

City of Dunnellon Council Workshop

Date: February 12, 2020
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: City Hall
20750 River Dr., Dunnellon, FL34431

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Burns called the meeting to order at approximately 5:32 p.m. and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked if any invitee or volunteer was present to open with prayer. There was none. Mayor Burns then called for a moment of silence.

Roll Call

The following members answered present at roll call:
Dale Burns, Mayor, Seat 1
Bill White, Councilman, Seat 2
Anita Williams, Councilwoman, Seat 3
Valerie Hanchar, Vice-Mayor, Seat 4, arrived 6:04 p.m.
Linda Fernandez, Councilwoman, Seat 5

Staff Present

Dawn Bowne, City Administrator
Mandy Roberts, City Clerk
Chief Mike McQuaig, Police Department
Lonnie Smith, Community Development
Troy Slattery, Public Works Manager
Lynn Wyland, Records Clerk

Legal Counsel

Andrew Hand,
Shepard, Smith, Kohlmyer & Hand, P.A.

Proof of Publication

Ms. Roberts announced for the record the agenda for this meeting was posted on the City's website and City Hall bulletin board on Wednesday, February 5, 2020.

Agenda Item Number 1 – Dunnellon Chamber and Business Association Report

Julie Mancini provided her report on the upcoming events

Agenda Item Number 2 – Board Reports

There were none.

Moved to Agenda Item Number 4

Agenda Item Number 4 – Short Tower Way Conceptual Parking Plan

Mrs. Bowne reviewed an amended conceptual parking plan which included a 35'x70' easement. She explained after further review of the approved conceptual design, staff made suggestions on a way to improve the zero buffer between the proposed improved road and surrounding property. The property is owned by Roberts Funeral Home. Staff met with the owner to see if they would be open to granting enough of an easement to allow the City to shift the design of the road to the east and create an improved radius as the road turns to the west.

She explained staff met with the City engineer and provided specific options, including how much of an easement would be needed and the legal process for obtaining such. The ideal easement is 35' x 70'. Mrs. Bowne said Roberts Funeral Home has agreed to move forward if approved by Council.

Councilman White stated he drove the road and found it easily navigable and feels it's a win-win.

Council authorized staff to direct city engineer to redesign and proceed to acquire the property.

Agenda Item Number 3 – Agreement AGR2020-05, Rainbow Springs Art Inc.

Mrs. Bowne reviewed the edits and the additional language added to agreement.

Council agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Agenda Item Number 5 – Joe Williams, Raftelis - Impact Fee Study

Mr. Williams provided a PowerPoint presentation. He explained impact fees are an important source of income for municipalities to fund infrastructure costs related to growth. The fees are a one-time charge to any new development or re-development and the funds can only be used for capital growth. Mr. Williams reviewed the methodologies, assumptions and calculations used in preparing a report.

Agenda Item Number 6 – Presentation - Chief McQuaig - Police Facility

Chief McQuaig provided a brief presentation on the proposed acquisition of the Souls Harbor Church for a police facility. He said Dinkins Construction provided the cost estimate for remodeling the building.

Mr. Smith commented on the zoning, stating the sale contract is subject to City approval of a zoning change from RBO to Public.

Chief McQuaig requested Council authorize a purchase price of \$325,000.

The item will be placed on the February 17, 2020 Council meeting regular agenda for public input.

Agenda Item Number 7 – Cops Grant - Chief McQuaig

Chief McQuaig explained the Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS) has opened the grant application for the hiring of additional career law enforcement officers. He said the grant provides 75 percent funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for three (3) years for newly-hired officers. In addition, there is no cap on the number of positions an agency may request, but awards will be limited to available funding. He said he will be asking for two officers. The deadline for submitting the grant application is March 11, 2020.

Council agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Agenda Item Number 8 – Planning Commission Vacancies

Lonnie Smith stated two (2) applications have been received. The applicants are Keith Baxter and John Pierpont.

Vice-Mayor Hanchar stated Mr. Pierpont would be a great asset to the board as a regular member. She thanked Mr. Baxter for applying for a position on the Planning Commission Board. She said his qualifications could potentially be an asset to the City but at this time she recommended placing his application on hold due to his pending code enforcement case.

Councilwoman Fernandez said both applicants would be an asset to the City.

Mrs. Bowne explained the legislative process for Mr. Baxter case.

Councilman White agreed with Vice-Mayor Hanchar due to Mr. Baxter's unresolved issues.

Attorney Hand recommended placing both names on the meeting agenda for a vote.

Agenda Item Number 9 – Agreement AGR2020-04, Voluntary Cooperation/Operational Assistance Agreement for 2019-2020 with Sheriff of Marion County

Mrs. Bowne explained this is an annual renewal of the agreement between the Marion County Sheriff's Office and Dunnellon Police Department for voluntary cooperation for mutual aid whenever necessary.

Council agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Agenda Item Number 10 – Resolution RES2020-04, City Beach User Fee

Mrs. Bowne reviewed the resolution and said as agreed to during a previous Council meeting, the non-resident user fee has been reduced from \$4.00 to \$2.00 per person.

This item to be placed on the regular agenda.

Agenda Item Number 11 – Council Comments

Mayor Burns recommend preparing a letter to the Dunnellon Chamber & Business Association expressing the City’s appreciation for their continued support to our local business and their community involvement.

Councilman White commented on the process/procedure of changing the order of items on the agenda during a meeting. He said according to the Robert’s Rules, Council should agree by vote to changing the order of the items.

Agenda Item Number 12 – City Attorney Comments

Attorney Hand announced he will not be in attendance at the next Council meeting due to a prior commitment. He said Attorney Patrick Brackins will be in attendance.

Agenda Item Number 13 – City Administrator Comments

Mrs. Bowne commended Troy Slattery on the median landscaping projects.

Agenda Item Number 14 – Public Comments

Larry Winkler, 19948 Burkett Drive, discussed two issues that were important to him and why he ran for Mayor years ago. They were the Police Department and City Hall.

Wally Dunn, 11386 SW Hendrix Drive, commented on the proposed impact fees. He also commented that he is in the process of rebuilding his home and he continues to receive a bill from the City for sanitation.

Mrs. Bowne said she will get with Jan Smith to resolve.

Mr. Dunn commented on the expenses to the City if Nine Island Cove was acquired.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Attest:

Amanda Roberts, CMC
City Clerk

C. Dale Burns, Jr., Mayor

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Minutes approved at the June 8, 2020 Council meeting.