

TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

TOWN COMMISSION

WORKSHOP MEETING

MINUTES

**Town Commission Meeting Room
4501 Ocean Drive
Tuesday, March 25, 2008
5:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR ROSEANN MINNET

Mayor Minnet called the workshop to order at 5:07 p.m. Present were Mayor Roseann Minnet, Vice Mayor Jerry McIntee, Commissioner Jim Silverstone, Commissioner Birute Ann Clottey, and Commissioner Stuart Dodd. Also present were Town Manager Esther Colon, and Town Clerk June White.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Mayor McIntee believed that the public comments should be limited to residents of the town. The Commission agreed to hear from the people.

Susie Glenn researched AMR and discovered they had to pay out a \$9 million settlement. She believed AMR was strictly a transporter and not a lifesaving organization.

Steve Katz, Chief of Emergency Medicine of Memorial Hospital West in Pembroke Pines remembered a situation he was in when he worked as a paramedic without having fire response on the scene. He said he was called to a motor vehicle accident and watched an alert person, trapped in a car, burn to death. He believed in a high level of cross training.

William Briason, City of Miami Fire Chief, reminded the Commission that public employees and firefighters could not strike, but private entities could. He asked the Commission to consider the risk factor and not to consider EMS alone. He suggested using the best possible

Walter Dicks, President of the Broward County Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, said that the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea had one of the best Fire and EMS services in Broward County. Mr. Dicks believed the Commission should consider the experience that the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea had now and what they would have in the future. He felt they should look at liability and strike issues and

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consider cross training as that would provide a higher level of service. He asked the Commission to consider the risk and the value of a human life.

Mark Brown was concerned that no one else was using a private EMS service. He suggested looking at the track record for AMR or other private services to determine why they are no longer servicing those cities.

Carole Venuti was concerned that people were misinformed. She said she had fallen and someone had called 911. She said it had taken BSO 15 minutes to arrive with a fire truck. Ms. Venuti was in need of a splint and there was nothing available on the fire truck. It took 30 minutes for the ambulance to show up. She said if the Town paid BSO \$3 million she would take the Volkswagon over the Mercedes.

Dominick Venuti said the training was exactly the same for a paramedic whether it was BSO or AMR. He said the only difference was one got paid. Mr. Venuti believed people were misinformed. He was in favor of AMR.

Frank Herrmann listened to both sides and believed the Commission needed to choose between service that is working in only 8 cities in Broward County or in 167 cities throughout the country. Mr. Herrmann suggested AMR.

Lawrence Wick believed the IAFF served their members well but not their communities.

John Thompson said that minutes are critical for a stroke victim. He spoke with the Commissioner's of two communities who had said they were satisfied with AMR.

Pat Coleman said when a call went to 911 regarding a heart condition, a fire truck arrived and circled the building 2 ½ times. She said the person taking care of the heart patient was forced to leave the patient alone to flag down the BSO fire truck. She said when the BSO medics finally entered the apartment the patient was slumped over and in bad condition. Ms. Coleman added that the medics did a good job saving that person's life. She pleaded that addresses that were difficult to find, to please have them red flagged.

Maureen McIntee said that someone said that public employees were not allowed to strike. She said teachers are not allowed to strike, but they do. Ms. McIntee added that no one wants the strike but they can happen.

4. DISCUSSION

a. Public Safety

Fire Protection

Manager Colon said that a RFP had not gone out for fire. She said she communicated with Ft. Lauderdale and Pompano Beach who said they would

not submit a bid for Fire or EMS due to budget cuts. She requested direction from the Commission.

Vice Mayor McIntee recommended advertising the RFP's and whoever submitted them, submitted them.

Commissioner Silverstone asked the cost for an RFP. Manager Colon said the cost would run \$1300. The Commission agreed to send out an RFP for fire protection.

b. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

Current Projects (Assistant to Town Manager Olinzock)

Assistant to Town Manager Olinzock gave a brief PowerPoint presentation. He reviewed current Capital Improvement projects. Mr. Olinzock specified that the sewer installation on Sunset Lane, North Beach access sidewalks, Leisure Tower parking expansion, and Terra Mar Drainage were completed projects. He added that the current projects were the Artificial Reef Fish Habitat Construction project; the North Beach Sanitary Sewer Installation project; the North Seagrape Drive Streetscape Improvement project; the Terra Mar Island Bridge/Bulkhead Restoration project; the Town Entryways; Town Hall Generator Relocation/Electrical Distribution Upgrade project; the Commercial Boulevard Beach Pavilion; and the Jarvis Hall Portico Enclosure project.

Future Proposed Projects (Town Manager Colon)

Manager Colon reviewed her PowerPoint presentation. She said grant funds were received for Plaza Streetscape and should be completed before July 4, 2008. Manager Colon added that beach access points were also earmarked for this year as was the pavilion. Manager Colon said that the Oceanfront Promenade had a development order that provided an easement and was date sensitive. She said she requested grant funds for the Promenade and was seeking assistance because of the sensitive dates. Manager Colon added that FDOT funds were available for state roads that the Town could get for work on A1A and for Pines Avenue. She said the Beach Re-nourishment Project had \$200,000 in funds set aside for the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea. Manager Colon proposed the Capital Improvement plan 2008-2012. She recommended doing any project that contained grant funds so as not to lose the funding.

c. Debt Management

Current Debt - Promissory Note

Manager Colon reviewed the promissory notes. She said the Bel Air sewer project cost double than the original amount. Manager Colon compared

bonds to General Bonds. She reviewed Capital Improvement Funds, General Fund and Parking revenue improvement fund and advised the maturity dates and projected pay off dates.

d. Town Property

Sale and Acquisition of property

Manager Colon suggested selling the off-site building and to purchase a new building for municipal services such as fire and EMS. She explained that it was illegal to have trailers in the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea.

e. North Beach Analysis

Manager Colon said she based her evaluation on the valuation of assessed property and also on population. She said the General Fund was for the whole town.

Manager Colon looked at property assessed values from Broward County DR420. She said before Annexation the Town had an assessed valuation of \$510 million. She explained that once an actual capital improvement project was backed out from the surplus there was a deficit of \$6.8 million in south and \$11million in the north. Manager Colon said the deficit was funded with grant funds, promissory notes, fund balances, and reserves.

Commissioner Silverstone was concerned that the south was paying 100% more of the revenues. He said the revenues that were generated by the commercial properties were not included in her analysis. Manager Colon said she put it in total in the general fund. She explained she did not break it out between the north and the south because she believed that the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea was one town. She said even though she did not break it out, the south generated most of the revenue. Commissioner Silverstone did not believe the Annexation Agreement was a fair deal.

Vice Mayor McIntee believed the Town spent approximately \$3 million more in the north than in the South. Manager Colon said the Town spent \$13.9 in the south and \$16.6 in the north. Vice Mayor McIntee said the Commission was told that the north end would show more income and profit in their costs. Manager Colon said the Town was in a deficit and the Town of Lauderdale By The Sea paid out more than was collected. Vice Mayor McIntee asked if there was a chance of losing the pavilion grant. Manager Colon felt confident that the deadline would be met, unless there was a hurricane. She said she spoke to Broward County to determine whether a fourth extension would be available. Vice Mayor McIntee asked how long it would take to complete the Seagrape project. Assistant to Town Manager Olinzock said the streetlights should be installed as soon as FPL completes their transfer of the new poles. Vice Mayor McIntee asked if the contract was granted to AMR and BSO left,

where would the \$1.2 million go. Manager Colon recommended it go into the Capital Improvement Fund. Vice Mayor McIntee asked where the \$1.5 million would go that was collected from BSO. Manager Colon said the fire assessment fee was reduced by 50% so the fire assessment next year better be enough to cover the fire department.

Commissioner Silverstone asked if the south would have more money to spend if the north de-annexed. Manager Colon said the south would be very wealthy and live like they did before. Commissioner Silverstone did not believe that would happen and believed that the Town should be one Town.

Commissioner Clotey thanked Manager Colon for her analysis. She did not believe that the Town should be making any improvements to Jarvis Hall until after the decision to purchase the building to house fire and EMS. Manager Colon said those funds have already been allocated and it was illegal to have trailers in Town.

Commissioner Dodd hoped all could come together and become one Town.

Mayor Minnet believed the Town was moving forward. She asked which capital improvement projects remained in the north. Assistant to Town Manager Olinzock said excluding Palm Club Sewers, the Terra Mar Bridge Bulkhead Alteration project remained. Mayor Minnet asked Manager Colon to explain the property valuation of the north. Manager Colon explained that after subtracting expenditures from the revenues a surplus of \$7 million in General in the south and \$5 million in the north resulted. Mayor Minnet asked that if there were no capital improvement projects in the north was that surplus used for the south part of Town. Manager Colon said there was a surplus because they annexed. She explained that the \$5.1 million dollar surplus was after seven years.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor McIntee made a motion to adjourn. With no further business before the Commission, Mayor Minnet adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.



Mayor Roseann Minnet

Attest:


June White, Town Clerk

4/11/08
Date