

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 25, 2008

The meeting of the Winter Park City Commission was called to order by Mayor David Strong at 2:08 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor David Strong
Commissioner Margie Bridges
Commissioner Phil Anderson (arrived 2:10)
Commissioner Beth Dillaha
Commissioner Karen Diebel

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
City Attorney Trippe Cheek
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham
Deputy City Clerk Nancy McLean

Budget discussion

City Manager Knight addressed the proposed agenda and walked through discussion/decision points.

1) General Fund pro forma: Mr. Knight explained that Commissioner Anderson was instrumental in beginning this process and Finance Director Wes Hamil modified it based on the decisions made at the last meeting. He stated this includes the 3.995 millage rate that rolls back each year then increases by the growth and per capita income. Commissioner Bridges asked if they could have a special taxing district for the library. Attorney Cheek commented that it may be possible but would have to look into it. Mr. Knight and Finance Director Wes Hamil answered questions regarding the other funds.

2) Amount available for allocation:

a) Changes since 8/18/08 meeting (approved).

b) Operating contingency. Mayor Strong commented that whatever is not allocated will be our beginning contingency balance.

c) Street paving (10 miles, 7 miles or less) (approved). Mr. Knight explained that the 7 miles of street paving was factored in. He stated that Public Works Director Troy Attaway looked at each of the streets that Mayor Strong suggested could be delayed (on the street repaving plan proposed under the FY 2009 budget). Mr. Attaway recommended to delay some and to go forward with others. He noted that a mile and half of that could be delayed if the Commission chooses to which would save \$55,000 in materials with no reduction of staff. Commissioner Bridges agreed with Mr. Attaway's recommendation and if they need to allocate crews to level brick roads to do so. Mr. Attaway suggested paving the roads that need patching and to defer the ones that do not need interim patching. The Commission agreed.

Commissioner Diebel commented that the first two projects on the budget requests are to fund the City share of French Avenue and Tuscany Place for \$94,000. She suggested approving those as part of the street plan and to take Mr. Attaway's suggestion as well. Mayor Strong agreed with Commissioner Diebel to include the bricking in the budget. Mr. Knight agreed.

d) Organizational support. Mayor Strong commented that if they support the United Arts that they need designate funds for Crealde and Polasek. City Manager Knight explained they can designate it and they will be required by law to follow the donor restrictions on where to put those monies. Commissioner Bridges believed they should give a dollar instead of .50 per capita. Commissioner Dillaha wanted to know from United Arts whether or not they can allocate money towards certain organizations. She suggested they give the library and the Winter Park Historical Association 3% per year, reallocate \$15,000 from the Library to the Albin Polasek Museum and Crealde, and increase the Welbourne Day Nursery. Mayor Strong suggested they

put an aggregate amount and finish it at the budget. There was a consensus that the aggregate is \$120,000 for organizations for the time being and to allocate who and how much later.

Commissioner Bridges spoke about the Winter Park Historical Association and the City treating it poorly in terms of its constancy and commitment to its function. She believed they should make a commitment of more than \$25,000 because the Historical Association is a very important part to any community.

e) Capital Projects:

i) Street Bricking Projects added to the budget (approved).

ii) Fairbanks Beautification to set aside City funding of \$700,000 in FY 2009, total project cost is estimated at \$2.8 million (approved).

iii) Mead Grant Matching Funds. Mr. Knight explained the request that the City will provide \$150,000 and the Friends of Mead Garden will match that \$150,000 and to decline the grant because the boardwalk and trail is no longer a high priority. Further discussion ensued concerning the project needs. There was a consensus to decline the grant. They did not determine the location of a new maintenance facility (approved).

iv) Park at the corner of Oak and North Park Avenue. Mr. Knight explained that they have \$167,000 allocated to that project and they can do phase 1 for \$50,000 and could allocate the \$107,000 to another project. Commissioner Dillaha suggested taking the \$50,000 for phase I of the park and to reallocate the remainder elsewhere. Commissioner Bridges agreed with doing the park in phases with \$50,000 this year and maybe \$50,000 next year. There was consensus to reduce the funds to \$50,000 (approved) for this budget.

Commissioner Diebel asked to consider our Information Technologies Department implementing the RSA tokens suggested for \$35,000 that would enable people to access the internet and connect to the City computing system and work from home efficiently. She addressed that this is standard in many corporations today and they could use it as part of the disaster recovery. Mr. Knight and the Commission agreed.

Mr. Knight commented that they could discuss scheduling another work session under New Business at the Commission meeting.

f) Federal Lobbyist: There was a consensus there would be no funding for next year.

g) Other "Add Backs": Mayor Strong stated he agreed with the other "add backs". There was no further discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.



Cynthia S. Bonham, City Clerk