

WORKSHOP MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES
TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2004 – 4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Present upon roll call: Mayor Beyrouiti, Vice Mayor Lishamer, Commissioner Armstrong, and Commissioner Holmes. Commissioner Reynolds came in a few minutes late.

OLD BUSINESS

Turnaround 176th Ave. & 176th Ave. Circle - Town Administrator, Don Lusk, reported on the meeting held with the home owners in the neighborhood and their request for a different type tree than in the plan. They requested a Canary Island Date instead of the Queen Palm. This will cost approximately \$100.00 more. Mr. Lusk will speak about this tree change with the low bid contractor and bring a final bid and plan to the regular meeting. A short discussion was held about the bids and the types of trees available for the project. Vice Mayor Lishamer requested the Board to consider landscape designs for 175th Avenue, a discussion followed about the landscaping issues around Town, and these issues will be discussed at a later date. It was decided that the turnaround bid be awarded at the regular meeting with the tree change.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Evaluation & Merit Raise System – Commissioner Holmes explained the need for an Evaluation System for the employees of the Town. He recommended that the Board of Commission adopt the Evaluation System effective on the first of October, after discussing the process needed to do this with the Town Attorney. A short discussion was held about the timing of employee evaluations, the forms used, and the possibility of tying the new Evaluation System to a Merit Raise Plan. Administrator Lusk pointed out that the Evaluation System and the Merit Raise Plan were two separate systems. He explained the pros and cons of tying the systems together. Commissioner Holmes recommended that both plans be adopted and tied together. A short discussion followed about the plans, the Commission will decide on the plans to be adopted at the Regular meeting.

FY 2004/2005 Millage and Budget Discussion – Administrator Lusk reported on the meeting with the Finance Committee and their recommendations. The budget is balanced and there are no increases in fees. A recommendation of the Committee was to change the landscaping proposal to \$5,000.00 to be used to have a town-wide landscaping plan drawn up, to allow coordination of landscaping throughout the Town. A short discussion followed about the money available in the LDU fund for beautification projects, and the way this fund is managed.

Mayor Beyrouiti reported that the LDU fees are very high in town; the Commission should look into these fees since they do not encourage development projects. He explained how these fees affect development projects and also owners who are building new homes. This item is on the Agenda, and will be discussed later in the meeting.

Mayor Beyrouiti went on to report the Budget is balanced and the Millage rate should remain the same for the next fiscal year. He spoke briefly about the County raising the price of the Sewer rates by 10% this year. He proposed the Town absorb this increase and keep the rates to our citizens the same.

Vice Mayor Lishamer requested that the Commission consider appointing a committee to study projects the LDU fund could be used to fund. A discussion followed about appointing a committee to coordinate the

The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the budget, and a detailed discussion followed. Vice Mayor Lishamer reported that the Stormwater fund has been diminished and she recommends raising the Stormwater fees back up to the former rate to allow for funding improvements, since even with grants, the city would have to match funds on the project. A discussion followed on the planned Stormwater projects. The Stormwater fund is used for the maintenance costs of the system. A short discussion followed on alternate ways of funding Stormwater projects without increasing rates, and the projected grants for Stormwater projects. A detailed discussion followed on the budget, needed changes, and other issues related to it.

Pinellas County New Sewer Rates – Mayor Beyrouti reported that the County has raised the rates for sewer by 10% for the coming year. He briefly gave a history of the sewer rates both within the Town of Redington Shores and the rates charged by the County. He has requested that the County Sewer representative, Pick Talley, attend the regular Commission meeting to explain the rate change and projected future changes.

Neighborhood Care Network FY 04/05 Donation Request – Mayor Beyrouti explained that this is the same organization that is normally funded as a part of the Town's Budget donations. They support Meals on Wheels, the Home Pharmacy, and other charities within the town.

Appeal – Board of Adjustment Decision; Diaz, 149 Beach Ave. – Commissioner Reynolds reported that he had been out to the property site, and could see no hardships on the property to merit this request. There was a short discussion about the appeal and the Board of Adjustment decision. Several Commissioners had been to examine the property, and discussed their findings. Mr. Diaz, the owner, will be coming to the regular meeting to present his appeal to the Board.

Discussion of LDU Fees – Administrator Lusk reported that the LDU fees are too high, much higher than other cities in the area, and the Commission needs the ability to be able to work with people to encourage redevelopment projects or annexation to our Town, the present Ordinance does not give them the room to do this. The fees are also very expensive for property owners who are building new homes. He explained the fees and how they are calculated in detail. He recommends the Board change the Ordinance to allow either, credits for extra landscaping or beautifications done by a developer, lower the fees, or put a cap on the LDU fees. He gave several examples on how these credits could be done. A discussion followed about the LDU fund and possible ways of lowering fees, to encourage redevelopment and annexation, while still funding future beautification projects for the Town. Mayor Beyrouti asked the Town Administrator research other cities and put together a proposal for the LDU fees for the next regular meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Armstrong presented a re-write of the Noise Ordinance. She explained that she had polled several cities and the County and had 'borrowed' term definitions, exceptions, etc. from their Ordinances which were available online. She asked the Board of Commission to consider this rewrite to either change the current Ordinance, or for a future 'fine tuning' of the new Noise Ordinance, which will have the Second Reading at the next regular meeting. She went over the re-written Ordinance in detail. A brief discussion followed on the rewrite and how this could be used as a future revision to the new Noise Ordinance to clarify and define guidelines for enforcement of the Ordinance. Commissioner Armstrong has sent copies of her rewrite to the Police Chief and the Town Attorney and is currently waiting for their input. The Commission will study this for future information for any revisions to the new Noise Ordinance.

Mr. Diaz, the owner at 149 Beach Avenue, arrived and briefly explained his appeal. Mr. Diaz presented a drawing showing a different setback (1 ft.) than was requested at the Board of Adjustment hearing. He said the

hardship was that his elderly parent could not enjoy the beach, and also stated that the present landing was not safe when carrying packages, this point was not discussed at the Board of Adjustment hearing.

A brief discussion was held on the details of the request and the appeal. Mayor Beyrouiti explained the requirements of a hardship to the property and the appeal process for a variance. He stated the Board of Commission could only consider items that were part of the original Board of Adjustment hearing. He explained if the applicant wanted to bring a new application for a Variance to the Board of Adjustment with these new factors, that it is within his rights; but the Commission could not consider them at the regular meeting.

Mayor Beyrouiti announced the following meetings:

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, July 13, 2004 – 7:00 P.M.

Workshop Meeting – Tuesday, July 27, 2004 – 4:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Hamilton, Admin. Secretary