

**CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

Meeting Date: April 18, 2023
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: T. Grimm, Interim City Manager
Subject: Reinstate Council Workshops

Background: During the Strategic Planning Session and at a few City Council meetings, Council suggested going back to holding Council Workshops. Workshops, or Work Sessions, are allowed under the BI Municipal Code, Section 2-53. The purpose of a City Council workshop is to provide an open forum for City Council and City staff members to discuss and share ideas on various subjects related to City operations, projects, and planning. Citizens are welcome to attend; however, since the City Council does not take official action during workshop sessions, citizen comments on workshop items are made only at the request of the Mayor or Council Members.

Staff Recommendation: Workshops can provide productive dialogue and open discussions between Council members less structured than regular meetings, which can lead to a positive direction for staff. The main problem encountered in the past has been to hold the workshop, provide direction, and then when it comes to the regular meeting agenda, the same discussions occur at the regular meeting done in the workshops.

If the Council wishes to go back to workshops, then issues discussed at the workshop should have limited discussion when placed on the regular meeting agenda for formal action. We can hold the same schedule. However, the first Tuesday meeting will be held for Action Items, and the third Tuesday can be for a Work Session.

Suggested Motion: I move that, starting in May 2023, the Council meeting in a workshop on the third Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 PM.

Alternatives: Do not hold workshops and continue with two regular meetings every month.
Fiscal Impact: N/A
Attachments: None