MINUTES
CITY OF LAKE WORTH
CITY COMMISSION
WORK SESSION
APRIL 14, 2015 – 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Triolo on the above date at 6:00 PM in the City Commission Chamber, located at 7 North Dixie Highway, Lake Worth, Florida.

1. ROLL CALL:

Present were Mayor Pam Triolo; Vice Mayor Scott Maxwell; and Commissioners Christopher McVoy, Andy Amoroso, and Ryan Maier. Also present were City Manager Michael Bornstein and City Clerk Pamela Lopez.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The pledge of allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Scott Maxwell.

3. UPDATES/FUTURE ACTION/DIRECTION:

A. Discuss proposed State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan for replacement of 2" water lines throughout the City

Larry Johnson, Water Utilities Director, explained in detail the two inch steel water pipe timeline, failed piping, examples of water pipe breaks and break locations throughout the City, water quality problems for public health risks and water costs, needed access, and replacement of a 17 mile phasing plan. He commented that the replacement project would be constructed over a six year phased plan starting in District 4, and proceeding to Districts 3, 2, and 1 in that order.

He said the Commission directed staff to fund the improvements through water system revenue financing, which may include revenue bonds, bank loans, or a State Drinking State Revolving Fund Loan. He advised that the estimated engineering, construction, and financing costs for a six year project was $16.9 million. The remainder of funds would come from the Water System reserves.

The financing options included issuing a water utility revenue bond, increasing water rates, seeking a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan, and/or using available reserves and reducing other planned capital piping projects. He said staff was proposing a State Revolving Fund loan because of its low 1-2% interest rate.

Andy Burnham, Burton & Associates, provided a financial analysis and management system summary comparing the SRF loan versus use of a

water utility revenue bond.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the roadwork required to move the replaced pipes from easements to roads in front of properties; coordinating with Public Services to address small infrastructure concerns where roadwork was required; benefits to paying off the loan within six years rather than deferring the payment until work was completed; needing the project; possibility that the City would not receive the SRF loan; the total number of miles in the water transmission system; aging larger piping not included in this program; cost to repair or patch roadwork; reasons for phasing the locations; reconsider scheduling District 1 improvements sooner; looking for other funding options to resurface roadwork; and asking why the issue was addressed and known in Fiscal Year 2005-2006, but nothing was done back then.

Mr. Johnson advised that a resolution to submit the loan application would be scheduled at the May 5, 2015, Commission meeting.

B. Discuss Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant Funding

City Manager Bornstein explained that the City was notified by the County that the City's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation was estimated at $257,603. Additionally, the City may be the recipient of a Special Area of Hope program allocation of $315,740. He said that the County had established a CDBG target area in the City that comprised one square mile in which the entitlement activities could be conducted.

Jerry Kelly, Grant Analyst, said that, over the past several years, CDBG funds were allocated towards roadways. He advised that the deadline to submit up to two applications to the County was May 4, 2015.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding moving forward and using the funds for health, public safety, and safety around schools; holding meetings to solicit public input was a grant requirement; public meetings were held in Districts 1 and 2, which met the County's public input solicitation requirement; and scheduling another meeting to solicit public input.

Mr. Kelly explained in detail the City's allocation and the below eligible activities for the Commission to consider:

Roadway:

1. Tropical Drive from Palmetto to S Road and Barton Road from Andrew Redding to 12th Avenue South at an estimated cost of $661,000;
2. North F Street from 5th Avenue North to 10th Avenue North at an estimated cost of $502,000; and

3. 11th Avenue North from North L Street to North Dixie Highway at an estimated cost of $496,000.

Demolition:
1. Five residential properties at $7,000 each; and
2. Five commercial properties at $13,000 each for a total cost of $100,000.

Shuffleboard Center:
1. Improvements on the exterior at an estimated cost of $100,000.

Traffic calming:
1. Traffic calming with 25 speed bumps/bulb-outs at $4,000 each for a total cost of $100,000

Park projects:
1. Osborne Pavilion at an estimated cost of $60,000; and
2. Domino Park at an estimated cost of $35,000.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding supporting infrastructure projects; traffic calming being high on the public's concern list; the need for a city-wide traffic calming plan; staying on track with life, safety projects like replacing windows at the Library, which were falling out; where the ideas for the activities came from and where was the public's opportunity to comment; proposing one roadway project and two inexpensive projects like painting homes with donated paint or planting trees to beautify the target area, which supported low to moderate income citizens, and allowed citizens to work together to lift up a district; and the need for positive reviews from the press.

Commissioner Amoroso left the meeting at 7:26 PM and returned at 7:30 PM.

Mr. Kelly advised that façade activities were allowed, but said he was not sure if planting trees on private property was allowed.

Jamie Brown, Public Services Director, explained that there was a need for "shovel ready, tangible projects" and that the City already had design plans ready for the roadway projects. He said the Shuffleboard Center project was also "shovel ready."

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding the public's need to see short range completed projects in every district in order to improve residents' lives; need for uplifting projects; and acquiring property at 713 South C Street for about $13,000 to develop a park.

City Manager Bornstein commented that the County gave the City a short deadline period to submit the applications; however, next year staff would allow enough time to plan for adequate eligible activities and vetting by the public.

Comments/requests summaries:

1. Vice Mayor Maxwell supported Tropical Drive and Osborne Pavilion.

2. Commissioner McVoy commented that if he could get a commitment from the Commission that they would address traffic calming, then he would support the Osborne Pavilion and purchasing land for a park or community garden.

3. Mayor Triolo supported the need for traffic calming.

4. Commissioner Maier supported improvements to the Shuffleboard Center if: 1) it was given back to the community; 2) it was incorporated into a community element and the lease issue readdressed so that the community benefited from the space; or 3) revenues were generated for use of the space.

5. Commissioner McVoy commented that the Commission seemed to be in agreement about applying for the Tropical Drive eligible activity.

6. Vice Mayor Maxwell commented that the Commission was committed to doing the right thing and bringing everyone up to par.

7. Mr. Kelly said he would contact the County about combining Osborne Pavilion and Domino Park into one eligible activity.

8. Commissioner Amoroso supported Tropical Drive and possibly combining Osborne Pavilion and Domino Park into one activity. He said if they could not be combined, then he supported Osborne Pavilion.

9. Mayor Triolo suggested scheduling a work session immediately after the budget process to determine what the community priorities were and where residents wanted the CDBG funds to go towards. She said a priority list could then be created.

Miscellaneous

Vice Mayor Maxwell announced that Ruth Dickenson had passed away today and asked the Commission to keep her and her family in their prayers.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Consensus: To adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM.

PAM TRIOLO, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAMELA J. LOPEZ, CITY CLERK

Minutes Approved: May 5, 2015

A digital audio recording of this meeting will be available in the Office of the City Clerk.