CITY OF WINTER PARK
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
June 12, 2006

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor David Strong at 3:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

The invocation was offered by Father Richard Walsh, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present:  
Mayor David Strong  
Commissioner Douglas Storer  
Commissioner John Eckbert  
Commissioner Douglas Metcalf  
Commissioner Barbara DeVane

Also present:  
City Attorney Trippe Cheek  
City Manager James Williams  
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham

MAYOR'S REPORT:

a) Check presentation from EMBARQ (formerly Sprint) to the City for the 2006 Olde Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration in Central Park.

Dan Peterson, EMBARQ, presented the City with a $16,000 check to host the 2006 Olde Fashioned Fourth of July Celebration in Central Park.

b) Friends of Casa Feliz Outstanding Organizational Achievement Award

Mayor Strong spoke about the Friends of Casa Feliz Outstanding Organizational Achievement Award received from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation for their demonstration of outstanding achievement in the field of historic preservation due to the preservation of Casa Feliz. Jack Rogers, accepting the award, stated he was grateful for the City’s assistance. He recognized Lindsay Hayes for writing the successful $250,000 grant application.

Peggy Strong, 916 Palmer Avenue, addressed the large amount of work by the citizens to save Casa Feliz. She spoke about being grateful to the City for donating the property where Casa Feliz currently resides.

c) Board appointments:

Mayor Strong presented board appointments for consideration:

Board of Adjustment (alternate): Mark Van Valkenburgh
Seconded by Commissioner Eckbert and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Code Enforcement Board: Terri Oster
Seconded by Commissioner Storer and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.
Economic Development Advisory Board: (One appointment contingent upon adoption of the Resolution to increase the membership): Agatha Frances
Seconded by Commissioner DeVane and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Housing Authority: Michael Miller and Hal George
Seconded by Commissioner Eckbert and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Planning and Zoning Commission: Patrick Doyle (reappointed) and Drew Krecicki (alternate)
Seconded by Commissioner DeVane and carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioners Metcalf and Eckbert voting no.

Firefighters Pension Board: Confirmation of Mike Clifford
Seconded by Commissioner Metcalf and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

d) Strategic Planning Session Scheduling.

Upon discussion, Mayor Strong announced the scheduling of a special meeting on June 19, 2006 at 12:00 pm to discuss the plan for the all day meeting on July 5, 2006 at 9:00 am. City Manager Williams suggested inviting a facilitator from North Highland to the June 19 meeting.

e) Task Force formation and appointments:

Commuter rail

Mayor Strong addressed the urgency of this board because Orange County is asking the City to make short-term financial commitments. He stated he is seeking individuals with interest and dedication to this project and nominated the following: Stanley Wilson, George McClure, and Forrest Michael. He added that he would also like to consider appointing engineer Diana Parkinson who would like to participate. Commissioner Eckbert addressed the need for a balance regarding the membership and questioned if these nominees would all be opposed to commuter rail. Mayor Strong commented that he was uncertain. He also stated that he would like Kip Marchman to be on the task force because of his expertise with commuter rail and its financing aspects.

Commissioner DeVane recommended Kenneth Murrah and suggested including a member of the Park Avenue Merchants Association, Rollins College and the Chamber. Commissioner Storer nominated Sam Stark from the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Metcalf announced that Bob Klinger has accepted his nomination. He spoke about the importance of the decision that needs to be made whether commuter rail will come through Winter Park. He suggested nominating several people for/against commuter rail, then narrow that list down. He suggested emailing the City Clerk or City Manager a few names to be discussed at the June
19 agenda. Commissioner DeVane stressed the importance of moving forward with the appointments.

Commissioner Storer asked how the Commission viewed this task force and its recommendations relating to the stand the Commission took several years ago that was conveyed to Representative Mica. He reiterated the tradeoff of removing some of the freight traffic in exchange for the commuter rail traffic and asked if this was still on the table for discussion. Mayor Strong responded that the City is going to asked to pay $2.5 million for a station and to bear operating expenses in some undetermined amount past the year 2015. He stated they need to determine if the benefits outweigh the money spent and how it will be paid for. He stated that the FDOT has not finalized their plans and they are asking the City to make decisions based upon some unknown facts.

Commissioner DeVane stated she would like to have another presentation from FDOT provided to the Commission to include what type of station this will be and how much they will commit financially. Mayor Strong stated Orange County would like a financial commitment by the end of August. Mayor Strong suggested finalizing the members of the task force in next week’s meeting and that each Commissioner provide three names then. Commissioner DeVane commented on the critical aspect of the financial impact of this issue. Further discussion ensued regarding the decisions that need to be made and the timing of these decisions as well as the financial impact to the City.

- Architectural Review Board
Mayor Strong suggested an Architectural Review Board to consider if there should be an architectural review standard in the City and/or strengthen the City’s historical preservation standards. He identified his nominees as follows: Anne Stevens, Lance Walker Jr. and Randy Robertson. Commissioner Metcalf stated that he has asked two people but has no answer as of this time. Commissioner Eckbert also had no answer at this time. Commissioner Storer stated he will ask David Lamm. Commissioner DeVane stated she has spoken with Steve Feller who is an architect and is interested in serving.

Mayor Strong prefaced the discussion by stating he had no position or agenda on any of these items and that he is seeking people with opinions, interests and different points of view on these topics. He thought it would be beneficial if there were individuals who had contrary opinions to one another, creating more diversity across the board. He stated that the City Manager agreed with him that Alberto Vargas be appointed as the City liaison.

- Brookshire new school alternatives:
Mayor Strong nominated Sara Sprinkel, Michael Haynes, and Keith Gardner. He stated he has not spoken to them and was not sure if they wanted to serve on this board. Commissioner Metcalf nominated Kit Pepper who is willing to serve on the board; Commissioner Eckbert will nominate someone at the next meeting because of not being able to confirm as of this time. Commissioner Storer nominated Janet Ricci but needs to confirm with her. Commissioner DeVane stated she would agree with whoever the new principal coming on board at Brookshire would like to
nominate independent of her recommendation. She nominated Stephanie Phillips, the past PTA Chair at Brookshire and mentioned two other interested individuals, the SAC Chair and a teacher at Brookshire if the board is ever expanded. Mayor Strong expressed his preference of keeping the board at seven members. Mayor Strong suggested that all Commissioners speak with their nominees to confirm their appointments before June 19.

Commissioner Eckbert stated a faculty member would be helpful, the seven individuals should be Winter Park residents and have a non-voting position that could be the faculty member. Commissioner Metcalf spoke about hiring Rick Mellon as a consultant on the Commission's behalf. Mayor Strong added Don Martin as the City liaison. This will also be finalized at the next meeting.

Items not on the agenda:
1. Mayor Strong reported about attending the Metroplan meetings and the discussion that took place regarding a rental car surcharge. He added that this passed and if the Governor signs the bill, the estimated revenue beginning in January, will be $645,000 yearly for Winter Park which has to be used exclusively for transportation improvements. This can be factored in for budgeting in the future.

2. Mayor Strong reported that Metroplan's highest transportation improvements priority in Winter Park is ranked number 19 which is the extension of the Lee Road intersection from 17/92 to Denning, which is considered a low priority. He reported that priority number 3 in the Bicycle and Pedestrian projects is the Dinky Line Lock Haven/Mead Garden Bicycle Pedestrian Path which is unfunded. He reported that the last priority on their Pedestrian Bicycle list is the Winter Park City Bicycle Parking Program.

3. Mayor Strong reported that the Florida League of Cities has their annual conference on August 10-12, 2006. He asked if there was interest in attending to represent the City. A decision will be made later.

NEW BUSINESS – CITIZENS COMMENTS:

1. Susan Gabel, 1539 Golfside Drive, representing as a leader of the St. Margaret Mary Church and Community Organization, explained the composition of the organization. She asked that extra funds be placed in the recreation budget to allow youth programs to be more accessible to everyone. She stated they look forward to being part of the budget process and would like to be included when topics are discussed concerning recreation.

2. Lurline Fletcher, 790 Lyman Avenue, task force member of St. Margaret Mary Church, asked for funds for the Westside Youth Program Community Center.

3. Sally Flynn, 1400 Highland Road, addressed her gratitude with the spirit of cooperation from Commissioners to work together. She also suggested there are still board members, especially those writing the Comprehensive Plan, who have a definite conflict of interest and that these members need to be removed.
4. Kim Allen, 271 Virginia Drive, on behalf of Winter Park High School, thanked City Manager Williams, the City, and all of the Departments that assisted with the last minute organization of the State Florida High School Athletic Association Track and Field Event that Fort Myers was unable to host. She spoke about the success of the event. She also thanked Sam Stark of the Chamber of Commerce for getting the restaurants involved who agreed to give the school a portion of their proceeds. She stated that as a result of the outstanding response, Winter Park High School are contenders for having the One A, Two A, Three A and Four A track meets there next year and that Orange County Public Schools has agreed to resurface the track at their expense. Commissioner DeVane spoke about the excellent economic development opportunity for the City to bring this back to the City (the City used to host the State track meets years ago). She asked that Ms. Allen and staff work together to make this happen.

5. Stanley Prokopiaz, 1737 Magnolia Avenue, spoke against renaming N. Lakemont Avenue because it may raise taxes. He also spoke against brick streets.

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

a) RESOLUTION NO. 1948-06: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA RELATING TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD; AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 1766-01 TO PROVIDE FOR TERMS OF MEMBERS AND TERM LIMITS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Cheek read the resolution by title. No public comments were made.

Motion made by Commissioner Storer to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

SEE BELOW (PAGE 9) FOR FURTHER COMMENTS REGARDING THE EDAB.

b) RESOLUTION NO. 1949-06: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 607; INCREASING THE BOARD MEMBERSHIP ON THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD BY THE ADDITION OF AN ALTERNATE MEMBER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Cheek read the resolution by title. No public comments were made.

Motion made by Commissioner DeVane to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.
c) **RESOLUTION NO. 1950-06**: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 1806-02, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY BOARD; INCREASING THE BOARD MEMBERSHIP BY THE ADDITION OF AN ALTERNATE MEMBER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

There was discussion as to which resolution should be adopted. Upon determination that the first resolution is the one to be adopted, Attorney Cheek read the resolution by title. Mayor Strong explained the error made when appointing the member that he believed was a vacancy but that there was no vacancy. He recommended that because there is a full board that an alternate be appointed. No public comments were made.

**Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to adopt the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Storer.** Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Strong recommended Rebecca Furman be appointed as the alternate. **Seconded by Commissioner Eckbert and carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

a) Approve the minutes of 5/22/06.

b) Approve the following Change Order, RFP and Bid:

1) Change Order No. 1 to CH2M Hill for Aloma & Magnolia Water Treatment Plant Improvements; $88,843.00 (Budget: Aloma/Magnolia Construction Contingency).

2) Award of RFP-12-2006 for Various Print Jobs to Mailtropolis; $8,895.19 annually (Budget: Communications).

3) Award of WP-17-2006 for the purchase of (2) Pipe Fusion Machines to Ferguson Waterworks; $55,834.34 (Budget: Utilities Construction).

4) PR 127047 to Medtec Ambulance for the purchase of a new ambulance; $172,406.00 (Budget: Vehicle Replacement Fund).

5) RFP-20-2006, Consultant Services for Classification and Compensation Study to Cody and Associates, Inc.; $29,700.00 (Budget: HRD).

c) Approve the Home Services Program Master Agreement (Surge Protection Program and Home Wire Agreement) to be offered to Winter Park electric utility customers.

d) Approve hiring an additional building inspector; utilize building permit revenues as the source of funds for all costs.

Susan Gabel, 1539 Golfside Drive, asked about Consent Agenda Item b) 4) because with concerns with emission standards. Fire Chief White explained the difference in standards.
Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

a) ORDINANCE NO. 2673-06: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WATER CONSERVATION RULE FOR LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION OF THE ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING THE LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SCHEDULE; PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS TO THE LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SCHEDULE; PROVIDING FOR VARIANCES FROM THE SPECIFIC DAY OF THE WEEK LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Second Reading

Attorney Cheek read the ordinance by title. No public comments were made.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

b) Renaming of North Lakemont Avenue

Public Works Director Troy Attaway summarized the background of the request received to rename a portion of N. Lakemont Avenue to Arbor Park Drive and the results of the questionnaire to ascertain the support of renaming this portion of the street. He stated the results were in favor of the renaming by 78% for those having a N. Lakemont Avenue address. He summarized the noticing that took place for the public hearing.

Kathleen Kiely, 1800 Oneco Avenue, representing the North Lakemont Association, spoke in favor of renaming N. Lakemont Avenue to Arbor Park Drive. She summarized their plans for enhancing the street and entranceway into this portion of N. Lakemont Avenue.

Christine Blackwell, 1732 N. Lakemont Avenue, President of the North Lakemont Association, spoke in favor of changing the name of the street. She thanked the City for the receipt of the matching neighborhood grants. She spoke about the importance of safety for their children and pedestrians and that renaming this road will help alleviate the thoroughfare image that the street currently has.

Judith Panzita, 1720 Palm Avenue, spoke in opposition to the name change because she did not believe it would have an effect on the cut through traffic on the street. She asked who will pay for the street signs that need to be changed.
Leno Constantino, 1754 Magnolia Avenue, spoke against the street name change because he believed it would cause confusion.

Jay Palmer, 1691 Hibiscus, spoke in favor of changing the street name.

Joseph Zuber, 157 E. New England Avenue, spoke in favor of changing the name to Arbor Park Drive.

James Panzitta, 1720 Palm Avenue, spoke against the name change because of possible confusion.

Eileen Dodd, 1532 N. Lakemont Avenue, spoke in favor of changing the name because of the need to slow down traffic.

The question was raised as to other name changes in streets that the City has done in the past. City Manager Williams stated he would provide that list.

Commissioner DeVane spoke about the minimal area being considered and the minimal impact she believed the name change would cause. She addressed her support of the name change because of the improvements made to their entranceway saying this is no longer a four lane commercial district.

Commissioner Metcalf spoke about the residents living on the street mostly being affected by the change and agreed that this could help with safety concerns.

Commissioner Eckbert spoke in favor of the change because of the improvements being made to the street and area as well. He commented that the real hardship of the name changes lies with the people favoring the change.

Commissioner Storer applauded the organization for their efforts to improve their neighborhood. He stated the change will meet the goals outlined by their organization.

Motion made by Commissioner Storer to direct staff to prepare an ordinance for a public hearing to change the name from N. Lakemont Avenue to Arbor Park Drive for the June 26, 2006, meeting; seconded by Commissioner DeVane.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to accept the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner DeVane. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor
Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

d) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2562-04, INCREASING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PUBLIC ART ADVISORY BOARD FROM NINE (9) MEMBERS TO ELEVEN (11) MEMBERS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. First Reading

Attorney Cheek read the ordinance by title. No public comments were made.

Motion made by Commissioner DeVane to accept the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Strong and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert, Metcalf and DeVane voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

e) SUBD-Request of the Estate of Sarah Galloway to allow 860 Via Lugano to be divided into three lakefront lots.

The applicant requested that this item be tabled until June 26, 2006.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to table this request until June 26, 2006; seconded by Commissioner Storer and carried unanimously.

Recess
A recess taken from 5:22 – 5:31 p.m.

Economic Development Advisory Board

Commissioner Metcalf suggested that this board membership consist of 13 members plus an alternate. Attorney Cheek reminded the Commission that there were three positions up for reappointment and the question as to whether Ms. Prather wanted to be reappointed. He stated that action was never taken and the board was then expanded by three members which have been named, including the third position being filled this evening. He stated there is a vacant spot although it had an incumbent eligible for reappointment and suggested taking action on Ms. Prather.

Mayor Strong nominated Ms. Ruth Prather for reappointment, seconded by Commissioner DeVane and carried unanimously.

Mayor Strong suggested adding two members and one alternate instead of three members. Mayor Strong proposed adopting a resolution to expand the board membership to 13 members, plus an alternate. Seconded by Commissioner Metcalf and carried unanimously.

Mayor Strong nominated Ms. Francis as the alternate (provisional appointment until the resolution is adopted), seconded by Commissioner Metcalf and carried unanimously.
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

a) Update on the 2006 Christmas Lighting plan (Susan Finnegan).

City Manager Williams stated that Ms. Finnegan would be speaking on this issue and that the Park Avenue Area Association provided a letter and wished to address their comments.

Susan Finnegan spoke about her meeting with Mayor Strong to inform him regarding this project. She stated this is the third year of the master plan for the holiday lights. She provided the financial figures regarding monies raised, summarized what they have accomplished, what needs to be done, and the future plans for the project.

She commented about the meetings have been held with the City. She displayed pictures of the lights at the intersections and stated they would like to complete the pots and trees, that the battery's worked very well, and that the 80 pots/trees purchased last year were stored by the Parks and Recreation Department. She stated the Parks Department suggested that this practice be continued as they increase the number of pots which they are almost half way there.

She stated they would like to finish the intersections going along Park Avenue, they wanted to add one more intersection at Lyman & Park and to add more pots and trees for the evening. She addressed the need for daytime decorations and showed pictures of the banners and the potted poinsettias provided by the City. She asked that the City again donate $25,000 to purchase more intersection lights and to add 80 more pots and that the City also approve $25,000 for the labor. She spoke about the letter received from the Park Avenue Area Association about the formation of a committee and agreed with this.

Willow Shambeck, 339 Park Ave South, on behalf of the Park Avenue Area Association, thanked Ms. Finnegan for the many hours spent on this project. She spoke about this being a high profile project and that they want to form a committee to oversee how the funds raised are spent and to manage the many facets of the project, both long and short term. She asked that the committee be comprised of Light Bulbs Unlimited (who has agreed to provide items at wholesale and below to be a sponsor of the project); Rosemary Gillett; Susan Finnegan; representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, Park Avenue Area Association, Hannibal Square Merchants Association, Keep Winter Park Beautiful, and the Winter Park Rotary; staff from the Parks and Recreation Department, and a member from the Utility Commission. She spoke about their desire for a holiday lighting master plan that addresses short term needs this holiday season, and a long term plan running through 2010. She addressed the need for a budget, the need to outline clear delegation and responsibilities, to create a daytime holiday feel, and to have year round impact with lighting in the trees through out the year. She also asked that the City provide the $25,000 as requested.

Sam Stark, Winter Park Chamber of Commerce, reiterated some of Ms. Shambeck’s comments and recognized Ms. Gillett and Finnegan for their efforts so
far with this project. He stated they want this to be a community project and having the committee will increase citizen and community organization donorship and better operation of the funds being requested. He expressed the importance of this project to the merchants and the need for success. He encouraged the formation of the committee, to keep it under City supervision and to let it become a community master plan project.

Luanne McKinnon, Cornell Museum, Rollins College, spoke in favor of the project and committee formation. She commented about how Winter Park presents itself very well as an image for the public and that the college endorses the project.

Nancy Shutts, 2010 Brandywine Drive, spoke in favor of expanding the board because she did not believe the money raised so far has bought very much. She disagreed with the lights in the trees and utilizing the batteries. She was in support of diversifying this and having a plan that falls in line with traditional Winter Park.

Commissioner DeVane addressed the vision that Ms. Gillett and Finnegon brought to the City regarding the holiday decorations. She commented that it is expensive and is an investment that needs to take time to do it and needs to be discussed as to how the vision will be implemented. She also stated we need to have the stakeholders who own the businesses that are directly impacted to participate and provide donations.

Commissioner Metcalf spoke in favor of forming a committee to oversee this project because of the need to complete the project. He agreed that the City should have more daytime decorations. Commissioner Eckbert agreed with all Commissioners comments.

Mayor Strong spoke about the need for a finalized plan. He stated he liked the Christmas Cards that used to be displayed along Park Avenue that was a City tradition that should be incorporated into the plan. He asked the City Attorney how the committee needed to be created. Commissioner DeVane encouraged forming the board with a sunset provision where it would be reviewed in the future. Commissioner Metcalf addressed the need for long term plans.

Attorney Cheek commented that the City can form a temporary committee this evening, but if it is going to be more permanent it needs to be done by resolution.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to allow the formation of a Holiday Decoration Committee to oversee and plan the decorations for Winter Park for the next three years to be comprised of the members as recommended by the Park Avenue Area Association; seconded by Commissioner Storer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Strong asked that the committee bring back recommendations to the Commission after they meet.
b) Housing Authority request for support

City Manager Williams stated that the Housing Authority is taking over the Plymouth Apartments on Gay Road and they want to provide renovations to this facility. He stated the City in the past has assisted on a limited basis with in-kind services for tree trimming, paving, etc. He explained that the Housing Authority is asking for work to be done, i.e., tree trimming – cost in labor and equipment usage: $19,000; paving – cost in materials: $23,750 and cost in labor: $12,000 and for fee waivers (permit fees for building and fire). He stated that staff is supportive of providing the labor but that the materials affects the budget directly and asked for consideration of the Housing Authority to pay for materials. He stated the ability exists to waive fees as well but that they can be large. Building Official George Wiggins explained the Senate bill passed last year placing a limitation on the use of building permit fees. He stated the City can only waive up to 40% of the permit fee.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to waive the allowed 40% of the building permit fee, seconded by Commissioner Storer and carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Jim White spoke about the fire fees. He stated it depends on the estimated value of the construction done and their fee waiver would be almost $18,000. He spoke about the life safety issues that are considered and that the fees waived would be $1,994. He further explained how the fees are determined.

Commissioner DeVane stressed the need for the building to be safe and this being an important part of the Affordable Housing Program to remain affordable for seniors living there. She asked that this be viewed in terms of a long term policy program in the City to deal with waiving these types of fees. She asked that staff come back with thoughts on this.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to waive the fire fees, seconded by Commissioner Storer and carried unanimously.

Mayor Strong discussed the request to waive paving fees. The City Manager asked for clarification whether the Commission wanted to waive the cost of the material. The time line for the construction of this project was addressed. Public Works Director Troy Attaway stated that the materials for this project would have to come out of the paving budget.

Commissioner DeVane suggested that a spreadsheet be provided with the timeline of what funds need to be spent and when and see what monies are available in our Affordable Housing Fund to offset some of this. She stated she would like the City to provide all of the request but that some needs to come out of other City funds. Commissioner Metcalf commented that other projects would be delayed if the funds for this came out of the City's paving fund and the City is already behind in providing some repairs of roads. Mr. Attaway suggested that the funds for materials for this project be included in the upcoming budget.
Mayor Strong addressed the request to trim the trees. It was determined that this would be completed within 18-24 months. Mayor Strong asked that this be considered in the budget next year along with other items. He concluded that there is a consensus to contributing to this project, fees are going to be waived, and the remaining items will be made a part of next year’s budget.

c) Legislative update – Robert Hartnett.

City Lobbyist Robert Hartnett provided a report regarding what he has been working on with the Florida Legislature this year to try and obtain funding for various City projects. Mr. Hartnett addressed the funding that was and was not made available for the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP), and the Howell Branch water flow system project related to the St. John’s Water Management District.

He stated that no funding was approved for any of the transportation projects because the committees took the staff position that if the project is not in the department’s budget they will not be approved because the Governor will veto them. He then commented that they do have the project working concerning the $300,000 for the railroad crossing project. He stated he is pretty much assured that the City will receive the $300,000. Commissioner Metcalf asked when the City will receive the $300,000. Mr. Hartnett stated they are in negotiations. George Wiggins, Planning Department, stated that Representative Dean Cannon informed him today that those funds are available.

Discussion ensued regarding the monies that the St. John’s will receive and the City project concerning water quality that the City will receive funding for. Don Marcotte, City Engineer, spoke about the project.

Item Not On The Agenda

City Manager Williams reported that he received a request from the Winter Park High School to land a helicopter at Showalter Field on the east side, this Wednesday from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. that is bringing the Economic Development Commission. They are working with Orange County Public Schools to look into bringing business into Winter Park and the EDC wanted to tour the schools. He stated this has been coordinated with all parties.

d) 2006 Hurricane Season/Avian Flu Preparation Update.

Fire Chief White provided a power point presentation regarding the preparation the City has undertaken to prepare for the current 2006 hurricane season and preparation for the potential Avian Flu pandemic.

e) Red light running presentation by Police Chief Ball.

Police Chief Doug Ball provided a power point presentation regarding traffic enforcement and red light running. He summarized the number of citations written, the number of verbal warnings and the number of crashes investigated in the last
year. Chief Ball reported that the Winter Park Police Department finished first in the nation for use of technology in traffic enforcement and first in the State Law Enforcement Challenge for innovation in traffic safety and enforcement efforts.

He continued by summarizing red light running initiatives, the primary obstacles for using red light cameras, the legal issues regarding red light cameras, and what other jurisdictions are doing regarding enforcement. He addressed 12 cities and counties that are investigating the implementation of local ordinances to pursue the issue of red light camera enforcement and that the cities of Gulf Breeze and Apopka have enacted ordinances for enforcement and fines.

Chief Ball summarized the options for obtaining equipment if this were to be implemented. He addressed other issues such as who will be responsible for collecting fines and what appeal process could be used.

He concluded by providing options for enforcement: 1) wait on legislative support; 2) pass a local resolution of support of legislation and enlist the assistance of our City Lobbyist to seek passage of laws allowing camera enforcement; 3) enact a local ordinance utilizing the County Court system for the appeals process; and 4) enact a local ordinance establishing a local appeals process.

Commissioner DeVane spoke about the problem the City is facing with red light running. She addressed the legislature not passing laws as of this time to allow the enforcement. She addressed the need for more officers along the streets at the intersections pulling over vehicles. She stated she wanted to explore the cost of putting in cameras at the Orange Avenue/Denning/Minnesota intersection because it is not a major state roadway.

Commissioner Eckbert stated he is not in favor of pursuing one intersection because of the costs associated. He stated he would like to see legislation be passed first before specific intersections are studied. He spoke about the need to enforce the laws until the enabling legislation is passed.

Commissioner Metcalf spoke about the need for supporting legislation and that the legislators that are not pushing the issue. He stated this needs to be resolved.

Chief Ball suggested the assistance of Mr. Harkey of Congressman Mica's office to help push our legislators to do the right thing. He stated the Florida League of Cities has supported red light camera enforcement on a statewide basis as well as other organizations. He stated everyone is pushing this but they keep running into obstacles in Tallahassee that are preventing this from happening.

Commissioner Storer fully supported the Commission passing a resolution of support of legislation that would give the legislature direction from Winter Park and that we need to be more active with the City's views. He agreed with increasing enforcement at specific areas in the City, informing residents, and letting people know that they will be delayed and fined if they run red lights in Winter Park.
There was a consensus to prepare a resolution for legislative support of red light running enforcement.

Chief Ball spoke about their aggressive traffic enforcement in place right now and being a recipient of a message board that they can utilize to warn people about running lights.

Lobbyist Robert Hartnett spoke about his efforts in Tallahassee regarding this issue.

Commissioner DeVane asked Chief Ball to provide costs as to how much it would be to increase staff for red light violations so this can be reviewed in the budgeting process.

NEW BUSINESS (CITY COMMISSION):

Commissioner DeVane spoke about the eyesore at the high school where the transformers are located in the middle of the student patio open area surrounded by a chain link fence. She stated that it has been requested by several people that the City pay to build a brick wall around this. Sharon Strong stated that Kim Allen has been working with the principal and construction groups and Ms. Allen wanted to ascertain if there is any money in the budget to help pay for this. She stated the cost is about $15,000 but that Ms. Allen can get significant donations that would reduce the cost to the City. She asked for support so this can be accomplished during the summer months.

Mayor Strong adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor David C. Strong

City Clerk Cynthia Bonham