

PUBLIC MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017
5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL
9101 BONITA BEACH ROAD
BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA 34135
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peter Simmons called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At the request of Mayor Simmons, Council Member Steve Slachta led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Mayor Simmons and all Council Members were in attendance, except for Council Member Steve Slachta.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

5:32:23 PM Rick Steinmeyer invited those in need to an informational meeting that was being held.

5:34:43 pm Mark Selden addressed a swale that was put in that has resulted in flooding in his subdivision.

V. DISCUSS HURRICANE IRMA AND PROVIDE STAFF DIRECTION.

A. PRESENTATION OF EAGLE REPORT BY MIKE KIRBY, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

5:39:17 PM Mike Kirby, Senior Environmental Specialist with Community Development, furnished a PowerPoint presentation (copy in Clerk's file) on the eagle nest at River Park. He provided the history, monitoring that was done by Community Development monitors, eagle nests reports to Lee County, the River Park nest, etc.

B. FLOODING OBSERVATIONS – COUNCIL MEMBER FRED FORBES (GREENSHEET NO. 17-11-0422)

5:50:29 PM Matt Feeney, Public Works Director, furnished a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of Council Member Fred Forbes (copy in clerk's file) titled "Flood Observations."

C. BEEVER STUDY STATUS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

6:08:36 PM Jim Beaver next furnished a PowerPoint presentation, on his interim progress relating to the flood reduction project.

Council Member Mike Gibson left the meeting at 6:47 P.M.

6:54:54 PM Mark Erwin, with Atkins, next furnished a PowerPoint presentation (copy in Clerk's file) titled "Bonita Springs Flood Reduction Study Initial Scoping Exercise.

7:02:50 PM Council Member O'Flinn referred to the slide that addressed certain solutions being cost prohibitive, and asked if technical work needed to be done at some point to really determine that. Mr. Erwin agreed that perhaps they were jumping to conclusions a little, however, from a feasibility or detailed analysis later on in a big picture study, that's something they can look at and present it to address costs, etc., and compare that to something else that can be done. Overall, it certainly can be done. Jack Hampson, also with Atkins, added that until you do that detailed analysis and look at the whole watershed and identify how all the pieces fit together, and what's feasible and what's not, and then take projects that are identified as feasible to 30% design.

Council Member Amy Quaremba questioned where water retention falls into these projects he is referring. Mr. Erwin responded, addressing the Logan Street project addressed in his PowerPoint, which he stated would entail multiple benefits. He further addressed water retention and discussion followed.

7:11:50 PM Mr. Hampson addressed the fourth bullet, explaining they can take a fairly comprehensive look at what's out there and propose future actions. Their firm has extensive experience with FEMA and the emergency management side in writing hazard mitigation grants, etc. They also work under the State contract. Atkins emergency management footprint is nationwide, and scans everything from doing emergency management plans, debris management, hazard mitigation grant applications, etc. They also have a division that works for FEMA reviewing grants. He further explained.

7:15:17 PM Council Member Quaremba stated when they analyze these projects they should be in conjunction with where they could get help with financing them since they are very costly. Mr. Hampson stated that part of the initial \$30,000 contract would entail them looking at the projects that have been proposed and indicate which ones they feel they could most effectively get a grant for. The work of writing the grants would be outside the contract.

7:22:54 PM Assistant City Manager Arleen Hunter, stated that as the City is a federally designated disaster community, we will also have the opportunity for other disaster related agencies, up to the federal government, to open up funding opportunities. Overall, Staff wants to make sure that as they move forward it's completely comprehensive and that they are looking at every opportunity, beyond FEMA. There will be Community Development block funds available just for hazard and community regrowth. Council Member Quaremba stated this is the reason there should be a broad range of projects.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

7:24:25 PM Rick Steinmeyer questioned flood years – 10 year, 50 year, and 100-year. Mr. Beaver responded.

7:25:59 pm Jasmine Rivera, a resident of Pinecrest Lane, stated she still has trash and debris behind her house. She has property in the back she is unable to build on.

7:29:22 PM Council Member O'Flinn referred to Mr. Beaver's statement in that he has a deliverable due in December, which he is assuming will relate to the different potential solutions that are outlined, which will include a rough sense of what the projects could be and the potential costs. He assumes that if he's going to do that he's going to have to talk to an engineering firm to truth his numbers. Mr. Beaver explained that on those things he will not have the assistance of Atkins on getting a more exact figure, he will use examples from similar projects that have been costed out and constructed, and make adjustments for inflation.


7:38:35 pm Council Member O'Flinn referred to Atkins and discussion followed on the contract in relation to the projects. Mr. Beever further explained that Atkins will cost out the projects that he identifies. Discussion ensued.
8:01:00 pm Assistant City Manager Hunter reminded Council of the Storm Ready Communities Certification and the November 14, 2017 Sky Warn Training to be held at Fire District 4. She also needs confirmation on two additional seats to attend the December 7, 2017 training at the National Weather Service.

8:03:24 pm Council Member O'Flinn furnished an update on the Priority Trail and reported that Bonita Bay added about 200 signatures in support and that overall, there are over 500 signatures. He next informed Council of a meeting with the Secretary of FDOT in Bartow and two of his advisors regarding the Quadrant Plan, which was extremely constructive. They conveyed a sincerity about stepping up and working with the City to get the Quadrant completed. Lastly, he addressed the workshop for the Wonder Gardens on Monday and a memorandum he prepared months earlier to Council as a guide to work through. The idea is to focus mostly on stewardship and what the City and the BWG are doing together.

VII. ADJOURNMENT.


There being no further items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Debra Filipek, City Clerk

APPROVED:
BONITA SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL:

Date: 12/11/17
AUTHENTICATED:


Peter Simmons, Mayor