

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Council Meeting was held on February 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

President Knight called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present were members Kenneth Burgess, Jodi Wilkeson, Alan Knight, Charles Proctor, Lance Smith and Mayor Whitfield. City Manager William Poe and City Attorney Matthew Maggard were also present.

Staff present: Police Chief Derek Brewer, Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Planning Director Todd Vande Berg, IT Director Mike Panak, Finance Director Ted Beason, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, Public Information Officer Kevin Weiss, Senior Planner Rodney Corriveau and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

Alan Knight asked for a moment of silence for the people of Ukraine prior to delivering the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

1. CONSENT ITEMS

1.1 Approval of February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

1.2 Approval of February 15, 2022 Mayor's Caucus Minutes

Lance Smith moved to approve the Consent Items. Seconded by Charles Proctor. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2.1 Wire Road Presentation – AECOM

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg introduced Tina Russo, Active Transportation Planner with Pasco County and Paul Kurtz, Landscape Architect with AECOM.

Spoke from the floor: Paul Kurtz, Landscape Architect, AECOM – 7650 W. Courtney Campbell Causeway – Tampa, Florida

Mr. Kurtz presented a PowerPoint overview of the Wire Road corridor analysis phase highlighting the study areas challenges and opportunities that are bound on the west by Dairy Road, on the east by 16th Street, on the south by CR-54, and on the north by Pretty Pond Road. The existing multi-modal infrastructure, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and study area elements were combined to create a level of traffic stress in an effort to portray how it feels to ride the trail. Photographs were presented depicting the available right-of-way infrastructure and proposed future improvements given the right-of-way constraints with power poles and transmission lines. The information collected will be used as the basis of a future study to identify the actual sidewalk and/or multi-use trail routes. The approximate space required for a shared use-path or multi-use trail is 10' plus additional real estate to offset the roadway for safety and sufficient drainage. The benefit of a sidewalk is there is no permitting as opposed to a multi-use trail that requires permitting through the water management district. The next steps will entail input from Council, feedback from the public, project refining and finalization, adoption, and funding for the project design and permitting.

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg addressed the obstacles on Wire Road and said he will contact the Pasco County Real Estate department to request surveys to confirm the footage along the constraint corridor and staff will work with property owners to secure an easement, if necessary. He suggested an interim midblock signalized crossing at Wire Road and CR-54 until a connection is made on Wire Road for children to safely cross to Zephyrhills High School and Woodland Elementary. He said with the improvements to CR-54, there will be an opportunity to create a trail through Hercules Park to Henry Drive for connectivity to Woodland Elementary and Zephyrhills High School.

Spoke from the floor: Tina Russo, Active Transportation Planner, Pasco County – 3142 Satilla Loop – Odessa, Florida

Ms. Russo said she is pleasantly surprised with the existing development and trail on Dairy Road. She will approach DOT for funding opportunities with a possible midblock at CR-54 and focus on the constraint area on Wire Road for sidewalk opportunities.

City Manager William Poe addressed the Wire Road constraint corridor and said the metal transmission poles along Wire Road have been placed on private easements. He said staff is working with Duke to create a required trail on Duke's northern Wire Road site. Cornelius Engineering is currently designing a layout that avoids the poles and once complete, the layout will be submitted to Duke to request an easement.

2.2 Workshop with City Council & Planning Commission

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg said the Planning Department has received a tremendous amount of higher density residential development in the form of apartments and townhomes. Two apartment applications were received proposing four stories which will require a conditional use since they will exceed two stories (30'), the City's water use permit (WUP) needs to be addressed as it is an integral part of development and Pasco County has issued a moratorium on new land use, zoning and/or conditional uses for multi-family. Projects with entitlements do not apply to the moratorium. Staff recommended hosting a combined workshop with City Council and the Planning Commission for a thorough discussion to access and evaluate the issues.

Council concurred to hold a Workshop with City Council and the Planning Commission on Monday, March 7th at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

3.1 Award Bid No. 11-22-01 and Jennifer Lane Construction Agreement 25-22-02 to Kamminga & Roodvoets

City Manager William Poe said on January 21, 2022, the City distributed Bid No. 11-22-01 for improvements to Jennifer Lane. A solicitation was distributed online through BidNet Direct and sixteen (16) contractors downloaded the bid package. On February 11, 2022, the City received three (3) solicitation responses ranging from \$163,737.20 to \$300,241.25. The purchasing department reviewed the response to assure they were responsible and responsive. The original funding was \$120,000 based on the engineer's estimate; unfortunately, the lowest bid received was \$43,737.20 higher. The additional funding will be subsidized through the Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) contingency funds and will include a 10% contingency of \$14,885.20. Staff recommended awarding the bid and agreement for Jennifer Lane improvements to Kamminga & Roodvoets.

Councilwoman Wilkeson questioned if this matter was urgent. She said she was certain the engineers made an effort to validate the costs associated with the project a year ago but since, construction costs have exponentially increased. She asked if there was an opportunity to postpone the project for a change in the market.

Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc said the City has 68 miles of road within City limits and Jennifer Lane is the last segment of dirt road that needs to be improved. Sanitation trucks roll down Jennifer Lane every day. Jennifer Lane is located south of Oakside Cemetery, one block west of 1st Street. He said the City has not used Kamminga & Roodvoets' services in the past but they come highly recommended and perform a lot of work in our area.

Kenneth Burgess moved to award Bid No. 11-22-01 and Jennifer Lane Construction Agreement 25-22-02 to Kamminga & Roodvoets in the amount of \$163,737.20. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Spoke from the floor: Chairman of the Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce Board Randy Stovall – 38314 Centennial Road – Dade City, Florida

Dr. Stovall said it's BBQ time in Zephyrhills with a Kidz Grillin' Competition and Blues Band scheduled on Friday, March 4th and State BBQ Championship Competition, BBQ Vendors, Cornhole Tournament and Blues concert on Saturday, March 5th. This year, parking is free with \$5 Admission per person and the elimination of the "Pig Bucks". He said the weather is forecasted to be wonderful.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS – N/A

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS – City Manager William Poe said a Pasco County School District bus will be touring Pasco County’s growth and will visit Zephyrhills, Dade City and New Port Richey. City staff are working with Skydive City, communicating with Metro Development’s attorney’s to relocate a pole in the center of Kossik Road and requested a one (1) year extension (June 30, 2024) from the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) on Phase II of the Tennis Center. If prices for the Tennis Center are the same in one year, the City will be in the same boat they are in today. The reclaimed water line along CR-54 will begin March 12th (Spring Break) and will be complete by April 1st to begin the CR-54 construction project.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS – City Attorney Matthew Maggard thanked Dr. Stovall for all he does within our community. He is very involved behind the scenes and donates a lot of time to the community.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS – Council Vice President Wilkeson announced she will be judging the Kidz Grillin’ Competition on Friday from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and looks forward to seeing everyone. She asked Police Chief Derek Brewer to provide an update on the Homeless Coalition Meeting that was held at the Genesis Community Center on February 16, 2022.

HOMELESS COALITION UPDATE

Police Chief Derek Brewer said he didn’t have hard data to share but the Homeless Coalition and outreach teams are making good progress with the homeless. He has been going out on his own to touch base with homeless residents and the community outreach teams have been out every day even though they committed to three days a week. It’s not just about homelessness, it’s keeping people from becoming homeless. He said the team was organized to find a way to reduce homelessness and they are proceeding with care, compassion and unselfishness. He said it’s heartwarming to see community residents helping others.

Councilman Proctor thanked AECOM for their presentation and Pasco County for their assistance on a great project.

Councilman Smith agreed with Councilman Proctor’s comments and thanked Tina Russo with Pasco County who is passionate about trails. He said Randy Stovall does a great job serving our community with a passion. He has served as Chairperson on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAC) the last ten (10) years and Chamber President for four (4) terms,

Councilman Burgess said Randy Stovall brings a steady wisdom to everything he does. He recognized staff the foresight in placing a trail on Dairy Road that the City can now expand upon. He recognized Mr. Earle for contributing to the JROTC’s Project Patriotism.

Council President Knight echoed everyone’s sentiments and congratulated Mr. Poe’s daughter for being accepted to the University of Florida. He asked everyone to keep the people of Ukraine in their prayers.

City Clerk Lori Hillman announced a Parks and Recreation Workshop for Hercules Park on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned: 7:04 p.m.
Submitted by Lori Hillman