

CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION
September 8, 2010

The work session was called to order by Mayor Bradley at 5:07 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

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

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight
Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein

This meeting was a work session with no public input.

Budget discussion:

City Manager Randy Knight provided an update regarding the current lobbying process and noted that Congresswoman Kosmas was able to secure \$250,000 for the City. On August 31, 2010, Mr. Knight gave 30 day notice to the lobbyist informing him that his position is not included in the City's budget for next year. The lobbyist informed Mr. Knight that he was able to secure \$250,000 for the City. Mr. Knight stated that it is short of what the City needs to do the Post Office property. The lobbyist informed Mr. Knight that if the next three days they can identify another park, they will try to get that money shifted for another opportunity. Mr. Knight stated that he met with Troy Attaway and John Holland regarding potential property around the Howell Branch Preserve that is owned by the Clayton Family Trust as a possible opportunity to consider (see attached map that was presented). He mentioned another alternative is that they can put the money towards the budget for the Post Office property, in which they have 2-3 years to spend the money.

There was an overall discussion as to the pros and cons with purchasing land in the Howell Branch Preserve area. Also mentioned was several alternative locations that should be considered to acquire for park land. They also discussed the option of keeping the money for the future use of the Post Office property. Mr. Knight noted that he was being told that the money could only be used to acquire land or on the Post Office, but he would be more than happy to discuss other options with the lobbyist. It was noted that this item will be discussed in further detail in this coming Monday's Commission meeting.

Mayor Bradley spoke briefly about to the overall budget approval process that will take place at the next Commission meeting and shared his thoughts on how they should proceed.

It was agreed that during today's meeting they would review the revised budget in detail with Mr. Knight explaining each item. Each Commissioner would then share their additional items to possibly be included as an amendment to the budget, if there was a consensus to do so. It was noted that Mr. Knight will make note of these items so that when he presents the budget next Monday for approval the items will be included.

Mr. Knight then presented the Commission with a revised budget (see attached) which included their request for an additional \$1 million in reserve additions. He discussed each item in detail

and answered questions. The five budget categories discussed included Contingency, New Information, Commission Recommendations, Personnel and Operating Costs.

Mr. Knight asked the Commission if there were any items on this budget list that they did not want to do and if there was a consensus he would strike the item out. Mayor Bradley mentioned the elimination of special events and said he agrees that there are some events that need to be eliminated but not all events. There was a suggestion to reduce the dollar amount so that some events can still take place.

Commissioner Dillaha said the Winter Park Update in black and white should not be done. Commissioner McMacken said the Neighborhood Grants should be included possibly at last year's level of funding. Commissioner Cooper asked about contracting out the tree trimming and had concerns on which funds should be used.

A recess was taken 6:36 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Each Commissioner was asked if they wanted to add any additional items. It was noted that if there was a consensus, the item would be included as an amendment. Commissioner Anderson said his main items were the utility building for the Fire Department so they can get out of the leased space. He mentioned the Boys and Girls Club and asked that they reconsider what the net cost would be and wanted to know what the delta is and the value for that delta so it can be included. He suggested they look at future pensions, not so much for this year but for the next 4-5 years out and recommended increasing Commissioner future salaries.

Commissioner Dillaha said she is not in favor of the lobbyist position and shared her concern with the current debt situation. She provided a copy of a trend chart that she created (see attached) which shows the difference between 2007 and 2011 and suggested that they talk about future planning. She noted that they need to look at the budget more holistically. She recommended to re-adjust and revise the health insurance plan with regard to the city's subsidy for family coverage and to reduce the 401(a) retirement plan contributions by 2 percent for general employees. She also recommended increasing the funding for Mead Gardens by \$200,000.

Commissioner Cooper shared her concerns and recommended to restrict overtime. She also agreed with the idea of matching of fund grants. She asked about the fees associated with closing Park Avenue for non big-City events and suggested closing another street to save money. She also recommended creating sharing facilities and spaces with outside organizations to help reduce funding.

Commissioner McMacken recommended increasing the Contingency Fund so that it will have \$100,000 in the fund.

Mayor Bradley recommended to eliminate or reduce postage and costs by trying to get the utility billings done electronically and proposed a \$20,000 reduction.

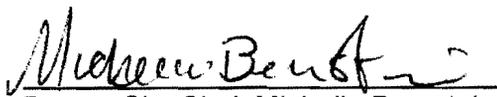
The discussion resulted in eleven amendments to the budget for discussion and vote at the next Commission meeting.

1. Curb and Sidewalk Improvements
2. Funding of Contracted Tree Trimming
3. Funding of Tree Preservation Arborist
4. Boys and Girls Club Youth Fund
5. General Employees Pension Program (401a)
6. Modify Commission Salaries
7. State Lobbyist
8. Health Insurance Subsidy
9. Fund Mead Gardens – Phase I Capital Improvements
10. Establish Contingency
11. Reduce Mailing Costs

Mayor Bradley recapped the process for Monday's Commission meeting. He stated that they will read all of the eleven amendments in and then allow public hearing comments on all of the items. They will then vote on each of the eleven amendment items individually, then whatever gets accepted, and then they will vote on the whole budget.

Commissioner Anderson shared his concerns about setting policy guidelines for budgeting going forward to make things more predictable. He mentioned that he would like to meet with Commissioner Dillaha in a work session and if anyone else wanted to join in, to discuss potential ideas. Mayor Bradley suggested to have this discussion during one of the regular every other week work sessions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.


Deputy City Clerk Michelle Bernstein