

TOWN MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
Thursday, January 13, 2011

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor Kenneth Bradley at 7:00 p.m. at the Rachel D. Murrah Civic Center, Morse Boulevard, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Kenneth Bradley
Commissioner Phil Anderson
Commissioner Beth Dillaha
Commissioner Tom McMacken
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham
Department Heads

After the pledge of allegiance, Mayor Bradley provided an introduction. City Manager Knight outlined the rules of the meeting. The "State of the City" video was presented. Mayor Bradley provided remarks regarding the City's accomplishments, projects and the City's financial status.

The following asked questions of the Commission or only provided comments. All questions were answered by various Commissioners throughout the evening as well as City Manager Knight.

Steven Leary, 422 Raintree Court, asked about the status of the State Office Building site.

Carol Saviak, 2878 S. Osceola Avenue, spoke about property rights.

Roger Repstien, 524 Fernwood Drive, asked about the Fairbanks Avenue wastewater utility and roadway improvements project. He opposed the construction of medians on Fairbanks Avenue from I-4 to 17-92.

Pat McDonald, 2348 Summerfield Road, asked what the City can do to assure transparency and open government as it relates to citizens, non-citizens and lobbyists. She also asked what the City will do to avoid conflicts of interest by members of the Commission and staff.

Marcia Sundberg, 1300 Buckingham Road, spoke about the Fairbanks Avenue project and concerns with the medians and creating an unsafe environment without cutouts or turn lanes because of the large amount of traffic.

Nancy Shutts, 2010 Brandywine Drive, asked about the status of the consultant for the police and fire pensions.

Kathi Penkacik, 1974 Staunton Avenue, asked about the Fairbanks Avenue beautification project.

Carmelo Gagliano, 1800 Killarney Drive, addressed concerns with the Fairbanks Avenue project and the medians proposed.

Ken Storey, 430 W. New England Avenue, asked about future plans for transportation after SunRail that will keep residents within Winter Park.

Tom Shutts, 2010 Brandywine Drive, asked about the status of the property located at the northwest corner of Lee Road and 17-92.

David Pickett, 668 Darcey Drive, asked if segways are allowed in downtown Winter Park. Police Chief Brett Railey provided information regarding current laws.

Steven Leary, 422 Raintree Court, commented about the need for Commissioners to disclose everyone they speak with if the employees are required to keep a list of who visits them and the reason.

An email sent by Eric Vey, 2340 Randall Road, was summarized by Communications Director Clarissa Howard regarding streets and the strategic plan. A copy is attached to the minutes.

David Odahowski, 345 Prairie Dune Way, Orlando asked about increasing philanthropy and volunteerism in the City.

Robert Laughlin, 255 Osceola Court, asked why the Historic Preservation Commission is allowed to violate building and code ordinances.

Vice Mayor Dillaha thanked everyone who attended.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cynthia S. Bonham". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Cynthia S. Bonham, City Clerk

Cindy Bonham

From: Clarissa Howard
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2011 11:24 AM
To: City Commissioners; Town Meeting
Cc: Randy Knight; Michelle del Valle; Cindy Bonham
Subject: FW: Town Meeting

Please see the e-mail below received from the TownMeeting@cityofwinterpark.org e-mail address yesterday.

Clarissa Howard, Director of Communications City of Winter Park
401 Park Avenue South
Winter Park, FL 32789
O: 407.599.3428
F: 407.599.3417
www.cityofwinterpark.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Vey [mailto:evey@ericvey.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 6:47 PM
To: Town Meeting
Subject: Town Meeting

I have reviewed the Strategic Plan and the Town Meeting Procedures. Based upon reading these, I prefer to submit my comments by email because to appear in public seems to be rather discouraging. One-and-a-half hours doesn't seem to me to be very long to address serious issues.

I am disappointed in the Strategic Plan and expected more. Specifically, there is no mention of "Streets" which comprises the most land that the City owns. While "Parks" are mentioned often, I advance the argument that streets are more important than parks.

1. While many people use parks, everyone depends on streets, even if they are house-bound because they depend on streets to supply them with food. So streets win "the majority" argument.
2. The acreage of streets (including the ROW) exceeds the acreage of parks. If someone doubts that, I will provide the exact difference in numbers. But if you consider the miles of streets the City owns and the ROW of those miles, what I claim should be self-evident. So streets win "the quantity" argument.
3. Smooth streets reduce fuel usage whereas rough streets increase fuel usage. Unless the City wants to begin charging a fuel tax, it makes little sense to encourage rough streets by letting them go to "pot"holes. I encourage the City to go green and build smoother streets. While parks have trees and grass, the streets have many more. Additionally, the resource of water from the streets could be captured and used in a useful way rather than the harmful way it is being used now. So by improving streets, curbs and drainage, streets win the "green" argument.
4. People seem to accept taxation better when they can actually see their tax dollars at work. An example is that people could not see their tax dollars at work in Vietnam, so they were more likely to turn against continuing the war. People can see street work. If they

don't use the library or the parks, they are more likely to complain about "extraordinary government expense." In short, not many people complain when they see their street being repaved or resurfaced. Streets win the "political" argument.

The only thing I saw in the Strategic Plan was a mention of pedestrians. That is nice, but it politicizes one class of street user over others, when there are many people that use the street. Additionally, the "answer" to improve pedestrian access is to create another adjacent street, one called a "sidewalk" so that one type of user gets priority over another by getting the secondary user "out of the way."

As I said, I am disappointed, and I hope that this message will be taken as seriously as if I appeared in person.

Eric Vey
2340 Randall Rd