Meeting Minutes
City Commission

Tuesday, August 20, 2024 | **7:02 PM** | **Commission Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order on the above date by Mayor Bill Ganz at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall, Deerfield Beach.

Present:
Commissioner Michael Hudak
Commissioner Bernie Parness - *tardy*
Commissioner Ben Preston
Vice Mayor Todd Drosky
Mayor Bill Ganz

Also Present:
City Manager David Santucci
City Attorney Anthony Soroka
City Clerk Heather Montemayor

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Lunchtime Workshop Minutes - July 26, 2024
Regular City Commission Meeting Minutes - August 6, 2024

MOTION was made by Commissioner Preston, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

Commissioner Parness arrived at 7:03 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CITY BOARD MINUTES

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - November 6, 2023 & May 6, 2024
Planning & Zoning Board Meeting Minutes - June 6, 2024
Community Appearance Board Meeting Minutes - June 26, 2024
Code Compliance Meeting Minutes - June 28, 2024

MOTION was made by Commissioner Hudak, seconded by Commissioner Preston, to acknowledge the board minutes. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

APPROVAL OF CITY COMMISSION AGENDA

August 20, 2024

MOTION was made by Commissioner Preston, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve the agenda as submitted. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

1. Proclamation presented to Allyson Vaulux, Feeding South Florida, in recognition of Hunger Action Month.

Mayor Ganz presented a proclamation to Deirka Ramkissoon in recognition of Hunger Action Month.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Presentation by Ted Cole, Davenport & Associates, regarding the City's ratings.

Oleg Gorokhovsky, Chief Financial Services, explained that the City's General Obligation Bond went from AA to AA+ and the Non-Ad Valorem Bonds went from AA- to AA+ stable. Further, he said these changes greatly improve the City's future financial stability, lowers future interest rates, and lowers future issuance costs. Thereafter, he introduced Ted Cole, Davenport & Associates.

Mr. Cole provided a brief overview of the City's ratings, whereby, when the time comes for future debt issuances, higher bond ratings should provide for a broader interest in the City's bonds from investors and lower interest rates. Furthermore, lower interest rates will help make debt issuances more affordable and will ultimately enhance the City's debt capacity and debt affordability. Mr. Davenport briefly outlined the rating report, which is a public document and can be requested from Davenport.

In response to Commissioner Hudak's questions, Mr. Davenport replied that he is unaware of the City ever achieving a AA+ rating until now. Further, he is unsure with how many others have this rating, but it is very limited.

Commissioner Hudak commended staff for their efforts.

In response to Commissioner Preston's question, Mr. Davenport replied that this rating will have a direct impact on the City and its residents when a bond issuance is sought to fund capital projects.

Mayor Ganz said the City suffered a major downgrade in 2012 and went from an AA- to A+ due to the reserves dwindling down from $33 million in 2005 to $7 million in 2013. Further, the fact that the City is currently one grade lower than perfect is phenomenal, and commended everyone involved for their efforts. Mayor Ganz stated that it is important for the City to maintain and grow the reserves.

3. Presentation and potential action regarding the SE 15th Avenue Bridge design options.

Priscilla Cygielnik, Director of Environmental Services, provided a brief history of the item. Thereafter, she displayed the location of the bridge. She explained that the bridge was downgraded in 2022 from fair to poor, so it must be replaced. The existing bridge is 26 feet wide, travels north and south bound only, no pedestrian or bicycle accommodations, and is currently weight restricted. Thereafter, she briefly highlighted the design schedule, and stated that the probable construction cost is $2.3 million.

Continuing, Ms. Cygielnik outlined the options that were provided to the public via a survey. Option 1 includes a sidewalk on the eastside and shared use path on westside; Option 2 includes a sidewalk on the westside with a traffic barrier; and Option 3 includes a sidewalk on the westside only. She explained that Option 1 was the only option with an amenity on the east and west side and Options 2 and 3 provided an amenity on one side only, so the combine response preferred a one side amenity; therefore, staff is recommending Option 2.

PRESENTATIONS - CONTINUED

In response to Commissioner Preston's question, Ms. Cygielnik replied that all three options are viable and provide for some form of amenity for pedestrians.

In response to Commissioner Hudak's question, Wayne McLennon, Transystems, replied that the width of Option 3 is 32 feet, and would provide the most safety.

Commissioner Parness said the City is growing, and we must think into the future; therefore, he spoke in support of Option 1, as it provides sidewalks on both sides.

In response to Mayor Ganz's comment, Ms. Cygielnik stated that it is city policy to have sidewalks throughout the City and on both sides of the street; however, the sidewalk only exists on the westside of this community.

Mayor Ganz thanked Ms. Cygielnik for her efforts. Furthermore, he stated that Option 1 was completely different, which is why it was eliminated and Options 2 and 3 were almost identical, which is why the results were combined; nonetheless, he asked if the survey should go back out with Options 2 and 3 only to ensure the community is getting what they want. Lastly, he stated that this replacement will not increase traffic.

Commissioner Hudak said this is the second survey and believes Option 2 is the most viable; therefore, he spoke in support of Option 2.

Commissioner Preston spoke in support of Option 2.

Vice Mayor Drosky spoke in opposition to moving forward at this time, and suggested that Options 2 and 3 be put back out.

After a brief discussion, it was decided to put the survey back out with Options 2 and 3 only.

Mayor Ganz asked that when it comes back before the Commission that it be placed as an action item, and not presentation.

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. **P.H. 2024-095: APPLICATION: 22-P-234**
   Applicant: ECJA Property, LLC represented by Charles Putman
   Proposal: Request to amend the restrictive plat note on the MACHLER PLAT (Plat Book 118, Page 28).
   Location: The property is generally described as THE MACHLER PLAT 118-28B POR PAR A & PAR B, as more particularly described in the file, and located at **1923-1925 W Hillsboro Blvd**.

5. **P.H. 2024-096: APPLICATION 21-B1-208**
   Applicant: ECJA PROPERTY, LLC, REPRESENTED BY GALLO HERBERT ARCHITECTS
   Proposal: Seeking Major Site Plan approval to construct a 20,000 square foot retail building and a 2,400 square foot drive-thru restaurant building with associated site improvements on a 2.1- acre site.
   Location: The property is generally described as THE MACHLER PLAT 118-28B POR PAR A & PAR B, as more particularly described in the file and located at **1923-1925 W Hillsboro Boulevard**.

Items 4 & 5 were discussed simultaneously, but voted on separately. Thereafter, both Resolutions were read by title only.

Ele Zachariades, Dunay, Miskel & Backman, representing the applicant, waived the quasi-judicial public hearing. Thereafter, she displayed the proposed property, which is approximately 2.1 acres and zoned B-1. To the north is a 20,000 square foot proposed building, which will house retail and personal services, and to the south will be a 2,400 square foot restaurant with drive-thru. Thereafter, she outlined the ingress and egress. She stated that the proposed buildings are one-story, but there are architectural features about the one-story height. She stated that the proposed project meets the parking and landscape requirements, and the proposed project meets or exceeds all setbacks. Thereafter, she displayed the landscape plan, as well as the vehicular access and circulation plan. If the project is approved, the applicant will submit a cross

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

access agreement with Trail Plaza to the north. Thereafter, renderings of the proposed development were displayed.

Brian Herbert, 1311 Newport Center Drive, Deerfield Beach, said the existing shopping center was renovated two years ago, so the proposed project will take on a very similar architectural design.

Ms. Zachariades listed the conditions for approval, which are outlined in the site plan resolution. Lastly, she outlined the plat note amendment.

In response to Commissioner Parness' question, Ms. Zachariades replied that the end user for the restaurant has not been solidified.

Commissioner Parness spoke in opposition to the project, as the area does not need another restaurant and it will negatively impact the traffic in the area.

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing.

Dan Herz, 330 SE 19th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, stated that the District 4 Commissioner may have represented the applicant; therefore, he asked if that was a conflict of interest. Further, he spoke in support of staff reviewing the traffic report before final approval of the application.

Karen Shelly, 190 Durham D, Deerfield Beach, spoke in support of the project.

Daniel Shanetzky, 34 Keswick B, Deerfield Beach, expressed concerns with the project due to the SW 10th Street Connector Project.

Joe Cummings, 267 Oakridge P, Deerfield Beach, said he does not have an issue with the project, but expressed concerns with the majority of the parking spots surrounding the project being for compact cars only.

Mychal Estrada, 1431 SW 6th Way, Deerfield Beach, stated that more creative thinking needs to be done when adding developments to the City.

Nick Stars, 1877 West Hillsboro Boulevard, Deerfield Beach, agreed that more creative thinking is needed and suggested that enclosures and other types of concealers be utilized to hide dumpsters and back of house services.

Mayor Ganz closed the public hearing.

Ms. Zachariades and Mr. Herbert addressed questions/comments/concerns posed by the public.

In response to Commissioner Parness' question, Ms. Zachariades replied that the proposed property is vacant and she is unaware of any violations, as this project is separate from Trail Plaza. Thereafter, she briefly commented on conversations she's had with Total Med.

Mayor Ganz said Chick-Fil-A's requirement is to own any building they operate out of unless the location is within a mall; therefore, the proposed restaurant will not be a Chick-Fil-A. Further, he said there are requirements for dumpster enclosures; nevertheless, if it is not fully covered, he asked that additional landscaping be added. Mayor Ganz said the City is a long way from the SW 10th Street Connector Project; therefore, this project will have no impacts on it. Lastly, he spoke in support of the project.

Vice Mayor Drosky said the uses and zoning are within right, and the applicant is not requesting any variances; therefore, there is no legal basis to deny the project. Further, he did advise the applicant that it is not his personal preference to have another drive-thru restaurant but a sit-down restaurant; nonetheless, it's that applicant's property.

Commissioner Hudak said if the building was larger, it could accommodate a sit-down restaurant, but unfortunately the foot print is not large enough; nevertheless, he spoke in support of the project.

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS - CONTINUED

Heather Montemayor, City Clerk, outlined the Commissioner's financial disclosures.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Preston, seconded by Commissioner Hudak, to approve Item 4, adopted Resolution 2024/120. Roll Call:

Yeas: 4 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 1 - Commissioner Parness

MOTION was made by Commissioner Hudak, seconded by Commissioner Preston, to approve Item 5, adopted Resolution 2024/121. Roll Call:

Yeas: 4 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 1 - Commissioner Parness

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Ruise, 425 NW 1st Terrace, Deerfield Beach, commented on the free coffee at Braithwaite Center for Active Aging. Thereafter, she asked for clarification on the Packer Rattlers.

Karen Shelly, 190 Durham D, Deerfield Beach, spoke in support of funding the micro-enterprise assistance program. Thereafter, she asked how often the strategic plan is reviewed, and expressed concerns with the length of time it has taken to complete the main guard house at Century Village.

Daniel Shanetzky, 34 Keswick B, Deerfield Beach, commented on a memorial ceremony he attended. Thereafter, he agreed with the Mayor's previous comments regarding veterans, as additional support must be given, i.e. mental health services.

Dan Herz, 330 SE 19th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, thanked the City for providing him with the figures, so he was able to provide the coffee to Braithwaite Center for Active Aging. Thereafter, he commented on the pier restaurant and police pension board.

Buren Anderson, 1551 SE 12th Street, Deerfield Beach, commented on previous meetings regarding the pier restaurant lease.

Willie Rosetta Graham Bracy, 501 NW 1st Terrace, Deerfield Beach, commented on the free coffee at Braithwaite Center for Active Aging. Further, she asked if transportation can be given to the elderly to go vote. Lastly, she thanked David Santucci, City Manager, for everything he has done.

Gertrudis Perez-Dusek, 2300 West Sample Road, Pompano Beach, outlined various services the Department of Veterans Affairs provides. Further, she said they are looking to extend services in Century Village.

Mychal Estrada, 1431 SW 6th Way, Deerfield Beach, commended staff for the uptick in community events. Further, he asked that the City invest in walkable paths and shaded areas. Lastly, he thanked Joe at the recycling center.

Tinka Ellington, 1517 SE 6th Street, Deerfield Beach, asked if city staff could make a request to FDOT to have one side of the Hillsboro Boulevard Bridge be for pedestrians and the other for bicyclists, skateboarders, etc.

Thereafter, Mayor Ganz, Commissioner Preston, and Commissioner Parness entertained questions/comments/concerns posed by the public.

CONSENT - AGREEMENTS & EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

Commissioner Parness temporarily left the meeting at 8:55 p.m. and returned at 8:58 p.m.

There was no discussion amongst the Commission.

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing on Items 6 - 14.

Dan Herz, 330 SE 19th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, commended staff for Item 6. Further, he asked if Item 8 was a piggyback contract, and asked if the same company that was used for another park is being used for Item 9.

Denise Bogner, 1157 SW 26th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, spoke in support of Item 9.

Mayor Ganz closed the public hearing.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Hudak, seconded by Commissioner Parness, to approve Items 6 - 14 in concert. Roll Call:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

6. **Resolution 2024/122 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving and authorizing the issuance of a purchase order with AIP US, LLC, utilizing the Florida Department of Management Services NASPO Contract No. 43220000-NASPO-19-ACS, Master Agreement No. AR3227 with the State of Utah, as the lead agency, for the purchase, implementation and installation of the Cisco Webex Suite Phone System in an amount not to exceed $349,997.57; authorizing execution of the Cisco Enterprise Agreement and other documents necessary to implement the phone system; providing for implementation, appropriations and an effective date.** *(Funds from Account #399-1400-513-64-10 - General Capital Fund/Machinery, Account #399-0000-381-01-00 - General Capital Fund/Transfer-In General Fund, Account #001-9100-581-90-10 - Capital Project Interfund/Transfer to General Capital Fund & 001-0000-389-10-00 - General Fund/Use of Fund Balance)*

7. **Resolution 2024/123 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, authorizing submission of the Cycle 9 Complete Streets and Other Localized Initiatives Program Application to the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization for the SE 10th Street Roadway Improvements Project from Dixie Highway to Federal Highway (the "Project"); supporting the project as a local agency program project; committing to funding the construction contingency and upfront costs for design, construction, and construction engineering and inspection services for the project, subject to reimbursement under the Local Agency Program; providing for implementation and an effective date.** *(Funds from Account #399-5050-541-65-30 - Road and Bridge Capital Fund (FY31 or later))*

8. **Resolution 2024/124 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the issuance of a purchase order to Madsen/Barr Corporation for the installation of seven fire hydrants in the amount of $102,050.00, utilizing the terms of the City of Boca Raton's RFP No. 2022-020 and contract; providing for execution and an effective date.** *(Funds from Account #401-5030-536-32-99- Other Contractual Services)*

9. **Resolution 2024/125 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the issuance of a purchase order to Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. d/b/a Gametime for the design of the playground and purchase and installation of the associated equipment to be located in Crystal Heights North Park in the amount of $217,985.95, utilizing the terms of the City of Charlotte/Omnia Contract No. 2017001134, RFP No. 269-017-028; providing for execution, appropriations and an effective date.** *(Funds from Account #399-7035-572-65-30 - CIP Infrastructure)*

CONSENT - AGREEMENTS & EXPENDITURE REQUESTS - CONTINUED

10. **Resolution 2024/126 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving and authorizing execution of an agreement with BFAV, LLC d/b/a All on Stage Productions for sound, stage and lighting services for the City's special events, utilizing the City of Fort Lauderdale Invitation to Bid No. 29-01 and contract in an amount not to exceed $50,000.00 through March 24, 2025; approving the acquisition of services from All on Stage Productions from January 9, 2024 to March 24, 2025; providing for execution and an effective date.** *(Funds from Account #001-7015-579-35-70 - Ocean Brews and Blues & Account #001-7015-579-35-74 - Special Events)*

11. **Resolution 2024/127 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the submission of a composting and food waste reduction pilot grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the amount of $400,000.00; authorizing in-kind services as matching funds if the grant funds are awarded; authorizing execution of a grant agreement and other necessary documentation, if awarded; and providing for an effective date.**

12. **Resolution 2024/128 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the filing of the Local Government Funding Request for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the next joint beach renourishment project with the Town of Hillsboro Beach and seeking reimbursement for the recently completed joint beach renourishment project; supporting projects for which funding is requested; confirming the City's ability to serve as a local sponsor; confirming the City's ability to fund the appropriate local share of the project; identifying the City's funding source; providing for implementation and an effective date.**

13. **Resolution 2024/129 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the ranking and the Award of Request for Proposal No. #24-12-VP to Ashbritt, Inc. as the primary contractor and Crowdergulf Joint Venture, Inc. as the secondary contractor for disaster debris removal and emergency management services; authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements with the two top ranked, responsive and responsible proposers for a three-year term with two additional two year renewal options; providing for implementation and an effective date.**

14. **Resolution 2024/130 - A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Deerfield Beach, Florida, approving the ranking and the award of Request for Proposal No. #24-13-VP to Tetra Tech, Inc. for disaster debris monitoring services; authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the top ranked, responsive and responsible proposer Tetra Tech, Inc. for a three-year term with two additional two-year renewal options; providing for implementation and an effective date.**

DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS

15. **ORDINANCE 2024/ - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 50 "PARKS AND RECREATION," ARTICLE V "RULES AND REGULATIONS," SECTION 50-104 "USE OF COMMUNITY CENTERS AND OTHER BUILDINGS" OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ALLOW THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WITHIN THE JOHNNY L. TIGNER CENTER, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The Ordinance was read by title only.

David Santucci, City Manager, provided a brief overview of the item.

Mayor Ganz opened the public hearing.

Dan Herz, 330 SE 19th Avenue, Deerfield Beach, asked if the addition of alcohol will affect the City's insurance. Further, he asked if this only applies to the Johnny Tigner Center.

DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS - CONTINUED

Mayor Ganz closed the public hearing. Thereafter, he stated that this Ordinance covers the Johnny Tigner Center only.

Mr. Santucci stated that this will not affect the City's insurance.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Preston, to approve Item 15, on first reading. Roll Call:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATION & LEGAL

CITY ATTORNEY

City Manager Recruitment - Anthony Soroka, City Attorney, stated that he received the executed agreement from GovHR.

Police Pension Board - Mr. Soroka stated that there are proposed dates scheduled for September; whereby, a mediator needs to be determined.

CITY MANAGER

City Staff - David Santucci, City Manager, introduced Jermoth Rose, Assistant Finance Director.

Veteran's Initiatives - Mr. Santucci outlined the various city initiatives, i.e. registered Purple Heart City, veterans hiring preference, etc.; nevertheless, city staff is going to work on outreach to see if services are needed. Additionally, staff is looking into implementing the banner program, as well as a program to identify veteran owned and veteran friendly businesses. Lastly, staff is looking into veteran reserved parking spaces as well.

Ocean Rescue Department - Mr. Santucci briefly outlined their recent accomplishments, which will be recognized at a later meeting; nevertheless, signage will be added to the lifeguard towers, and is currently at the Kirk Cottrell Pavilion.

Campaign Signage - Mr. Santucci said code is fully aware of the rules and regulations and will be enforcing accordingly.

CITY COMMISSION BUSINESS

16. Discussion and potential action regarding the establishment of a Charter Review Board.

Commissioner Hudak thanked the City Manager for his efforts regrading the Veteran's initiatives; thereafter, he asked that there be a large outreach, so people are informed. Thereafter, he outlined the importance of updating and revising the City Charter, which has not been done in over 18 years; therefore, he asked that the Commission consider establishing a Charter Review Board.

Commissioner Preston spoke in support of establishing a Charter Review Board, as having individuals from each district involved would benefit the entire city.

Vice Mayor Drosky said he is not opposed to establishing a Charter Review Board, but disagreed with the timing, as three members of the Commission will term out in March 2025; nonetheless, the Commission has the ability to review the Charter at any time. Furthermore, he reiterated that he is in support of establishing a Charter Review Board, but stated that the next commission should have the ability to appoint members.

Commissioner Parness spoke in support of establishing a Charter Review Board, as the residents should have a say; nevertheless, he suggested that the Board be made up of residents and elected officials.

CITY COMMISSION BUSINESS - CONTINUED

Mayor Ganz said if the Charter is going to be reviewed it must be done through a committee, and agreed with moving forward, as the Charter has not been reviewed it quite some time; nevertheless, he stated that any changes warranted will not make it on the March 2025 ballot. Further, he agreed with Vice Mayor Drosky, whereas, members should not be appointed until after the March 2025 election.

Commissioner Hudak stated that he has been requesting the establishment of a Charter Review Board since 2019. Furthermore, he recommended that each commissioner nominate one regular member and one alternate, and member qualifications would include being a registered voter and being homesteaded in Deerfield Beach. Commissioner Hudak said the establishment of this board is important because residents deserve to have their voice heard, and this is their opportunity to form Deerfield Beach long after this commission is termed out; therefore, this board should be created and established now with this commission.

Commissioner Preston agreed with Commissioner Hudak, the creation and establishment of this board should be done now.

In response to Mayor Ganz's comment, Anthony Soroka, City Attorney, stated that he will work with Commissioner Hudak on bringing something forward to the Commission.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR & CITY COMMISSION

VICE MAYOR DROSKY (DISTRICT 4) - *None.*

COMMISSIONER PARNESS DISTRICT 3

Voting - Commissioner Parness urged everyone to get out and vote.

COMMISSIONER PRESTON DISTRICT 2

Accolades - Commissioner Preston thanked Mr. Herz for the coffee donation for the Braithwaite Center for Active Aging.

Community Garden - Commissioner Preston said a location has been identified and the City Attorney is working with the family on an agreement. He explained that the City will not be responsible for the upkeep of the community garden.

In response to Commissioner Preston's question, David Santucci, City Manager, provided everyone with a brief update and overview of where staff is with the community garden.

Anthony Soroka, City Attorney, said a draft agreement has been prepared; however, there are a couple of operational details that need to be wrapped up prior to it being brought forward to the City Commission, if that's the desire of Commissioner Preston.

Interim City Manager - Commissioner Preston said an Interim City Manager needs to immediately be selected; therefore, he suggested that the City Attorney draft something up appointing an interim city manager. Further, the selection of an interim city manager may result in the City not hiring a recruitment firm and saving $20,000. Thereafter, he outlined the pros of hiring from within.

Commissioner Hudak stated that identifying an interim city manager is important and should be done by September 3rd; however, he disagreed with not hiring a recruitment firm.

Commissioner Parness said the responsibility of the Assistant City Manager is to step in to run the City when the City Manager is unable to; nonetheless, he agreed with hiring a recruitment firm.

After, a brief discussion, Mr. Soroka reminded the Commission that per the City Charter, only one city manager can be appointed at one time; however, the Commission can appoint an interim city manager, effective October 4th. Further, the recruitment firm's proposal has been provided to the Commission, and it does not look like a permanent selection will be made by October 4th.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR & CITY COMMISSION - CONTINUED

Vice Mayor Drosky said he is okay with appointing someone, effective October 4th, but is unsure of the internal candidates, and asked that names and resumes be provided. Further, he agreed with hiring a recruitment firm.

Mayor Ganz agreed that the Charter only allows for one City Manager, but said an interim should be named ahead of time. Furthermore, he does not support letting Mr. Santucci out of his contract early, as he must fulfill it until the end. Mayor Ganz asked those interested in the interim position to come forward, and should they be interested in the permanent position, he encouraged them to apply. Lastly, he spoke in support of moving forward with a recruitment firm, but stated that a clear salary expectation must be determined, so no one's time is wasted.

Commissioner Preston said he is not opposed to hiring a recruitment firm, but stated that internal candidates should be fully vetted prior to the City spending the money.

After a brief discussion, it was decided to bring an item forward for the discussion and selection of the Interim City Manager.

In response to Commissioner Hudak's question, Mr. Soroka replied that direction regarding the recruitment firm was previously discussed, whereby, the City does have a signed contract with GovHR. Furthermore, he encouraged the Commission to reach out to the firm with their suggestions.

COMMISSIONER HUDAK DISTRICT 1

Ocean Rescue Department - Commissioner Hudak congratulated Ocean Rescue. Further, he spoke in support of the brag board at the pavilion, but stated that something additional should be added to the pier.

Education Advisory Board - Commissioner Hudak said his representative would like to see the City acknowledge the accomplishments of the Deerfield Beach schools. Thereafter, he commented on the importance of the school grades and how they've changed throughout the years.

In response to Mayor Ganz's question, Commissioner Hudak replied that the Board was looking for money; however, his goal is to get the word out on the school's accomplishments.

Mayor Ganz spoke in opposition to giving the school's money or providing additional funding for scholarships. Further, he said that the Board should be working with the schools on figuring out where the gaps are.

Commissioner Hudak agreed.

MAYOR GANZ

Accolades - Mayor Ganz thanked staff and the residents for their discussions and input on the SE 15th Avenue Bridge.

Resident Input - Mayor Ganz asked that staff meet with Linda Ruise, resident, regarding the Packer Rattlers and the use of Freebee at the Palms.

Shift Changes - Mayor Ganz commented on an incident involving a dirt bike on Hillsboro Boulevard that occurred during a shift change; therefore, he asked that law enforcement be more vigilant.

Commissioner Hudak temporarily left the meeting at 10:14 p.m. and returned at 10:15 p.m.

Walking Trail on 10th - Mayor Ganz thanked Commissioner Preston for his efforts on the walking trail.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no additional business to discuss.

MOTION was made by Commissioner Parness, seconded by Commissioner Preston, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 p.m. Voice Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Commissioner Hudak, Commissioner Parness, Commissioner Preston, Vice Mayor Drosky, and Mayor Ganz
Nays: 0

CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH

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BILL GANZ, MAYOR

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Heather Montemayor, CMC, City Clerk