

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
LAKESIDE COMMUNITY CENTER
1999 CITY CENTER CIRCLE
AUGUST 25, 2015

THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP of the City of Port Orange was called to order by Mayor Allen Green at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Invocation

Roll Call:	Present:	Councilman Bob Ford Councilman Donald Burnette Councilman Scott Stiltner Vice Mayor Drew Bastian Mayor Allen Green
	Also Present:	Jake Johansson, City Manager Margaret T. Roberts, City Attorney Robin Fenwick, City Clerk

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Port Orange/South Daytona Chamber of Commerce Performance Measures

Alan Rosen, Interim Assistant City Manager, advised Council that Debbie Connors is present to discuss the Chamber's agreement with the City for economic development.

Debbie Connors, Executive Director, discussed the performance measures in place currently with the Chamber of Commerce and asked Council to discuss any potential changes.

Mayor Green thanked Ms. Connors for their work.

Councilman Burnette thanked Ms. Connors for the details on their performance. He would like to see the Chamber advertise to businesses when the City issues bid requests. He would also like to revisit the Ridgewood Corridor Plan with the Chamber and Community Development Staff providing input. He wants to be business friendly with standards. Councilman Burnette asked that the Community and Business Guide be updated with current information.

Councilman Stiltner believes the Chamber is a great resource for new businesses. He also wants to see more progress with the Ridgewood Corridor. He has received very positive feedback from businesses and residents.

Councilman Ford supports the Chamber but wants to move away from a subsidy relationship. He wants to purchase a service from them. He asked that the Chamber members help with the purchasing procedures for better bidding processes.

Vice Mayor Bastian agreed with all comments made.

Ms. Connors doesn't believe the agreement is a subsidy. She wants the agreement to reflect the criteria the Council wants included.

Councilman Stiltner asked if Ms. Connors is familiar with the economic development team in New Smyrna Beach. Ms. Connors has worked closely with the New Smyrna Beach Chamber. She wants the Economic Development Task Force to visit other areas to discuss similar issues.

Council supported an Economic Development Task Force.

Mayor Green asked for public comments; there were none.

Mr. Rosen confirmed Council's direction. Mayor Green suggested a class to teach vendors how to bid projects for the City. Council agreed.

5. Location of the historic F.E.C. Train Depot

Kent Donahue, PIO/Grants Coordinator, asked Council for their direction as to relocation of the historic F.E.C. Train Depot.

Mayor Green would like it to remain a historic site.

Vice Mayor Bastian agreed and doesn't think it will relocate well. He would prefer to use those funds to renovate the train depot or purchase more land around it.

Councilman Ford supports preserving the history of Port Orange. He believes it is best to leave it in its current location.

Councilman Stiltner agreed it would get more attention in Riverwalk but he's not in favor of moving it unless there is a thorough plan.

Councilman Burnette does not support moving it.

Council agreed to leave the train depot at its current location.

There were no public comments.

6. General Fund Budget Discussion

David Harden, Interim Assistant City Manager, provided an overview of the budget plan and how Port Orange's tax rate compares to others. Mr. Harden discussed the changes in each Department's budget.

Ted Nofall, citizen, asked what the amount is that is spent on pensions this year.

Tracey Riehm, Finance Director, advised that there is not a budgeted overage. The amount budgeted is from applying the percentage of payroll.

Newton White, citizen, addressed Council regarding the tax rate. He appreciates that the millage rate has remained low for Port Orange.

Tom Menocal, citizen, addressed Council regarding decisions being more data driven. He asked how the new financial system is progressing.

Mayor Green told Council to be specific on any cuts they want to see. He wants to go to roll back.

Councilman Burnette reminded Council they have made some promises and there has to be a budget that supports the promises.

Councilman Stiltner wants to see Public Works move away from a reactive department to a proactive department. Council needs to support the increases in the Parks Department because of the increase in usage and special events.

Councilman Ford believes budget workshops should be held to scrutinize the proposed budget. He wants to see metrics when there is an increase being requested.

Vice Mayor Bastian wants to support the needs of the Department Heads. Growth in the City needs to be managed properly.

Mr. Harden advised that next Tuesday will be a discussion on enterprise funds, internal service funds, and the capital budget.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:47 p.m.



Mayor Allen Green

Attest:



Robin Fenwick, City Clerk

