

FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2009

MEETING STATISTICS. A workshop of the Fruitland Park City Commission was conducted in the Conference Room of City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida on Thursday, February 19, 2009 beginning at 7:14 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT. Commissioner Albert O. Goldberg, Commissioner John L. Gunter, Jr., Commissioner Darrel E. Martin, Vice Mayor Sharon Kelly, and Mayor Christopher J. Bell.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. City Manager (CM) Ralph O. Bowers, City Treasurer (CT) Elizabeth P. Palmer, Public Safety Director (PSD) J. M. Isom, Sr., Recreation Director (RD) Sherry Bechtel, Community Development Director (CDD) Peggy Sue Newman, Library Director (LD) Jo-Ann Glendinning, Public Works Director (PWD) John Bostic III, City Clerk (CC) Diane Gibson Smith and citizen Charlie Rector.

Commissioner Gunter stated the workshop was requested to put together a listing of projects which can be ready for stimulus package money.

CM Bowers updated the following:

1. Well at The Glen – this well was drilled with a grant so there may be a problem if the well is taken out of service. Repairing the well will not be economical. The less costly solution is to drill a new well. The City needs to find a source of new money but must have concept plans completed.
2. Line extension to Dairy. If a viable well is found on the Dairy, then a hook-up will be available.
3. Planet 5 – on hold as the Uniform Relocation Act is part of this project and there are two houses which need to be removed before moving forward with the Economic Development Grant. Mayor Bell questioned how much money the City is responsible for with this grant. CM Bowers stated the City is not responsible for any money, Planet 5 supplies the funding.

Commissioner Kelly questioned who the current grant writer is for the City. Chief Isom noted Jordan and Associates is still being used. CM Bowers noted the company needs to be re-evaluated. He and CC Gibson Smith will work on putting something together to re-evaluate.

4. Wastewater. CM Bowers stated the City could use 0% loans (or perhaps negative % loans) to fix the system and build the lift stations. We need to determine the costs. An agreement was reached on the general approach.

Mayor Bell questioned if there was any project that could be put together for a grant. CM Bowers noted most of the stimulus money is being put into State Revolving loans, not grants. He also noted the City needs to resubmit for the CDBG grant.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2009**

Commissioner Gunter questioned the electric project. CM Bowers noted the electric purchase is an enterprise project. CM Bowers stated the funds are very controlled and targeted. The City should be able to obtain some money for things we need to do.

Mayor Bell distributed a listing of possible projects. There were reviewed as follows:

1. Safety Complex Building and a Community Center – Could look at Safety Complex Building and the Community Center together as a package deal and research possible FEMA funding. CM Bowers noted an architect is needed to be on board to fast track the Safety Complex Building. CT Palmer noted there is \$50,000 in contingency in Infrastructure and CRA which can be used for design. \$50,000 was budgeted for the preliminary design of the Community Center.

Mayor Bell said a decision needs to be made on the location for the Safety Complex and a decision on which building to move forward on. The three possible areas are the Baugh property, Casino area, and Veterans Park.

Commissioner Kelly stated she did not believe Veterans Park would be a good location due to lack of access.

Mayor Bell stated Veterans Park would require purchasing additional property. He suggested moving all active sports over to Cales Field, have the Safety Complex Building in the current Casino building location, and the Community Center at Veterans Park where there is a dock which would be used for pictures.

Commissioner Goldberg agreed stating having all sports in one area is much better.

Mayor Bell added this proposal would put all City buildings on Berckman Street. The commission agreed by consensus.

Commissioner Kelly questioned the property surrounding the area for the proposed Safety Complex. She also questioned if FRDAP grants had been used for Veterans Park. This will be researched.

Mayor Bell stated he would like to have a decision on Cales Park usage as he is planning to meet with Lake County Commissioner Jennifer Hill and the Lake County Recreation Director to discuss a possible partnership on the Community Center and the recreation fields.

Commissioner Kelly questioned if there were any hazardous materials in the Casino Building to worry about prior to destroying the building. Charlie Rector stated no.

CM Bowers stated he will look into purchasing additional property for the Community Center. If the additional property is not available, then the Safety Complex will be moved to the forefront. Then the design money will be placed towards the right project. All agreed.

2. Baugh Property – Decision was made to wait on a purchasing this property until more is known about the property for the Community Center and the Safety Complex.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2009**

3. County Road 466A – The City wants to get this project “shovel ready.” CM Bowers noted this project is not eligible for stimulus money. He stated he does not want Lake County charging staff time to the money set aside for CR466A. Commissioner Kelly added the road needs to be reclassified as a federal road so federal funding can be requested.

Mayor Bell noted this project needs to be moved forward. CM Bowers stated the County says it will keep the City in the information loop. CM Bowers is skeptical about this happening.

CM Bowers stated he has asked the Dairy for property for public use. Utilities can be placed within that public use as long as a construction easement is given. Then, the area will be used for a multi-use trail.

4. Houses on Block 20 – CDD Newman distributed printouts of the properties in question. Mayor Bell stated the house located at 509 is a Historic Building and cannot be torn down. The consensus was to move forward and look into the purchasing these homes.
5. Public Works Building – CM Bowers noted there may be money in the stimulus package to do this building. The cost of a 5,000 sq ft metal building was questioned. Charlie Rector stated he has plans for one that costs \$100,000. CM Bowers suggested spending up to \$5,000 of contingency funds to prepare in case money is included in the stimulus package for this.
6. 466A School Crossing Tunnel – Commissioner Kelly noted there is a FDOT Safety Grant that may be available for this. CM Bowers stated the City is continuing to work on CR 466A work.
7. Gardenia Bike Trail – CM Bowers stated this is not a federalized project. CM Bowers stated a variance may be available. This is low priority due to time constraints.
8. Gardenia Park Walking Trail – CM Bowers stated millings could be used in the walking trail. Using millings may be cheaper than asphalt. Commissioner Gunter questioned if people use this trail. Chief Isom and Recreation Director Bechtel stated many people use this trail.

Commissioner Gunter questioned putting in Joe Grubb’s bridge over the retention area by the Library. Charlie Rector stated a broken T beam may be donated by Dura Stress. The City could provide them a donation letter so the cost could be written off.

9. Gardenia Park Trail Head – this is part of the trail project. Mayor Bell questioned if restrooms were included. RD Bechtel stated bathrooms are needed. Charlie Rector noted restrooms are the highest maintenance items you can add.
10. Fountain Lake Bubbler – Mayor Bell suggesting tying this into the Community Center project.
11. Mirror Lake Bubbler – CM Bowers stated this is more about water quality. The consensus was to have Public Works Director John Bostic check with Lake County Water Authority to see if this qualifies for any grant funding.
12. Street Paving – W. Catawba/Eastwood – CM Bowers stated millings were put down on Catawba. Millings can be put down on Eastwood. PWD Bostic will check into this.

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2009**

13. Pine Ridge Dairy sidewalks – CM Bowers stated the Dairy may help put in the sidewalks on the north side. Commissioner Goldberg questioned how far down these are planned. Some of this road is not in city limits. CDD Newman noted the north side has a big county bump, the south side doesn't. Commissioner Goldberg noted there is a school bus stop between Pagoda and Cutoff. The consensus was to not look into doing these sidewalks now.
14. Valley sidewalks – the consensus was to look into doing these sidewalks due to bus stops. The Commission approved up to \$5,000 for design. Charlie Rector noted sidewalks have already been designed; just the layout needs to be decided.
15. Berckman Street Signs/Rose street lights – CM Bowers stated we have a proposal for these items. Decision was made to look into putting lights on College Avenue instead of Rose Avenue and to check the heights of the poles. A contract change order can be done as long as the terms are the same. This item will be placed on the next Commission agenda.
16. Dairy Well construction – CM Bowers stated funds will be needed to evaluate replacing Well #6. \$5,000 - \$10,000 will be needed. Grant funding may be available.
17. Water main construction/replacement – CDBG grant funding
18. Generator – already budgeted.
19. Library Expansion – Library Director Glendinning stated expansion is not needed. Additional parking is needed. LD Glendinning suggested using the property behind the Library for parking. Mayor Bell noted this is part of the stormwater retention area. CM Bowers stated pervious pavers may be usable there. The Commission agreed additional parking is needed. Chief Isom stated grants are only available for expansion of the library. Houses next to the library would need to be purchased to expand the building. Mayor Bell suggested looking at adding 30 feet onto the back of the Library and include additional parking in that project. Decision was made to not look into this at this time.

CM Bowers updated on everyone on current projects:

- 1 CUP – having discussions and preparing for this renewal
- 2 Electric – expect something in less than two weeks.
- 3 CR466A – priority – working with the City Attorney on this
- 4 Water well – priority – can fix, but cost is high. Looking at alternative wells.
- 5 Sewer project – many conference calls, etc. Moving forward.

Commissioner Martin questioned the lift station and the CDBG grant. Commissioner Martin asked if redevelopment funds could be used to install the lift station. CM Bowers stated this will need to be reviewed. CT Palmer stated she will look into this.

CM Bowers stated with the current system, we run the risk of “flooding” a business on the highway if there is a problem with the sewer system. This is a serious risk. Intermediate stations are needed to

FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2009

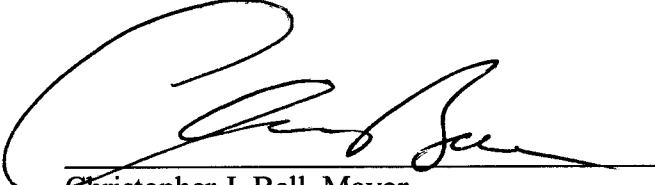
reduce this risk. The City responded quickly to a problem over Christmas and was able to avert an even larger problem. One station is being planned for the north side of town near US Highway 27.

Commissioner Kelly noted the number to report a problem should be advertised in the newsletter. Chief Isom suggested using the Sheriff's number so the call can be answered at any time of day. Public Works would then be notified by the Sheriff's office of any problems. This will be done.

The City will be looking for grants to install these stations, but may need to get a state loan (either zero percentage or negative percentage). The number of lift stations needed is not known at this time. CM Bowers stated he will need to review with Duane Booth of BESH and Henry Sheldon.

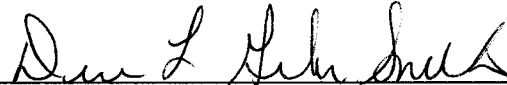
CM Bowers noted the land contours in Fruitland Park are different than most other places in Florida. This creates some unique problems.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, the workshop adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:



Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk