 1 Commissioner – Frank Vertolli
District 2 – Holly Bobrowski
District 3 – Karl Shuck
District 4 – Bobby Lance
District 5 Commissioner – Beth Lowell

Absent was:

District 6 Commissioner – Stan Smith
District 7 Commissioner – Jim Partin

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

Mayor Carson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, and the Clerk confirmed quorum.

City Manager Rick Rudometkin, Attorney Pownall, Chief Grimm, DC Millis, Public Works Director Phil Price, and City Clerk Yolanda Quiceno were also present.

2. Invocation and Pledge to Flag

Comm Vertolli gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the Flag.

Mayor Carson asked for a motion to excuse Comm Smith and Partin.

Comm Vertolli moved to excuse Comm Smith and Partin from tonight's meeting.

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

City Manager Rudometkin requested approval of the amended agenda items: removal of items 3a and 4a.

Comm Lance moved to approve the amended agenda as proposed.

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

3. Presentations

a. Applicant Interview and Possible Appointment of District 1 Planning & Zoning Applicant - Joel Shear

Item 3a was removed from the agenda. The applicant rescheduled twice, and the staff recommended moving forward with the applicant's present.

b. Applicant Interview and Possible Appointment of District 1 Planning & Zoning Applicant - Robert Agrusa

Comm Lowell moved to appoint Robert Agrusa as District 1 Planning & Zoning Board member.

Comm Lance seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c. Applicant Interview and Possible Appointment of District 2 Planning & Zoning Applicant - Todd Zimmerman

Comm Vertolli moved to appoint Todd Zimmerman as District 2 Planning & Zoning Board member.

Comm Lowell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

d. Applicant Interview and Possible Appointment of Antonio DeViva to the Special Events Committee

Comm Lowell moved to appoint Anthony DeViva to the Special Events Committee.

Comm Bobrowski seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments & Announcements

Mayor Carson opened public comments.

- Ruthy Harrell, residing at 2800 Trentwood Blvd, presented the Council with a framed copy of the proposed 1925 brochure of a new subdivision on Nela Avenue and the proposed Nela Bridge.

There being no further comments, Mayor Carson closed the public comment section.

5. Consent Items

- a. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes - April 1, 2025
- b. Approval of the City Council Workshop Minutes - April 1, 2025
- c. Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes - April 15, 2025
- d. Surplus Request for Office Equipment
- e. **RESOLUTION NO. 25-04** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE MAYOR AS SIGNATORIES ON THE CITY CHECKING ACCOUNTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Comm Lowell moved to approve the consent item as presented.

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

6. Unfinished Business

- a. ORDINANCE NO. 25-04: SECOND READING AND ADOPTION - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE V OF CHAPTER 30 OF THE CITY CODE AUTHORIZING THE USE OF GOLF CARTS WITHIN CERTAIN COMMUNITIES AND ON STREETS DESIGNATED IN RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION; PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN APPLICATION PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Rudometkin read Ordinance 25-04 by Title.

Council spoke briefly about unlicensed drivers, the number of occupants allowed on a golf cart when in motion, and city-wide golf cart use. Chief Grimm said the staff will provide a resident guide to all permit holders upon yearly renewal of the Golf Cart Permit. Comm Shuck asked that more information be provided to the residents regarding bike riders, e-bikes, scooters, and golf carts' safety.

Comm Bobrowski asked if staff would contact Orange County to see if the City can receive a dispensation to allow a clear path/road continuity for golf carts on out-of-city sidewalks, i.e., Conway, Judge. CM Rudometkin said the first step is to have the ordinance in place to start a discussion with Orange and Orlando for permission in those areas surrounding the city.

Comm Lowell expressed her concern about the safety of all residents and cautioned the staff before opening to allow the use of areas outside the city limits.

After the discussion, Comm Lowell moved to adopt Ordinance 25-04 as presented.

Comm Vertolli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously upon roll call 5:0.

- b. 3904 Arajo Court Condemnation Update

City Manager Rudometkin gave an update on the 3904-property condemnation. He stated that he had invited the homeowner and contractor to attend tonight's meeting. However, they did not show. He noted that the contractor is a family friend and has pulled a roofing permit. The contractor stated that after the roof repair, he would tackle the inside of the home. CM Rudometkin asked for an additional 30-day extension so that the homeowner could appear at the next meeting with a schedule for repairs. CM noted that he had told the homeowner that the condemnation process had been completed.

Comm Vertolli shared his concern and asked that the Council hold the homeowner to a firm finished date.

The Council agreed that the city must hold to a firm date. After further discussion, the Council granted the homeowner a 30-day extension to provide the construction dates and schedule at the next City Council meeting in June.

Comm Bobrowski moved to grant the extension to the next City Council meeting in June.

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

7. New Business

Approval of Second Amendment to Ground Werks' Sidewalk Contract

City Manager Rudometkin presented a second amendment to the Ground Werks' sidewalk contract not to exceed the amount of 1,580,281.22 ARPA Funds that included the already budgeted amounts. Council discussed staff providing a list of sidewalk repairs and approaches that are tripping hazards (cracked sidewalks may not be repaired).

After discussion, Comm Bobrowski moved to approve the second amendment with Ground Werks' Inc. and increase the not-to-exceed amount to \$1,580,281.22 to be paid for work performed by the contractor during the two-year extended contract term to reflect the additional allocated ARPA funds and city funds for sidewalk repairs previously authorized and approved by the City Council. Comm Lance seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 5:0.

8. Attorney's Report – No report.

9. City Manager's Report

a. City Manager's Report

The City Manager presented the Task List.

b. Chief's Report

- Chief Grimm announced that the canine broke her toes and is recovering and will be ready to meet and greet at the next meeting.
- Chief Grimm thanked the residents for the water donated to the agency.
- Chief Grimm reminded residents that the lake and the ramps are busy with traffic, and he asked for patience. PD and OC staff are working on increasing their presence to improve the traffic flow. In the summer, there will always be a Belle Isle Marine and a NAV Board patrol boat on the lake.

c. Public Works Report

Phil Price reported that the PD boat dock is almost complete, and we await the finalization of the power.

10. Mayor's Report - na

Mayor Carson said he attended the CCA Board meeting, where they announced additional starting times to help with the traffic. He also welcomed the newly appointed board members.

11. Commissioners' Report

- The council asked if staff could invite the CCA board representative to the next council meeting to give an update on the school.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Carson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, which passed unanimously at 8:00 pm.