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

PRESENT: Mayor Kenneth “Kip” Marchman, Commissioners Douglas Storer, John Eckbert, and Douglas Metcalf; City Manager James Williams; City Attorney Brent McCaghren and City Clerk Cynthia Bonham. Commissioner Barbara DeVane was absent.

The invocation was offered by Bill Swartz, Parks and Recreation Department, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

a) Concours d’ Elegance Car Show update.

Economic and Cultural Development Director Chip Weston addressed the show promoters request to expand the show to Lyman and Park Avenues and to display more cars. He reported that the Parks and Recreation Board has recommended approval of the request. Mr. Weston suggested granting a permanent stature or asurity to the show promoter. Discussion ensued regarding granting the appropriate level of status. Mr. Weston said the status designation assures the promoter that the event can continue annually without seeking additional Commission approvals provided that there are no changes with the event. Mayor Marchman, noting that an approval of a permanent stature is unlikely, expressed his support provided that the show follows the same plan format each year.

City Attorney McCaghren explained that no event in the City, including the Art Festival, is granted a permanent stature and they continue on a year to year basis. Mr. McCaghren clarified that staff is asking that the event is placed on a yearly calendar which would eliminate the need of annual Commission approvals. The consensus decision was to grant this event an on-going status and to eliminate the need of annual Commission approvals unless major changes are made to the event.

b) Board appointment - Jane Hames to Economic Development Advisory Board.

Motion by Mayor Marchman to appoint Jane Hames to the Economic Development Advisory Board, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion that Ms. Hames’ appointment fills a vacancy that resulted from a resignation on the Economic Advisory Board.

Board Appointment: Comprehensive Plan Task Force

Motion by Commissioner Storer to nominate Craig McIntire to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force, seconded by Mayor Marchman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Marchman noted that a nomination to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force is pending from Commissioner Metcalf.

c) Report on Baldwin Park.
David Pace, Baldwin Park Developers, provided updates on the development, infrastructure, surrounding roadways, and parks and lakes. Discussion ensued on the status of the Publix Supermarket located within the development, the status of the VA Clinic roadway, and the Glenridge Way connection.

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

a) Resolution Concerning overcrowding at Winter Park High School.

RESOLUTION NO. 1876-04: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE “A” RATING OF WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL.

Attorney McCaghren read the resolution by title. Mayor Marchman explained that the Commission was asked to consider a resolution regarding the circumstances that deal with the ‘A’ rating of the Winter Park High School. He expressed his concern over any changes that may affect the academic standing of the school.

Linda Keen, 1312 Bridgeport Drive, expressed her concern with the number of new students proposed for Winter Park High School and the impact to the school that may result.

Discussion ensued as to whether this resolution was the most effective step to take at this time, the unknown number of new students, and the issue of involuntary placement of Winter Park High School teachers to ‘F’ rated schools.

Carolyn Cooper, 1047 McKeen Circle, explained how neither the students or the teachers will benefit from what is being proposed.

Cindy Smith, 2909 Parkland Drive, spoke about the impact to the school and suggested that the business community create a mentoring program for the students.

Commissioner Storer commented on the poor level of communication between the City and the School Board. He expressed his concern with the involuntary transfer of teachers, and the overall population of the school. He suggested exploring all other available options.

Commissioner Eckbert spoke of the importance and the need for someone from the City to address education issues on a daily basis. He elaborated on how the City of Coral Springs has addressed similar issues. He said the resolution should be as specific as it could be. Commissioner Eckbert reported on an e-mail he received from Orange County School Board Member Joie Cadle.

Following additional discussion related to suggested wording for the proposed resolution, the following motion was made.

Motion by Mayor Marchman to approve the resolution with the following language: Now therefore be it resolved by the City Commission of the City of Winter Park, that the Orange County School Board be asked to take no steps that will adversely affect the quality of
education provided at Winter Park High School, including but not limited to, involuntary transfer of any members of the faculty, and not assigning more students than the facility can accommodate, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Metcalf, Eckbert and Storer voted yes. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

Commissioner Eckbert spoke of focusing on additional specifics that may have not be addressed at this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a) Approve minutes of 7/12/04.
b) Approve the proposed recreational fee of $5.00 for Winter Park residents and $10.00 for non-residents for the participants of the non-paying organizations using City athletic field facilities.
c) Approve bids, purchases and RFQ as follows:
   1) Final negotiated agreement with R. W. Beck following the RFQ-10-2004, Consulting Services to Prepare a Bond Feasibility Study re: Electric Distribution, $68,000 (Budget: 301-0000-511-10-01)
   2) Extension to current contracts with Standard Coffee Service and Crystal Springs Water. Accept the increase in price from Crystal Springs Water (Budget: Using departments)
   3) Extension of bid WP-5-2003, Purchase of Photographic Supplies with the original contractors at no change in price (Budget: Using departments)
   4) After-the-Fact PO #110076 to Creditron from the contract with Okaloosa County RFP-WS83-03 for the purchase of a Remittance Processing System for Finance to bring the processing of the utility payment lock box system in-house rather than using a separate contractor, $58,208.50 (Budget: Finance)

Mayor Marchman asked for public comments. No comments were provided.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

a) ORDINANCE NO. 2591-04: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, VACATING AND ABANDONING THE PLATTED ALLEYS WITHIN THE CITY PARKING LOT BETWEEN CANTON AND GARFIELD AVENUES AND WITHIN BLOCK 20, TOWN OF WINTER PARK SUBDIVISION, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. Second Reading

Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title. No public comments were provided.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

b) ORDINANCE NO. 2592-04: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, AMENDING WITHIN THE CHARTER LAWS OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, SECTION 1.02,
“CORPORATE LIMITS DESCRIBED,” SO AS TO ANNEX THE PROPERTIES AT 1453 HARMON AVENUE INCLUDING THE ADJACENT RIGHT-OF-WAY OF WISCONSIN AVENUE AND 2918 SANDWELL DRIVE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. Second Reading

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.


Request of Dr. Dominick D’Anna for property at 225 Edinburgh Drive:

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

c) Request of Dr. Dominick D’Anna for property at 225 Edinburgh Drive:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” AND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP SO AS TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3) DISTRICT TO OFFICE (O-2) DISTRICT ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 225 EDINBURGH DRIVE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. First Reading

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to accept the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

For items ‘d’, ‘e’, and ‘f’, the Commission agreed to accept public input for all items at once instead of after each item.
d) Request of Sydgan Corporation for property at 411 W. New England Avenue:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” AND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP SO AS TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF LIMITED COMMERCIAL (C-3A) DISTRICT TO CENTRAL BUSINESS (C-2) DISTRICT ON 411 WEST NEW ENGLAND AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. First Reading

Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title. No public comments were provided.

Planner Briggs provided the staff report. He explained that this item involves six lots located south of the Dexter’s building bounded by Pennsylvania, Lyman, and Hannibal Square, West. He said that the proposed project would demolish certain buildings located on the corner of Lyman and Pennsylvania Avenues and replace them with a four-story combination mixed-use building and parking garage. He continued that an approximate 4,000 square foot liner building is proposed on the west Pennsylvania Avenue side that will consist of ground floor space with retail stores and three additional floors consisting of 15 apartments. Mr. Briggs continued that the 4-story parking garage that will include 186 spaces will be located on the east side. He said that although the parking garage is a 4-story building, the applicant is able to build it at the same 40-foot height as the 3-story Dexter’s building. He elaborated that the area selected by the applicant has been designated for commercial redevelopment in 1994 when the CRA Plan was adopted. Mr. Briggs reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval with certain conditions.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to accept the ordinance on first reading with the conditions imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

Planned development approval to permit the construction of a three story mixed use building comprised of retail space, office space and apartment.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to approve the planned development, subject to the approval of the zoning ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

e) Request of Sydgan Corporation for vacant Lots 5-7, 9-10, Block 55, Town of Winter Park bounded by New England and Hannibal Square East.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” AND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP SO AS TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3); GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-3) AND LIMITED COMMERCIAL (C-3A) DISTRICT TO CENTRAL BUSINESS (C-2) DISTRICT ON 314 AND 320 HANNIBAL SQUARE, EAST AND 444, 450 AND 460 WEST NEW ENGLAND AVENUE, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. First Reading
Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title. No public comments were provided.

Planner Briggs presented the staff report. He said the request involves 5 lots on New England Avenue and Hannibal Square East. He explained the redevelopment plan for this parcel and that the proposed 3-story building will include approximately 21,000 square feet of ground floor space for retail stores, and 36 total apartments between the second and third floor. He continued that basement parking is proposed to include 35 parking spaces; parking will be located on site and in the parking garage proposed for the previous project. Mr. Briggs explained the variance approval needed for the elevator to open to the rooftop. He stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission agreed that the applicant must comply with a 2 parking space per apartment code requirement. He reported that the P&Z recommended approval with certain conditions.

Mayor Marchman confirmed that the P&Z did not agree to the variance request from 1.5 to 2 parking spaces per unit. Discussion ensued that the Planning and Zoning Commission condition of 2 parking spaces per unit creates a difference of 18 parking spaces and whether spaces will be available at the Ewing-Noble building.

Motion made by Commissioner Metcalf to accept the ordinance on first reading with the conditions imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

Commissioner Metcalf noted that concerns with the surrounding neighborhood must be accounted for once traffic is increased.

Planned development approval to permit construction of a three story mixed use building comprised of retail space, apartments and parking.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to approve the planned development, subject to the approval of the zoning ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

f) Request of Sydgan Corporation for Lots 7-10, Block 54, Town of Winter Park in the block bounded by New England, Pennsylvania, Lyman and Hannibal Square, East:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” AND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP SO AS TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3) DISTRICT TO CENTRAL BUSINESS (C-3) DISTRICT ON LOTS 7-10, BLOCK 54 TOWN OF WINTER PARK, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN. First Reading

Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title. No public comments were provided. Planner Briggs provided the staff report. He explained that the applicant is requesting to demolish the building that is located on this property and build a 3-story building with approximately 2,300 square feet of ground floor for retail space and office on the second floor that will connect with the existing building on the west side of the property. He said one single residence will be included on the third floor. He explained the two extra feet is needed for the elevator to open on the roof. Mr.
Briggs stated that the applicant is providing parking for all the projects, in existing lots, in the alley lot, in the basement level, and the parking garage. He noted that the applicant is short approximately 32 spaces that will be encumbered at the vacant property next to the Ewing-Noble building. He said when the property across the street on the north side of New England redevelops, a parking structure could provide the spaces that are needed. He reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval with certain conditions.

Commissioner Eckbert sought clarification as to which buildings will be demolished and whether the brick building will look like one building. Planner Briggs responded that the building will look similar to the ones located on Park Avenue.

Mayor Marchman asked if the developer had any problems with the conditions imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Planner Briggs responded that he was unaware of any problems with the conditions imposed.

Sydgan Corporation representative Kathy Haufman, on behalf of Mr. Dan Bellows, stated that Mr. Bellows is amenable to the recommendations made by the Planning and Zoning Commission with the exception of the 1.5 parking spaces that were formally allowed for 433 West New England and 402 West Welbourne for the studio and one bedroom apartments. She explained how the applicant has addressed the parking issues. Ms. Kaufman reported that the applicant has received full staff approval, and that he has met individually with Commissioners and the Planning and Zoning Commission. She asked that the Commission approve the requests with the condition that if any issue is not addressed at the second reading, then the Commission should exercise its authority and deny any of the applicant's requests.

Mayor Marchman disclosed his discussions with the applicant concerning the conceptual nature of the project but that no discussion has taken place regarding the specifics of the project. Commissioners Eckbert, Metcalf and Storer stated they had not had discussions with the applicant.

Lurline Fletcher, 790 Lyman Avenue, expressed her opposition with the proposed rezonings and parking garages in the westside.

Cindy Smith, 2909 Parkland Drive, suggested that the Commission require developers to pay for traffic calming or any other improvements to the community.

John Gigliotti, 400 West New England Avenue, as the general contractor for the applicant and a business owner in the central Business District, spoke in support of the project.

Discussion ensued on the height of the 3 and 4-story buildings. Mayor Marchman stated that the variance which would allow 1.5 parking spaces per unit was not approved by the P&Z in the second request. He said the Planning and Zoning Commission required 2 parking spaces per apartment unit.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to accept the ordinance on first reading with the conditions imposed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and
Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

Planned development approval to permit construction of a four story mixed use building and parking garage on Lots 7-12, Block 54, Town of Winter Park bounded by Pennsylvania, Lyman and Hannibal Square, East comprised of retail space, apartments and parking garage.

Motion made by Commissioner Eckbert to approve the planned development, subject to the approval of the zoning ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

g) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” SO AS TO ADD A NEW PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY APPROVAL PROCESS, PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION AND SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS, PROVIDING FOR SITE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL PROCEDURES, PROVIDING FOR REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AND EXPIRATIONS OF APPROVALS. First Reading

Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title. No public comments were provided.

Planner Briggs provided the staff report. He explained that the proposed ordinance inserts a planned development overlay process into the code that allows the Planning and Zoning Commission to recommend and the City Commission to approve variances to commercial/office, mixed use projects. He said that staff will no longer bring code changes for major building projects but instead will bring planned development variances for approval. Mr. Briggs stated that the proposed ordinance includes a process for preliminary development approvals for conceptual plans and final development plans. He continued that expiration dates are also included similar to the ones that were recently amended for conditional uses; two years for each phase unless the project requires an extension. Mr. Briggs explained the provision that is included in the proposed ordinance that deals with projects that are acquiring 10% more building or square footage to sell or rent.

Mayor Marchman asked if staff was comfortable with the proposed change. Mr. Briggs responded affirmatively and said the current system of changing the code when needed is not working for staff, the Commission or the applicants. He said this is the process used by other jurisdictions and more routinely accomplished by zoning it to a district as opposed to the overlay. He said this process will work in the context of the Comprehensive Plan. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed ordinance not including details related to upper limits on building heights and why the P&Z omitted those provisions.

Hal Kantor, as a member of the Economic Development Advisory Committee, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

Motion made by Commissioner Storer to accept the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.
h) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WINTER PARK, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 “LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, ARTICLE III, “ZONING” SO AS TO AMEND SUBSECTION 58-78 “PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC DISTRICT” TO PROVIDE FOR RESIDENTIAL USES AS A PERMITTED USE.

First Reading

Attorney McCaghren read the ordinance by title.

Planner Briggs provided the staff report. He explained that staff has been working to integrate the code so that residential is permitted in all of the office/commercial zoning districts. He continued that the proposed ordinance allows residential uses as a permitted use in the public and quasi-public district. Mr. Briggs stated that all projects that are planned for the public and quasi-public district still have to seek approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Commission. He said this ordinance would allow public and quasi-public district properties such as the Glenridge property to be developed residentially without the need of a rezoning.

Mayor Marchman asked for public comments. No comments were given.

Discussion ensued whether staff is suggesting to limit this to an R-1 residential type zoning. Mr. Briggs explained that it is not restricted to R-1 zoning and how the ordinance includes appropriate densities for adjacent land uses. Mr. Briggs reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this ordinance.

Motion made by Commissioner Storer to accept the ordinance on first reading, seconded by Commissioner Metcalf. Upon a roll call vote, Mayor Marchman and Commissioners Storer, Eckbert and Metcalf voted yes. The motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote. Commissioner DeVane was absent.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

a) Electronic sign for Park Inn at 951 Wymore Road.

Building Official George Wiggins identified the site as the Park Inn on 951 Wymore Road and that the property was recently annexed into the City. Mr. Wiggins explained that the applicant prior to being annexed into the City, had contracted with a sign contractor to install a new pole sign with an electronic message device. He elaborated on how the current code restricts this type of sign unless it is limited to time and temperature display or public service messages. Mr. Wiggins provided the details and specifications on the proposed sign which would replace the existing sign which measures 260 square feet and 40 feet in height. He said the proposed sign is smaller and measures 134 square feet. He continued that the applicant has offered to remove two message centers currently on the building. Mr. Wiggins stated that the applicant has also requested to retain the same height as the existing 40' sign. He said the current code restricts this type of sign and that it would require Commission approval to replace the existing sign with the proposed sign. Mr. Wiggins stated staff recommended approval of the request.

Steve Rathjen, Fairway Sign Corporation, commented that the request was originally submitted to Orange County. He explained the concessions that the property owner has made.
Best Western Inn Owner/Operator Rick Frazee expressed that he should be granted similar approvals for his signs located on his property.

Mr. Wiggins clarified that the proposed sign is more than a 50% reduction in the size of the existing sign and that part of the recommendation includes the condition that the message center be set up in a manner that does not flash or contain moving text. Discussion ensued that the request does not create a precedent. City Attorney McCaghren said that the letter from the applicant indicates that the two existing message centers on the building will be removed. He suggested to include the removal of the two signs as part of the approval.

Motion by Commissioner Metcalf to approve the request to replace the existing Park Inn sign with a combination new sign with an electronic message center, subject to setting up the sign without the ability to flash or having moving text or images; to utilize the proposed smaller sign with a total area of 134 square feet and 40 foot height; and eliminate the two message signs located on the building, seconded by Commissioner Storer. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTRIC ISSUE

Although not listed on the agenda, the following issue was discussed.

Assistant City Manager Knight provided a report on the operations and maintenance contractors for the electric issue and the ranking of the two firms that responded to the bid by the selection committee. Mr. Knight said that the committee ranked Enco Utilities as #1, and Shaw Energy Delivery Services as #2. He said staff is seeking approval to move forward with negotiations with Enco Utilities and draft a contract that can be returned for Commission approval.

Mayor Marchman asked for public comments. No comments were provided.

Motion by Commissioner Metcalf to authorize staff to move forward with negotiations with Enco Utilities and draft a contract that can be returned at a later date for approval, seconded by Commissioner Eckbert. Motion carried unanimously.
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Peter Schreyer, 2624 Amsden Road, Executive Director, Crealde School of Art, provided an update on the Hannibal Square Heritage Center.

2. Carol Hille, 1631 Barcelona Way, urged the Commission to work with the Police Department to find the resources to keep three school resource officers at Winter Park High School.

3. Cindy Smith, 2909 Parkland Drive, provided condolences on the passing of Jim English and urged everyone to support the American Cancer Society.

4. Lurline Fletcher, 790 Lyman Avenue, spoke about a Westside resident that was told he was unable to give tennis lessons at the Community Center. Additionally, Ms. Fletcher spoke about the construction debris that is accumulating on the streets in the Westside.

5. Commissioner Eckbert addressed the post office box issue. He asked that wording related to the impact to the aesthetics of the City and the adopted ordinance that has been ignored be included in the letter. Commission consensus was to include this wording into the letter.

6. Commissioner Eckbert asked that Mayor Marchman provide a report on the annexation meeting that he attended last week. Mayor Marchman provided his comments. Discussion ensued regarding whether individual Commissioner’s positions were represented during the meeting. City Attorney McCaghren suggested that staff prepare a status report on the annexation issue and include it in the Winter Park Update for distribution. Commissioner Eckbert expressed his support of a threshold number that would require a referendum be held for an annexation initiative.

   Commissioner Storer expressed his preference that any update on this issue be given as informational purposes instead of positional or political. Mayor Marchman explained the legal requirements for annexations that he addressed during the meeting. Commissioner Metcalf provided comments on the cost of the level of services that the City provides to its residents and the need to increase revenues. He commended City Manager Williams and staff for their efforts on cutting expenditures and operating as cost efficiently as possible.

7. Commissioner Storer expressed his concern over not receiving a response from the Orange County School Board on the status of the old Glenridge Middle School site. He suggested sending another letter asking for the official status of the property and the official position of the School Board. He also reported that all demolition on the property has ceased. City Manager confirmed that staff will send a follow-up letter.

8. Commissioner Eckbert asked for a status report on the Regent Hotel. Planning Director Martin reported that representatives from the project are scheduled to appear before the Planning and Zoning Commission this week. He said there are a couple of changes that need to be discussed. Commissioner Eckbert asked that staff inquire into the expected target date for groundbreaking. Mr. Martin responded that staff will inquire into the date and advise the Commission via email. Additionally, Commissioner Eckbert asked for updates
on the redevelopment of the City Hall property and the Post Office site. Mr. Martin provided reports on both projects. Discussion ensued regarding the selection process of the development team for the City Hall project. Commissioner Eckbert asked that staff provide the Commission periodic updates on the redevelopment of City Hall and the Post Office projects.

9. City Manager Williams reported that staff is in the process of distributing a pre-trim notice to the citizens that addresses the budget process, the trend of the general fund in terms of revenues and expenses, critical projects, and the tentative millage rate that was set. He said the budget update will go out on September 1. Commissioner Metcalf asked whether the budget update will include all the infrastructure requirements that the City needs to perform and not the numbers that were used to balance the budget. He spoke about the graphs that should show that we are falling behind because we are unable to maintain the infrastructure that has been unfunded for a long time. He said we need to explain that funding for infrastructure will need to come from increased revenue or with an increase in taxes. Mayor Marchman spoke of advising the citizens what our needs are including infrastructure replacement and at the level that we need to fund these. Discussion ensued regarding the budget message that should be included in the Winter Park Update.

10. City Attorney McCaghren explained that the constitutional amendment to increase the homestead exemption will not appear on the ballot at this time. He said the Florida Supreme Court determined that the ballot summary was misleading which is why he had not drafted a resolution regarding the matter.

Mayor Marchman adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Mayor Kenneth R. Marchman

ATTEST:

City Clerk Cynthia Bonham