

**CITY COMMISSION BUDGET WORK SESSION**  
**August 31, 2015**

The work session was called to order by Mayor Steve Leary at 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Steve Leary  
Commissioner Greg Seidel  
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel  
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper  
Commissioner Tom McMacken

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight  
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham

Mayor Leary stated he wanted to focus on where they left off at the last Commission meeting discussion where they were trying to find funding for the primary items. He asked to discuss the items they were in agreement on, find funding for those items, and discuss other issues they did not find funding for.

City Manager Knight explained what was handed out before the meeting to include statistics from the Police Department regarding crime and response time information, City Commission budget comments with modifications, and a list outlining what he heard from the last meeting as well as concepts as to how to fund those items. He stated these were broken down by Recurring Revenues and Expenditures and One-Time Revenues and Expenditures. He stated the list does not necessarily indicate what they agreed on but was put on the list because they focused on these. The recurring revenue from the state was addressed.

The \$100,000 for trees and watering was clarified to be a one-time expenditure for this year and that this is an additional \$100,000 added to the \$100,000 already this year which brings the budget an additional \$200,000 over last year's budget. There was a consensus to take the additional \$100,000 out of this year's contribution to the contingency.

Commissioner Cooper asked for two additional police officers. Commissioner Sprinkel did not support the additional funding because of the police budget already comprising about 30% of the General Fund. Mayor Leary could not justify hiring more officers at this time. Commissioner Cooper asked if we could look at possibly presenting changes to the cost of our pension that would offset the cost. Discussion ensued regarding the number of officers on the road, minimal staffing, the current vacancies, and the current police budget. Upon comments, there was a general consensus to fund two additional officers out of the General Fund (\$170,000).

Golf course improvements were discussed. City Manager Knight stated the Task Force report indicated funding of \$1.2-\$1.5 million and that the staff

recommendation is to fund this at \$1.2 million. Once the bids come in and if it is more than \$1.2 million staff will come back and adjust it at that time. There was a consensus to take funds out of reserves and repay it when the Progress Point property sells. Commissioner Seidel asked about stormwater in that area and less expensive irrigation. Mayor Leary asked that the next agenda include appointments for the RFP group to work on the RFP. The timing of the possible sale and closing of Progress Point was addressed.

Upon discussion, staff will bring an update on parks and plans moving forward for a future non-action agenda item.

Showalter Field was the next discussion of \$180,000. The Blake yard options will be brought forward at the next meeting for discussion. There was a consensus to move forward with the Showalter improvements.

Commissioner Sprinkel addressed her preference to heat the Cady Way in time for Winter. There was a consensus to take the other \$70,000 needed out of contingency with the understanding in an agreement with the YMCA that they will reimburse the City in June.

Commissioner Seidel asked to discuss traffic management. He asked for an update regarding where the funds will come from and what we are going to do. Planning Director Dori Stone stated that the idea behind this was to look at intelligent transportation systems as well as a modeling component. She stated they met with Cliff Tate with Kimley Horn who volunteered some time for the City who provided his professional expertise that we should do the model sooner and several levels of modeling that can be done. She said they have a very entry level model funded in the current budget. She stated Mr. Tate said for another \$100,000 they could accentuate that model and look at critical corridors and some ITS and signal timing on those critical corridors and make some recommendations based on that. She stated there would be additional cost above what she anticipated in the planning budget at this time for doing that.

Commissioner Seidel stated if we have this modeling done and identify intersection improvements and they are FDOT roads that we could work with the FDOT to get funding and improve transportation. Mayor Leary stated he is supportive of this but that he will not support the funding in the budget at this time because funding could exist outside of the City. Commissioner Seidel spoke about finding matching funds. Commissioner Cooper addressed the importance of funding this now. Commissioner Sprinkel commented that she is happy to address this at a later time because staff is not ready to do this. Commissioner McMacken first wanted to read what we are proposing to do.

Commissioner Seidel addressed the need to expedite undergrounding of electric and suggested putting a bond question on a ballot for the voters to decide. City Manager Knight explained we are now budgeting \$3.5 million a year for

undergrounding and that Commissioner Seidel is suggesting we take that and commit it to debt service instead of the pay as you go method. He stated you would be replacing the capital outlay in the 10 year plan with a debt service payment. Mayor Leary commented he is supportive of the progress we are making. Commissioner Seidel addressed the need for fairness because the public was informed that we would have everyone undergrounded by a certain timeframe, the importance of reliability and the need to complete this, and the impact to property values. Electric Director Jerry Warren will discuss the acceleration of undergrounding with the Utilities Advisory Board at their next meeting.

City Manager Knight spoke about the fiber issue during undergrounding that is being reviewed. He believed for \$40,000-\$50,000 we can do a feasibility study as to whether it makes sense to put fiber throughout the community as the undergrounding is done. There was consensus to fund this and to move forward with the study.

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.



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City Clerk Cynthia S. Bonham, MMC