



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held in City Hall Chambers, 1600 Nela Avenue
Held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of Every Month
Tuesday, February 16, 2021, * 6:30 PM

MINUTES

City Council Commissioners

Nicholas Fouraker, Mayor

District 1 Commissioner – Ed Gold | District 2 Commissioner – Anthony Carugno | District 3 Commissioner – Karl Shuck
District 4 Commissioner – Mike Sims | District 5 Commissioner – Harvey Readey | District 6 Commissioner – Jim Partin |
District 7 Commissioner – Sue Nielsen

Welcome

Welcome to the City of Belle Isle City Council meeting. Agendas and all backup material supporting each agenda item are available in the City Clerk's office or on the City's website at cityofbelleislefl.org. If you are not on the agenda, please complete the yellow "Request to Speak" form to be handed to the City Clerk. When you are recognized by the Mayor, state your name and address and direct all remarks to the Council as a body and not to individual members of the Council, staff, or audience. The Council is pleased to hear relevant comments; however, a three-minute limit has been set by Council. Rosenberg's Rules of Order guide the conduct of the meeting. Order and decorum will be preserved at all meetings. Personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks are not permitted. PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS DURING THE MEETING. Thank you for participating in your City Government.

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

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

2. Invocation and Pledge to Flag - Commissioner Carugno - District 2

Comm Carugno gave the invocation and led the Pledge to the Flag.

3. Consent Items - These items are considered routine and have been previously discussed by the Council. They will be adopted by one motion unless a Council member requests before the vote on the motion to have an item removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. If any item were removed from the Consent Agenda, it would be considered immediately following approval of the remainder of the Consent Agenda. (5 minutes)

- Approval of February 2, 2021, City Council minutes
- January Monthly Reports: Finance Report, Police Department, Code Enforcement, and OC Fire

Comm Shuck moved to approve the consent items as presented.

Comm Gold seconded the motion, which passed 6:0. Comm Readey was not present for the vote.

4. Citizen's Comments

Mayor Fouraker called for citizen comments. There being none, he closed citizen's comments.

5. Unfinished Business

- Ordinance 21-01 – First Reading and Consideration: After the Fact Permit

City Clerk read Ordinance 21-01 by title.

Mayor Fouraker called for Council discussion. There being none, he closed Council discussion and called for a motion.

Comm Nielsen moved to advance Ordinance 21-01 to a Second Reading and Adoption on March 5, 2021.

Comm Gold seconded the motion, which passed 6:0. Comm Readey was not present for the vote.

6. New Business

- Letter/Application to FWC for a canoe trail

City Manager Bob Francis said per Florida Statute 327.46 (1) (c) states: Municipalities and counties have the authority to establish by Ordinance the following other boating-restricted areas: An ordinance establishing a vessel-exclusion zone if the area is reserved exclusively:

- As a canoe trail or otherwise limited to vessels under oars or under sail.
- For a particular activity and user, group separation must be imposed to protect the safety of those participating in such activity.

In 1990, the City Comprehensive Plan laid out a Canoe Trail. Following the criterion in Chapter 68D-21 F.A.C.D, it states an ordinance establishing a vessel exclusion zone will be approved if the area is reserved exclusively. The Mayor has prepared a letter for inclusion with the approved Ordinance to apply to FWC for the vessel-exclusion zone on the Conway Chain of Lakes.

Comm Carugno shared his concern and said at this time, it is difficult to enforce the current rules on the lake, and this Ordinance, as written, will create more confusion. There are many questions unanswered, and motioned to table the Ordinance to allow for public input. He further added that he is not a fan of a swim area. He said he is opposed to the canoe trail and swim because 1) lighted buoys will need to be placed on the lake, adding to the pollution, and 2) more dangerous for navigational purposes, and 3) many living on the shoreline will feel empowered to ride their canoes to adjacent homes.

Comm Readey joined the meeting.

**Comm Carugno moved to table Ordinance 21-01 to allow for additional public comment.
Comm Gold seconded the motion.**

City Manager Francis said the reason for the request is because

- 1) The FWC is meeting at the end of the month on this issue, and he wanted the City to have something on the books addressing restricted areas.
- 2) The staff does not know how long the discussion will take and wanted something on the books before the summer.

Comm Partin asked if the request commits the City to move forward immediately with the Ordinance. City Manager Francis said no, the letter would not be signed until the Ordinance was adopted.

Comm Sims said the request for approval was solely to move forward with the application process and not defining anything as of yet. The staff will have enough time to notify the residents. Comm Nielsen agreed.

For the record, Comm Carugno said there are many questions to be answered. He shared his concerns and firmly said he would prefer public input before moving forward. Mr. Francis said the residents would have two readings for public comment before adoption.

**Comm Carugno rescinded the motion and asked that his comments be on the record.
Comm Gold seconded the motion to rescind the motion.**

**Comm Sims moved to have the City Manager apply to the FWC for the Canoe Trail as outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan.
Comm Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed 6:1 with Comm Carugno, nay.**

b. Consider Change to Belle Isle Municipal Code (BIMC) allowing school buses on Hoffner Avenue

City Manager Francis said currently, the BIMC Section 30-3 states: Vehicles in excess of six tons (12,000 gross vehicle weight rating) are prohibited from traveling in the City unless for local delivery within the neighborhoods within the City. This is to prevent large and heavy trucks from traveling on Hoffner and possibly damaging the bridge.

Orange County Public School Transportation Manager, Adam Zubritsky, contacted the City and asked if we could change the code to allow for school buses to travel on Hoffner because they have a few stops to make to pick up students physically challenged. The average school bus weighs over 14,000 pounds. In researching the bridge weight limits, according to DOT, the bridge is rated to 32 metric tons (35 US tons), and therefore the school buses do not exceed this weight restriction. School buses also do not pose the same problems that the City has with larger tractor-trailer trucks. Mr. Francis said this change would also be beneficial if Cornerstone Charter Academy were ever to start providing transportation to its students.

City Manager Francis said he spoke with the Chief, and staff is requesting the changes to code as discussed.

**Comm Nielsen moved to change the municipal code to allow for school buses to travel on Hoffner Avenue.
Comm Gold seconded the motion for discussion.**

Comm Partin asked if it is just for the people in Belle Isle. Mr. Francis said Orange County School buses have several stops in the City to other schools. Comm Carugno said he hopes this doesn't invite transitioning through the City.

Comm Nielsen said school buses would relieve the school area's traffic if the school provided public transportation.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously 7:0 upon roll call.

c. Appointment of George Travis to the Tree Advisory Board

Chairman Holly Bobrowski of the Tree Board said the Board recommended the appointment of George Travis to the Board and requested an appointment by Council.

**Comm Gold moved to appoint George Travis to the City Tree Board.
Comm Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 7:0 upon roll call.**

7. Attorney's Report – No report.

8. City Manager's Report

a. Issues Log

City Manager Francis reported as follows,

- Reported Orange County Planning Hearings,
 - 1205 Nela (Apartment Complex) may be approved to move forward because, at this time, they meet all requirements with the Orange County Code.
 - 7323 South Orange (Old Nellie Belle Restaurant) - Proposed restaurant/dog park. Notice will be sent to surrounding areas.
 - Draft Ordinance designating a Swim Area/Establishing a Vessel-Exclusion Zone on Lake Conway. Mr. Francis provided a map for Council consideration and input at the following Council meeting.
 - Storm Drainage – Staff is close to having plans ready for the Sol Avenue project before April at the latest; Engineering estimate of 440,000.
 - St. Partin outfall 6504 St. Partin – OC has been working with the City. They want to install a pad for an emergency generator requiring some curb work saving the City some money at their lift station.
 - Stafford/Pam Circle – Work start to prevent flooding.
 - Jade Circle – Continued flooding issues; City will provide more drainage.
 - Wind Willow – Flooding issues have been resolved – project closed.
 - Seminole/Warren Park – Working with the County on the flooding. Possible install of a new basin.
 - Traffic Study – Crosswalk on Monet and Hoffner is close to completed by March 27.
 - BOA Building Open House – On February 25, 2021, the staff will hold an Open house at the BOA building. Plans for traffic calming on Judge, Conway, Nela, and Hoffner will also be available for resident's review.
 - Wallace Field – Site Plan is scheduled for the P&Z meeting on March 23.
 - CCA Lease – The consultant is working on a market rate for the school property and BOA building for recommendation to Council.
 - MuniCode Update – The P&Z Board on February 23 will discuss temporary sign code revisions.
 - Annexation - Continue to work with the Owner of 5-acres on land on Conway Rd.
 - Lancaster House – the Applicant has submitted variances to Orange County to relocate the House.

- b. Approval of Resolution No. 21-01 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMENT APPROVED BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA FOR THE PURCHASE/AND OR LEASE OF VEHICLES FOR THE BELLE ISLE POLICE DEPARTMENT UNDER CONTRACT #060618 SOURCEWELL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES

City Manager Francis presented Resolution 21-01. He said this is a resolution to piggyback on a State Contract with Enterprise Fleet Management for the Belle Isle Police Department's purchase or lease. There is a slight change on the date of recommendation by the Budget Committee to February 16, 2021.

Chief Houston gave a brief overview and said the staff has researched what companies most agencies use for their fleets' best practices. The agency's budget is \$100,000 and \$25,000 in maintenance. The BIPD has asked to replace all 21-vehicles with F150's; 7 vehicles on a 1-year lease, 14 vehicles on a 3-year (36,000) lease. The reason for the 1-year lease is because these vehicles will be for administrative use and have minimal equipment on them. The cost-benefit is that it will be sold when it is still under peak price. Chief Houston spoke on the Enterprise process for selling the current fleet with an estimate of \$217,000.

Comm Carugno moved to adopt Resolution 21-01 as presented.

Comm Partin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously 7:0 upon roll call.

- c. Chief's Report

Chief Houston reported on the following,

- Chief Houston mentioned that she had someone look at the PDs old boat. He stated that the primary reason for the blistering and cracking of the 20-year old boat is that it has been sitting on the water. The estimated repair is approximately \$15,000 and looking into other options. She believes it is not cost-effective to be repairable at this time.
- Community Outreach – Chief Houston thanked all volunteers and said many residents benefited from the event and improved outreach partnerships.
- Annexation – Chief Houston said she has been looking into Stats for the potential annexation areas. She has general ideas and will have additional details at a future meeting.

- d. BIPD UCR Verification

- UCR Report – Chief Houston said there had been an overall 20% decrease in crime in the City. She highlighted the high number of stolen vehicles and noted many are from the car rental location (i.e., missing tags and failure to return the car).

9. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fouraker reported on the following,

- Special Events Committee – Wed, February 17 at 6:00 pm.
- Mayor Fouraker gave an update on the See Something; Say Something Event at Palm Squares. He noted that it was a very successful event and was thankful for all the private donations. Mayor Fouraker spoke on the Moratoriums' effect on affordable housing and how it affects the community and law enforcement.
- He said some residents are trying to get the county/NAV Board's attention on the invasive aquatic vegetation on Lake Conway with no recourse. He reminded all that the residents pay MSTU taxes and have the right to the request. He said he would be seeking some clarity on the issue at the upcoming meetings.

10. Council Report

- Comm Nielsen said, for the record, and to clarify some misinformation. She resides at 5006 St. Germaine Avenue today and since her first election. Her son currently lives with her, and she spends time at her daughter's house and takes care of her grandson.
- Comm Partin asked for an update on the WaWa entrance. City Manager Francis said in the last communication with Orange County; they were giving WaWa two options. 1) Reconfigure the existing turn; 2) create a new entrance by

Wendy's. WaWa asked the City if they are willing to partner in the cost. The City said no. Comm Partin wondered whether the City should send a letter with a timeline. Mr. Francis said he could send it if Council agrees; no decision was made.

- Comm Carugno said the ANAC meeting was canceled due to no interest. He asked that residents with any complaints on airport noise please contact ANAC directly.

He further asked if the City has researched having one zip code for the entire City. Mr. Francis said he spoke with Comm Shuck, who said it may be complicated to do so but will work with staff to start the process.

- Comm Gold said if the City wants to continue using the IPAD for meetings, he has identified a fix for \$150.00 to connect the microphones to the IPAD.

Mayor Fouraker said the staff has advised for an RFP for Audio/Visual. He recalls at the last meeting Council agreed to work with great transparency and accountability to send out the RFP. Once the information is received, it will be compared to the solutions provided by Comm Gold for consideration.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor Fouraker called for a motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 8:00 pm.