

Mayor Hendricks received confirmation that \$200,000 was budgeted this year for engineering on the garage and that \$55,000 plus money accumulated from the parking increase could go towards that. He agreed the money needed to be put in a separate account. Mr. Laflin said it could be formally ratified by a budget amendment approved by the Board, taking the \$55,000 from the General Fund and applying it to the \$200,000.

The Board consented to increasing the parking rate from \$2.50 per hour to \$3.00 per hour. Mr. Laflin said he would prepare an ordinance for the next meeting amending the fees and collections manual providing for the increase.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment.

Deby Weinstein, 441 129<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Madeira Beach, said the City is way overdue in increasing the parking rates in the City. The \$0.50 should be divided, \$0.25 going into the General Fund for major City improvements to benefit all the citizens, businesses, and tourism in Madeira Beach, and \$0.25 going into a fund for the parking garage. It would not be appropriate to allocate the entire \$0.50 toward the garage.

**B. Health Insurance, Benefits, and Salary Increase for Commissioners – *Andrew Laflin, Finance Consultant; Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk***

Mayor Hendricks said p. 56 of p. 61 of the packet is a comparison of cities around them, and most offer insurance to their commission. He does not need health insurance, so it would not matter if offered, but if they want to encourage the next generation to get involved in public service, it would be a good enticement. Salary wise they are pretty much in step with other cities their size. He supports insurance for the Commission, and there could be other things to offer them.

Vice Mayor Price said to encourage people to run for office, they could make it easier by changing the charter. They could decrease the number of signed petitions from 100 to 25 and eliminate the \$50 petition fee. It is difficult at times to get 100 petitions signed. They could also do a charter amendment changing the residency requirement to run for office from two years to one year.

Commissioner Andrews said he is in favor of anything that makes it easier for candidates to qualify to run for office.

Commissioner Hutson said it should be cut down to 50 or 25 signed petitions.

The Board consented to putting on the agenda a proposed charter amendment decreasing the number of signed petitions from 100 to 25 and eliminating the \$50 petition fee.

Mayor Hendricks said they could probably wait on the health insurance. Vice Mayor Price said she does not mind easing it in now since it is not going to hit them so hard. Commissioner Hutson said it probably doesn't need to go for a vote.

Mayor Hendricks asked if they needed a resolution or ordinance to give the Commission insurance. Attorney Nancy Meyer said the Charter talks about salaries but not extra benefits and perks, so she does not know that it needs to be either if it is budgeted for. They could clarify that with Mr. Trask to make sure.

Mr. Laflin said they could draft a policy for the Commission to adopt. The insurers are needing an internal policy.

Mayor Hendricks asked if the Commission wanted to get a policy change. If they should do it, everyone may not need the insurance. Vice Mayor Price said she is in favor of bringing younger people in. Commissioner Hutson said he is for it. He is currently paying \$900 month for health insurance.

Mayor Hendricks said whatever they need to do on it he would like to carry it forward. Attorney Meyer said she will talk to Mr. Trask about it tomorrow.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment.

Deby Weinstein, 441 129<sup>th</sup> Avenue, said public service is public service. She would like the Commission to consider retaining the 100 signatures and make it city-wide instead of it being district-wise. So many people run for office, and do not know their constituents. It is a responsibility of the proposed candidate to want to go out and learn their constituency and get the 100 signed signatures. If city-wide they could get 25 signatures from each of the four districts. It is important for a candidate to know their city and what people think and feel. She asked the Commission reconsider.

### **C. Charter Amendment Discussion – *Board of Commissioners***

Mayor Hendricks said they discussed part of it in the previous item. They are putting a proposed charter amendment on the agenda to decrease the number of signed petitions from 100 to 25 and eliminate the \$50 petition fee. He would like to see them start coming to the meetings to learn what is going on before throwing their hat into the ring.

The Board discussed changing the residency requirement from two years to one year. Commissioner Andrews said he would like to keep it at two years and wait to see if the other charter amendment passes and see if it brings people in. If not, they can go back to the drawing board.

The consensus of the Board was to put on the agenda a proposed charter amendment changing the residency requirement from two years to one year.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment. There were no public comments.

### **D. Recruiting Members to serve on the Planning Commission and Civil Service Commission – *Robert Daniels, City Manager; Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk***