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Venice City Council*

MINUTES OF A WORKSHOP
CITY COUNCIL, VENICE, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 21, 2013

A workshop of the City Council to consider public roads was held this date in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Holic called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS PRESENT

Roll was called with the following elected officials present: Mayor John Holic, Vice Mayor Bob Daniels, and Council Members Jim Bennett, Emilio Carlesimo, Jeanette Gates, Kit McKeon, and Dave Sherman.

Also present: City Clerk Lori Stelzer and City Manager Ed Lavallee, and for certain items on the agenda: City Engineer Kathleen Weeden, Public Works Director John Veneziano, and Finance Director Jeff Snyder.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Holic.

I. CITY ENGINEER KATHLEEN WEEDEN: PLAN TO CONTRACT FOR A CITYWIDE ROAD CONDITION SURVEY

Ms. Weeden explained the first step to be undertaken was a comprehensive road assessment funded through gas taxes.

II. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR JOHN VENEZIANO: PRO-ACTIVE PROGRAM OF ROADWAY MAINTENANCE/ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS/METHODS - BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Mr. Veneziano provided an overview of pavement preservation versus rehabilitation, maintenance costs, preservation measures, maintenance strategies, and a pavement management process including establishing program guidelines, determining needs, providing a framework for treatment selection, developing an analysis procedure, and providing for feedback to determine effectiveness. Next steps include a condition survey, identifying preservation measures, implementing projects, and evaluating the program's performance in order to provide adjusting and refining.

Discussion followed regarding parking lot maintenance, road restriping, maintaining existing roads, city road standards, subdivision sidewalk requirements, funding improvements and maintenance, existing road maintenance policies, and long term planning.

III. FINANCE DIRECTOR JEFF SNYDER: ROADWAY FUNDING OPTIONS: IMPACT FEES, GENERAL FUNDS, BONDING

(9:26) Mr. Snyder reviewed funding options through impact fees, general obligation and revenue bonds, gas tax, pay as you go general fund support, and awarding of grants. Mr. Snyder answered questions relating to impact fees.

VII. CITY MANAGER ED LAVALLEE AND CITY ENGINEER KATHLEEN WEEDEN: PROPOSAL FOR ROAD TRANSFER PLAN WITH THE COUNTY

Without objection, the agenda was reordered to hear items VII. Proposal for Road Transfer Plan with the County.

Mr. Lavallee reviewed County Administrator Randall Reid's correspondence concerning proposed terms of the road transfer between the City of Venice and Sarasota County that include local road for Pinebrook and East Laurel Roads, the city retaining maintenance for the East Laurel Road buffer, the county completing drainage improvements for projects at Park Boulevard and Poinsettia Road, county completion of road paving in stages after improvements are complete, and Venice residents benefiting from improved road conditions and continuity of service.

Discussion followed regarding revisions to prior road transfer schedules, funding, and maintenance responsibilities and costs.

Recess was taken from 10:28 a.m. until 10:40 a.m.

All council members were present except Mr. Bennett.

IV. CITY ENGINEER KATHLEEN WEEDEN: PLAN FOR STRIPING AND AMENITIES FOR REVERSE ANGLE PARKING

Ms. Weeden indicated that reverse angle parking designs were complete and staff was ready to begin the bidding process.

Mr. Bennett returned to the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Funding will be provided by a budget amendment for construction costs.

V. CITY ENGINEER KATHLEEN WEEDEN: PLAN FOR STRIPING OF BIKE PATHS ON ROADWAYS

Ms. Weeden stated that Tarpon Center Drive was designated as a test site for sharrow striping which emphasizes that vehicles and bikes share one lane.

Discussion followed regarding the city's liability exposure, educating the public concerning sharrows, and using inexpensive methods to test sharrows and reverse angle parking.

VI. CITY MANAGER ED LAVALLEE: PLAN TO CONDUCT AN INVENTORY OF SIDEWALKS

Mr. Veneziano briefed council members on the city's sidewalk inventory, volunteers assessing existing sidewalks for tripping hazards, sidewalk surveys, and repair schedules.

Ms. Weeden responded to questions relating to city ownership of sidewalks, interconnecting sidewalks, inspection scheduling, sidewalk standards, and benefits of reinforced sidewalks.

VIII. CITY MANAGER ED LAVALLEE: DISCUSSION OF NEW ROADWAYS (CONNECTOR ROAD, CIRCUS GROUNDS ROAD)

Ms. Weeden provided an overview of the north-south connector road project and alternate route evaluations for an airport access road. Funding for an airport access road across the circus arena property to U.S. Business 41 could possibly be provided by impact fees.

Discussion ensued regarding the existing gravel road to the festival grounds not meeting requirements for impact fee eligibility, paving the existing gravel road, widening roads by the circus arena, making the island portion of Venice golf cart friendly, speed limit on U.S. Business 41, prioritizing impact fee funding projects, and improving the circus arena property in order to attract developers.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 minutes each speaker)

No one in the audience came forward to speak.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor – City of Venice

City Clerk