

# Notice of Public Meeting of the Technology Advisory Board

## Official Agenda

**June 21, 2021 @ 5:30 pm**  
**Bonita Grand Fire Station**  
**27701 Bonita Grande Drive**  
**Bonita Springs, FL 34135**

	<u>TIME</u>	<u>INFO</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
I.	MEETING CALL TO ORDER	5:30		Action

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. There was not a quorum, consequently this meeting was conducted with discussion only at Station 4 of the Bonita Springs Fire District.

II.	ROLL CALL	5:35		Action
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### Present

Vince Marchesani  
Tim Deaton  
Jim Kauffman  
John Poldoian (by phone)  
Sue Bickel (by phone)  
Rob Sypniewski (by phone)

### Staff

Councilman Chris Corrie  
Addison Smelko  
Karessa Minoli

III.	PUBLIC COMMENT	5:40		
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Mr. Smelko introduced Karessa Minoli, a new member of the Communication Department team.

IV.	REVIEW MINUTES OF 5/17/21	5:45		Action
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Because there was not a quorum, the minutes could not be approved and will be tabled until the next meeting.

V.	COUNCIL LIAISON ITEMS	6:00		
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Councilman Corrie reported that he attended a meeting on 5G last Thursday. Mr. Corrie reported that in attendance were:

- Mr. Leo Delgado, President of Converged Services out of Fort Myers.
- Representative from Waterleaf International involved with the project management aspect of the 5G project.
- Amanda Wood, Senior Government Relations Consultant from Becker and Poliakoff,

Mr. Corrie stated that Ms. Wood worked previously in Senator Nelson's office and is very familiar with funding sources and federal grants available to fund the 5G initiative. Ms. Wood is familiar with what the carriers are doing in terms of agreements with City's to be able to install a 5G network.

Mr. Corrie reported that they will be meeting with Mr. Feeney and Mr. Dulmer to review the funding sources and to get Waterleaf's view on how these projects typically run and talk about next steps.

Mr. Corrie stated that one of the advantages of moving to 5G is that 5G runs on a 4G backbone and if they are prepared for 5G they will automatically be updated to 4G.

Mr. Corrie spoke about the major advantages of making 5G available:

- Many gated communities already have fiber optics available.
- Focus on 5G for the business community.
- They can upgrade the rest of the community with the 4G backbone.
- They will be discussing Hotwires commitment to improve connectivity for the Hispanic neighborhoods in Bonita Springs.

Mr. Corrie stated that they hope to end up with something that can be presented to Council in terms of a project approach sometime this Fall.

A Board member voiced his concern regarding the City's resources. Mr. Corrie clarified they are not spending any money and that currently the fiber comes across Alligator Alley and is leased from FPL, comes into Naples and runs along 41. They need to improve upon fiber that runs along Bonita Beach Road and Imperial Parkway. With the Biden Administration's focus on infrastructure, there are federal grants available and Councilman Corrie believes it will end up being a net revenue project for the city.

Mr. Corrie said they are trying to jump ahead so that the city is an attractive place for carriers to come.

Mr. Kauffman has noticed a tremendous amount of fiber being installed. The private sector is investing heavily in fiber.

VI.	STAFF INFO & UPDATES	6:10	Discussion
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Mr. Smelko does not have any staff updates.

VIII.	NEW BUSINESS	6:20	Discussion
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Mr. Marchesani suggested how to obtain information on what people want to do. Mr. Marchesani stated that this Board has a charter, within that charter it determines what they are going to do. Mr. Marchesani outlined the following:

- Initiate focus groups of 4 to 5 people.
- Ask this group what they think this Board should do under the charter.
- Ideas are written down on an easel.

Mr. Marchesani explained they work in small groups and then merge the ideas. At the end, the Board would need to prioritize.

- Priority 1, 2, 3, high, medium, low priority
- Then ABC:
  - A - this is the sole responsibility of this committee,
  - B - this is the responsibility of this committee and someone else in the City
  - C it is not the Board's job.

Mr. Marchesani stated that they end up with 9 categories focusing on the A-1's or A-2's. It is a highly focused effort.



IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6:25

Discussion

- WIFI at city facilities

Mr. Poldoian offered his assistance getting WIFI at the City

- Electronic Vehicles – cost for charging stations

Mr. Poldoian asked if the committee got his research on the charging stations. Mr. Kauffman replied yes.

Mr. Poldoian explained that at the last meeting there were several questions that needed answering. Mr. Poldoian investigated and discovered:

- Florida is the second largest state in sales of EVs.
- High rate of growth rate of EVs
- Florida is in 30<sup>th</sup> place for charging in the country. The numbers are based on registrations.
- There is no way of measuring the number of EVs coming in from tourism.

Mr. Poldoian spoke about what the state doing to promote EV adoption.

- Their main concern is will they have the infrastructure to handle the onslaught of EVs.
- They are working on the grid.
- They are also concerned about safety and evacuation routes.
- Their focus is getting charging stations on major highways.
- They are working on streamlining the permitting process at the State level.

Mr. Poldoian spoke about what FPL is doing now.

- They have a brand-new program, the FPL Evolution Program and there are already two charging sites up and running in Fort Myers and Naples.

Mr. Kauffman asked if he knew the exact locations of the two charging stations. Mr. Poldoian will get the locations and send out.

Mr. Kauffman asked Mr. Poldoian to update the report for next meeting.

Mr. Poldoian spoke about the cost for the City to purchase a charging stations:

- One vendor explained they will sell or lease the charging station.
- For \$200 a month they can lease the station and the all they would have to do is pay the electricity
- They could charge users for the power.
- It costs about \$1,100 to \$1,200 to buy a charging station.
- The level 2 chargers are typically in the \$500 to \$700 range for a wall unit.

Mr. Marchesani spoke about a concern regarding taxes and EVs. Mr. Poldoian replied that the Florida legislature has talked about the idea of charging more for EV registration since they are losing the gasoline tax. It has come up for vote and has been shot down, but he expects that is going to happen.

Mr. Poldoian spoke about what are other cities doing:

- Placing chargers in parking lots to reduce range anxiety.
- Some cities have placed chargers in premiere locations.
- Some cities have instituted zero cost for permitting fees for chargers.

- There are some cities who have placed new rules on new condominiums and HOAs to be EV ready to put in conduit and wiring to support EVs but hold off on installing the chargers until needed.
- There are two parking garages in Naples that have free charging stations to encourage people to come and shop.
- Many car dealers have charging stations.
- Many restaurants have charging stations, but you need to be a patron to use them.

Mr. Kauffman thanked Mr. Poldoian for all his research.

Mr. Marchesani reported that he found the same in his research stating that FPL was very open.

- Their project is to have 1,000 charging stations on the main thoroughfares of Florida to be completed by the end of the year.
- FPL charges a substantial fee for the power, and they anticipate to recoup the cost in two to three years.
- None of the vendors had any problem with permitting in the Cities.
- One vendor stated his biggest concern is that several folks are doing a wait and see what the Federal government will do in terms of grants. That was the major concern of the vendors.

Mr. Marchesani agreed with Mr. Poldoian that the upfront cost ranges all over the map. Other suggestions included:

- For smaller communities, the best places to install chargers is in smaller strip malls and hit and run stores.
- FPL charges a specific rate for the first 30 minutes and if an individual take longer they are charged a surcharge.
- Examples included Starbucks or Subway where the person would not expect to be away from the vehicle for 30 minutes.
- Mr. Poldoian reported that Walmart and 7/11 are going with charges.
  - 7/11 is going with Level 3 chargers.
- Mr. Poldoian stated the problem with the level 3 charger is that they are expensive, costing approximately \$25K to \$27K.

Mr. Poldoian spoke about HOAs and condominiums and the difficulty involved with getting chargers. Mr. Poldoian stated several years ago, Governor Scott signed a law to direct condominiums and HOAs to allow charging stations, but only at the resident's designated parking space, which is impractical and cost prohibitive. Mr. Marchesani said when he spoke to FPL, they addressed that as well.

Mr. Poldoian reported that his EV only costs \$95 for 4 months for charging.

Councilman Corrie spoke about the tower where he lives where they are installing a dedicated electrical vehicle power line from the transformer box outside their building and running it through their garages. The resident's responsibility would be running the line from the from the charging point to their vehicles. Councilman Corrie reported that it is costing the HOA about \$45K to have the electricity run into the building to the charging points, but because it is the common area, all residents will get the tax credits, they will also charge the homeowner \$500 to connect to the charging point so over a

period of time they will recover their entire investment. Mr. Kauffman stated this is a good model.

- Cell tower service

Not discussed.

X: NEXT MEETING

Discussion

Next meeting confirmed for July 19, 2021.

Ms. Bickel had a comment on the minutes and asked Mr. Deaton about his report regarding the cell phone tower. Mr. Deaton said he will have something for next meeting.

Mr. Kauffman asked the zoning Board if they had the 75' appeal for the tower height. Councilman Corrie will bring it up with Mr. Dulmer.

Ms. Bickel asked if Councilman Corrie had a chance to talk to Commissioner Sandelli about the delay of the light at the crosswalk near Docs. Councilman Corrie said he has not had a chance to talk to Commissioner Sandelli, but he will bring it up next time he talks to him.

Ms. Bickel asked if there was a way to get a copy of the meeting minutes and action items earlier before the next meeting. Mr. Smelko will send out the recording and asked the Board to remind him.

XI: ADJOURNMENT

Action

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nadine Chiaramonte, 07/28/2021*

Nadine Chiaramonte, Office Assistant

APPROVED

TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BOARD:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHENTICATED:

  
Jim Kauffman, Chairman



ANY PERSON REQUIRING SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS AT ANY OF THE MEETINGS BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY OR PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENT SHOULD CONTACT LISA ROBERSON, FINANCE DIRECTOR, AT 239-949-6262, AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL A DECISION MADE BY THE COUNCIL IN ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING/HEARING, SUCH PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS TO BE MADE, TO INCLUDE THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH ANY SUCH APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

If a person decides to appeal a decision made by the Council in any matter considered at this meeting/hearing, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, to include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.