Commission Meeting 5/8/07

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOWN OF REDINGTON SHORES REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007 – 7:00 P.M. MINUTES

Present upon roll call: Commissioner Branch, Commissioner Wojcik, Commissioner Holthaus, Vice Mayor Adams, Mayor Armstrong, Attorney Ed Peck

<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> – Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 10, 2007; Workshop Meeting, Tuesday, April 24, 2007: Commissioner Holthaus made a motion to approve the minutes as stated; Vice Mayor Adams seconded. Roll call all yes.

<u>APPROVAL OF BILLS</u> – May 2007: Vice Mayor Adams made a motion to approve the bills as submitted; Commissioner Branch seconded. Roll call all yes.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Mayor Armstrong reported that she attended an all day meeting on April 18 with the Visitors' Bureau to discuss a proposed budget with the County Commissioners. The intent is to spend more on advertising and tourism, while trying to cut some from the budget.

Mayor Armstrong and the Financial Advisory Committee met on May 2 to review the FY 2007/2008 budget line by line. Mayor Armstrong said that due to the Special Legislative session further work on the proposed budget will follow accordingly. Mayor Armstrong then reported that the schematic for the proposed Gulf Blvd. undergrounding has been received and distributed to the Commission. The proposed changes to the 2008 costs for the Town – that now include all road paving – will approach \$4.5 million. The Big C meeting will be held on May 10.

Vice Mayor Adams, Commissioner District No 1 reported that criminal activity is up, traffic citations are down as well as physical arrests. Vice Mayor Adams stated that the undergrounding project in the areas of Long Point Drive, 175th Ave. E. and 176th Ave. E. are in the final stages, and should be completed by the end of June.

Commissioner Branch, Commissioner District No 2 explained that the proposed Eagle Scout project by Nick Darcangelo to build a dune walkover has been postponed due to the commencement of turtle nesting season. Nick will install the exercise equipment for Del Bello Park instead. Commissioner Branch also said that the lift station project at 1st St. and 176th Ave. E. is ongoing. There have been several complaints regarding the portable toilets sitting at several sites around town. Commissioner Branch explained that these are necessary, but are only temporary. Finally Commissioner Branch said he is still receiving complaints about barking dogs. Residents are advised to do what they can to keep their dogs quiet, and to try not to leave them outside all day.

Commissioner Wojcik, Commissioner District No 3 said that the Town's Hurricane Meeting is scheduled for May 30 at 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Wojcik said that Indian Shores Police Department is coordinating emergency efforts with the Town. Pinellas County is also working with the Towns to coordinate debris removal and orderly re-entry. Commissioner Wojcik will attend the Governor's Hurricane Conference this month. Commissioner Wojcik reported that the Gulf Beaches Library agreement with the Town and 5 other communities expires in September 2007. Redington Shores has been a member since 1971, and its share of the assessed fees is most cost effective at approximately \$15 per person. Other local cooperative libraries charge from \$18 to \$59 for the same service. Commissioner Wojcik recommends the Town stay with the interlocal agreement.

Commissioner Holthaus, Commissioner District No 4 reported that Spitzer Park's replacement slide arrived May 5 and will be installed within the week. The kayak launch at Del Bello Park has been installed, the mangroves and dead grass have been trimmed, and volunteers will be asked to help clean up the shoreline.

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Commissioner Holthaus also said that new grills for Constitution Park have been ordered and will be installed soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval Del Bello Park Project Monies

Mayor Armstrong reported that of the \$50,000 grant monies for Del Bello Park improvements approximately \$34,000 has been spent. Mayor Armstrong asked the Commission to approve the current expenditures of \$15,344. Vice Mayor Adams made a motion to approve the additional \$15,344; Commissioner Branch seconded. Roll call all yes.

Approval to Purchase Two Lap Top Computers

Mayor Armstrong said that the Town has budgeted to purchase 2 laptops, one for the Building Department and one for the Mayor's office, and asked for approval. The laptops will cost \$2,666.95 and \$1,839.00 respectively. Commissioner Wojcik made a motion to approve the purchase of the laptops; Vice Mayor Adams seconded. Roll call all yes.

Award Beach Access Improvement and Del Bello Park Walkway Contract

Mayor Armstrong said that the Town received 3 bids for the beach accesses/Del Bello Park walkway project. Steve Andrews, Building Official, explained that of the 3 contractors' bids Oakhurst Construction and Kloote Construction were close in bids, and Sunset Shores was lower, but had no experience and Mr. Andrews would like to err on the side of safety. Mr. Andrews said that Oakhurst Construction at \$46,287. had experience with the Town, and was his preferred choice. Mr. Andrews said that while Sunset Shores Construction was lowest (\$38,880) it had very little experience. Kloote Construction's bid was \$50,035. Vice Mayor Adams made a motion to accept the bid from Oakhurst Construction; Commissioner Holthaus seconded. Roll call all yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Review – Pam Nightingale

Vice Mayor Adams, Commissioner of Human Resources, said that Mary Palmer, Town Clerk, had completed the review for Administrative Assistant Pam Nightingale. Mrs. Palmer had recommended a 2% raise, which Vice Mayor Adams agreed with, to be effective May 14. Vice Mayor Adams made a motion to approve Mrs. Nightingale's raise; Commissioner Branch seconded. Roll call all yes.

FY 07/08 Proposed Budget

Mayor Armstrong reviewed the timeline for the FY 07/08 budget, citing some upcoming dates: June 6 to submit revenue, June 26 informal discussion at the Workshop, July 10 discussion of proposed millage, etc. Mayor Armstrong explained that the Town needs to tighten the budget where it can since it is unknown what the State will do with the budget session. Mayor Armstrong advised the Commission to address any line item questions about the budget to Mary Palmer individually due to the Sunshine Law. Mayor Armstrong also said that the Town is in pretty good shape. Vice Mayor Adams recognized Dave Eldridge in the audience, who has offered to design plans to improve the appearance of the Town's maintenance garage, hopefully with the use of some of the Pennies for Pinellas monies.

Ratify Purchase of Sewer Camera

Commissioner Branch reported the purchase last month of a sewer camera at the cost of \$10,890.74, which will be used primarily to identify damage to the sewer system, and how the damage occurred. There have been many situations lately where independent plumbers have told residents that damages to their homes was caused by the undergrounding project. Commissioner Branch explained that in some cases the pipes are old or already damaged, and the new camera can distinguish the type of problem. Vice Mayor Adams made a motion to approve and ratify the purchase of the sewer camera; Commissioner Holthaus seconded. Roll call all yes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Chris Diaz asked the Commission to look into the beach access near his home to have it wide enough

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to allow his niece's wheelchair to pass onto the beach. The accesses should be 10 ft. wide. Steve Andrews, Building Official, said that special permission is probably required due to the beginning of turtle nesting season, and such improvements may have to wait.

Some discussion ensued among residents regarding the ongoing problem with barking dogs in the Town, and with dogs on the beach. Sgt. Doug Pasley of the Indian Shores Police Department was present, and stated that the Police respond to every call received about dog problems. Mayor Armstrong suggested that the Ordinance may need to be revisited, to increase enforcement and possibly fines. The discussion will be placed on the May 29 Workshop agenda.

Commissioner Wojcik said he is working on selection of debris sites for the Town, as well a removal plan. The Town's Hurricane Preparedness meeting is scheduled for May 30 at 7:00 P.M.

Commissioner Branch acknowledged the volunteers who have assisted in the cleanup of a resident's home at 1st St. and Wall St.

MISCELLANEOUS

Workshop Meeting – Tuesday, May 29, 2007 – 7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting – Tuesday, June 12, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patti Herr Administrative Secretary