The Village of Estero Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 4, 2020
9:30 a.m.

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9:28:23AM  >>Mayor Ribble: I'd like to call the March 4, 2020 Village of Estero council meeting to order.
9:28:32AM  This morning we have Father Tony from Our Lady of Light to do invocation.
9:28:40AM  Father Tony.
9:28:41AM  While he is way up here, just remind everybody, the virus is going around and everybody has a lot of rumors.
9:28:45AM  So let me start a rumor about our hot water.
9:28:50AM  When you go to wash your hands, when you go in, turn the hot water spigot on and let it run.
9:28:55AM  By the time you are done with your business, the water will be nice and hot for your soapy hands.
9:29:02AM  Word to the wise.
9:29:03AM  Keep us all safe.
9:29:05AM  Father Tony, you are up.
9:29:06AM  >> May we pray.
9:29:17AM  We meet to serve our community, to use the resources wisely and well, to represent all the members of our community fairly, to make decisions that promote the common good. We recognize our responsibility to the past and to the future. And the rights and the needs of both individuals and the community.
9:29:21AM  As trusted servants, we seek blessings in our deliberations and our efforts here today and may we act wisely and well and we respond amen.
9:29:33AM  Please join me in the pledge to the flag.
9:29:36AM  [ Pledge of Allegiance ]
9:30:13AM  >>Mayor Ribble: A madam clerk will you call the role?
9:30:20AM  >>Howard Levitan: Here.
9:30:26AM  >>Nick Batos: Here.
9:30:26AM  >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
9:30:29AM   >>Vice Mayor Errington: Here.
9:30:31AM   >>Mayor Ribble: Here.
9:30:32AM   Next on the agenda is the approval of the agenda.
9:30:37AM   Does anyone have any deletions or additions to the agenda
9:30:37AM   this morning?
9:30:37AM   Hearing none, I will entertain a motion to accept the agenda
9:30:40AM   as read.
9:30:41AM   >>Mayor Ribble: Second by Mr. McLain.
9:30:45AM   Please call the role.
9:30:54AM   >>Jim Boesch: Aye.
9:30:58AM   >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
9:31:01AM   >>Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
9:31:05AM   We're going to celebrate Women's History Month and I have
9:31:08AM   accompanied the last three months by a wonderful woman my
9:31:13AM   mother-in-law Connie Quinn, who's been taking care of me the
9:31:16AM   last three days as my wife is in Sarasota with my daughter
9:31:21AM   with the virus.
9:31:24AM   So after 44 years of marriage, my mother-in-law and I have
9:31:24AM   finally bonded.
9:31:25AM   I hope you like -- she's Italian.
9:31:27AM   She came from Sassano, Italy in 1950.
9:31:30AM   She made me homemades one night and Cavels one night.
9:31:34AM   If you like Italian food, give me a call and I will share
9:31:38AM   your portions with you.
9:31:39AM   With us this morning is the executive director of PACE Meg
9:31:47AM   Meg, where are you?
9:31:47AM   Come on up.
9:31:48AM   We have a proclamation and I will give her time to talk at
9:31:52AM   the end of this.
9:31:53AM   You can have everybody come up.
9:32:07AM   March is Women's History Month in the United States.
9:32:10AM   A time when our nation reflects on the valuable
9:32:13AM   contributions women make to our society.
9:32:16AM   If you don't believe that, call your mother and she'll
9:32:18AM   reaffirm that position.
9:32:30AM   WHEREAS, the young women of Florida are considered to be
9:32:30AM   tomorrow's leaders; and WHEREAS, it is very important that
9:32:30AM   we provide young women access to the resources and
9:32:30AM   opportunities they need to reach their full potential; and
9:32:30AM   WHEREAS, the PACE Center for Girls is instrumental in
9:32:30AM   helping promote a better future through education,
9:32:30AM   counseling, training, and advocacy, in collaboration with
Florida's Department of Children and Families, Department of Education, and Department of Juvenile Justice; and WHEREAS, PACE Center for Girls, Lee County reports a 95% success rate of keeping girls out of the criminal justice system and improving the academic success of 96%.

That's just fantastic.

WHEREAS, women are dynamic invaluable contributors to society; and WHEREAS, March 10th is the twelfth anniversary of the Grande Dames Tea, and PACE Center for Girls of Lee County will be honoring four local women for their life long impact in business, philanthropy and community engagement, and promoting awareness of the services provided by PACE Center for Girls of Lee County.

NOW; THEREFORE, be it proclaimed that the Village Council of the Village of Estero, Florida, that the month of March, 2020 shall be known, designated, and set aside as: Believing in Girls Month in Lee County.

>> Village of Estero council members, thank you very much for allowing us this opportunity to address you for the first time. This is our first visit to the Village and this will not be our last.

I'd like to introduce my special guest Mark Blust is our past chairman and active in the community.

And Jim Nelson is on our board of directors and Margot is the glue that keeps us together and our development manager. I think Mark would like to say a word or two if that is all right.

I will be quick.

Thank you to the Village of Estero for allowing us to be here in recognition of how important the proclamation is to our girls.

My name is Mark Blush.

I have been involved with pace eight years.

These girls come to us broken, broken more than any of us have experienced.

And to see the care, the counseling and education these broken girls get while in our care for one to two years and see them develop to be community members, further their education, take on a trade is truly enriching, truly a blessing and it's why I get up every day to be a part of this wonderful organization.

I thank you, again, for allowing us to be here to help separate this with us.

Thank you.

>> Mayor Ribble: Let's hang on a second.

We want to do a picture.
Let's do it in front of the dais.
So we can get the council in, as well.
>>Mayor Ribble: We're all set.
Somebody has their glasses here.
We have one more proclamation here.
A you know many communities in Estero have foundations.

If you picked up Gary's latest edition you announced two
more foundations here in Estero that have come on-line.
Community giving I think is starting to boil a pot of
philanthropy that we haven't had in the last five years.
I want to acknowledge one of our council people this
morning.
We had an outstanding Estero meeting two weeks ago.
I couldn't stay for the whole meeting so Katy filled in for
me and did a great job.
I want to acknowledge Jim Boesch.
Jim, would you come down?
Jim has been instrumental in the last two years with really
getting this thing grassroots driven or grown from the
bottom up.
I think we finally got ourself in a situation here in Estero
where we can get donors.
I was talking to our friends, Jim, over in -- some of our
friends, I'll put it that way in Sanibel.
And -- private joke.
The other day about the foundations and how much they mean.
As you know they opened up a new arts center for opera,
theater, whatever.
I was finding out from them how they raised their money.
They really started kind of the same way you did with your
mission with calling on folks locally in the community.
Again, that's without calling on people that are going to
put us in an ethics violation by calling on developers.
I'm talking about individuals that donate money.
So you know, I was at a meeting the other night with the
ECCL focus at Dr. Canales' home where she is raising
$14 million for her new school of business over there.
She already raised $13 million.
That's come from citizens in Estero and Naples.
We have to continue to tap in on the resources we have here,
Jim and your efforts and leadership along with Nolan have
moved us along.
I will read the proclamation on here.
I have to put my specs on.
Hold that for me for a second.
Then you get three minutes at the end.
That's all.
I think as former mayor you are used to that three minutes, right?

Mayor Ribble: Okay.

Whereas council Boesch has been instrumental in the creation of the Estero Forever Foundation for a number of years and when I say that that means the last two full years he's been working on this thing.

December 5, 2019, the Village of Estero council approved supporting the mission and vision of the Estero Forever Foundation as set forth in the document entitled executive overview of the Estero Forever Foundation and whereas the Estero Forever Foundation inaugural celebration was held on February 20th, 2020, an event that introduced the foundation's visit to enhance the Village of Estero's positive growth and whereas as a result of council member Jim Boesch dedication and efforts and the foundation's articles of celebration to date 115 people have made commitments totaling 112,000.

I think the latest number of as yesterday is 113,000 but we will stay with 112 for this, Jim.

Now be it proclaimed the Village of Estero, the Village of Estero, Florida, hereby recognizes and appreciates the tireless efforts and dedication of council member Jim Boesch to ensure the success of the Estero Forever Foundation and the mission of the foundation.

To mobilize financial resources for the fulfillment of the vision by encouraging and facilitating generosity.

Jim, Congratulations.

You only get three.

Jim Boesch: My wife is here and my son is in the background. It's a surprise to me.

To be honest I had no idea this was going to happen.

My thoughts on this are, we have such a wonderful community. Estero is certainly considered one of the top communities already in the state.

The people in Estero are so generous and so thoughtful that this is a base that I think will work out tremendously in the future in many, many different areas of support so we can accomplish the big goals that we have in order to make the younger people represented in Estero as well as all ages.

So, it's an area where we can all put together.

Once in a while we have to make a little sacrifice, but I think you will find this foundation will offer many, many
advantages quicker than we could accomplish it with our
council.
The goal is to not to abuse the budget that we have and keep
our tax bases lowed ad infinitum.
This is not just my effort but a total commitment of a team
that worked hard to set up my wife and Joni Pavich and
mayor's wife got together and pulled this together in terms
of the foundation gala that we had.
It is an exciting thing and an important thing.
I think we probably are one of the very few communities in
this area that has this foundation.
the incentive for me to get this moving.
I'd tell you this could not have happened without the great
council we have.
They have a very objective mind about things that we can
accomplish, and they set themselves to go forward and
without their support I could not get this thing moving
forward.
I thank you, mayor.
This is a big surprise to me.
I had no idea this was going to happen but I'm grateful for
the honor that you bestow on me.
Mayor Ribble: Let's take a picture and the Boeschs gave a
sizable donation to the commitment so they put their money
where their mouth is.
Congratulations on that, as well.
Mayor Ribble: Now it is time for public comment.
Is anyone signed up to speak?
Kathy Hall: Two people are signed up.
The first person is Bob Dion.
Can you come up to the podium and state your name and
address for the record and you will have three minutes to
speak.
Bob Dion is my name.
I live at 20850 Gleneagles Links Drive in Pelican Sound Golf
and River Club.
I will be brief.
I wanted to publicly thank vice mayor Errington and David
Willem for their presentations and participation in our
Pelican Sound meeting, which happened a couple of weeks ago.
Specifically is looking for an update on the Estero
River.
There were eight to ten presenters there.
They continued to add more and it was a great experience
talking about water quality and water flow issues.
We even had a live PowerPoint presentation from Washington,
So we are getting a lot of publicity there. Hopefully all good. There were 120-plus people in attendance. Pelican Sound people, other communities and other residents of Estero that were interested in the subject of the Estero River. So thank you for your presentations. >>Mayor Ribble: Thank you. >>Kathy Hall: Jacob Payne. >> Good morning. My name is Jacob Payne. I live at 17413 Newberry Lane. I want to say thank you for the opportunity to be here today.

Today I will be talking about 5G. I grew up in southwest Florida area and is where I call home, as my wife and I live and work in Estero. I work in I.T. I have a bachelor's degree in physics and specialization in radiation and masters in engineering. I'm sure you have heard of the amazing benefits that 5G will bring as the commercials have been airing on TV like the Super Bowl ads. The technology will increase at an alarming rate from 5 Gigahertz to 90 gigahertz which is the same frequency of military grade weapons. Because of the shorter waves of this frequency, millimeter waves, thus you need more towers closes than less farther apart. Instead of seeing cell towers every few miles, you will see towers every 500 feet. Unlike the predecessor, these new towers will not be high and large, they will be small, the size of a pizza box on a long pole. They will constantly be broadcasting unsafe levels of radiation 24/7 next to homes, churches, parks, children's schools, shopping areas beaches and more. There are 8,000 peer-reviewed studies that show harmful effects of EMF, electromagnetic frequencies, and wireless technology on human health. There are hundreds of global scientists from over 41 countries have written an appeal letter to the U.N. urgently requesting the halt of the global 5G rollout due to the study and requesting more to be done. We will see spikes in cancer rates, headaches, blood and lymphatic disease, cognitive impairment and more.
Our children are at a high risk due to their inner lining of the blood-brain barrier and undeveloped DNA. There have been zero federal studies on 5G. Thanks to the 96 Telecommunications Act, states cannot sue the telecom industry to remove cell towers if they are in accordance with the standards in the '90s when we used walkie-talkies and there were no iPhones. If you ask an experienced realtor, they will tell you it is way more difficult to sell homes near cell towers. Our property values are in jeopardy. You choose not to use 5G, you cannot escape the consequences. I'm not against technology innovation. I'm for it. However, this needs to be safe. Technology is a tool. We need to use it to make our lives better, not damage them. Everyone wants to be the first emerging technology, but it is the shrewd and the patient that win. Just look at Apple who is always patient and understands the landscape before making risky investments. There's a lot of legal action against 5G since the FCC is currently being sued by Robert Kennedy, Jr. over health regulations. The Florida League of Cities is filing a lawsuit against the state of Florida. The City of Naples is involved in that lawsuit. Many petitions are out. The city of Hallendale has filed a resolution against the state and Interesting the town of Palm Beach has been excused from 5G. 5G is also cheating the city of Estero and every other city. Can I have 30 more seconds? >>Mayor Ribble: How about ten? >> I don't have ten. Just one more. >>Mayor Ribble: How about you slide? We have a full agenda. I think we got the message. >> Sure. Okay. >>Kathy Hall: Jack Meeker. >> That's correct. The legislature has taken over that area of regulation. As a matter of fact, I think any place you have a light pole or other type of facility 5G tower can go on it. You have no ability to say no to that. >> Good morning.
9:49:11AM  I'd like to thank you councilors for all you have done in Estero.
9:49:17AM  You have made this a truly great place to live.
9:49:19AM  I'm asking you for one little more favor.
9:49:24AM  There's a big plan for increased transportation for this part of Florida.
9:49:31AM  They propose some new widening, new roads that I don't think we here in Estero need them.
9:49:40AM  I think if you keep what you have been doing, thinking of Estero first, I think you would come to the same conclusion.
9:49:44AM  I'd also ask you not to allow the widening of Three Oaks Parkway or Coconut Road.
9:49:54AM  There again, we don't need that.
9:49:57AM  Not for what we have here.
9:50:00AM  I'd ask you also to continue to help preserve Edison Farms, the property that was acquired through our 2020 program.
9:50:10AM  I don't trust our county.
9:50:15AM  I understand you have on your agenda a widening of a road and I'll tell you, to take a ride, beach road and go down the new connection and you will find that is a terrible design.
9:50:36AM  There's no place to turn off.
9:50:38AM  There's no place to have a -- park your car in case of trouble.
9:50:44AM  There's no lights.
9:50:45AM  It's a single road.
9:50:47AM  Each and every way.
9:50:49AM  This is called Logan Boulevard Extension.
9:50:52AM  It was done with our help from Lee County.
9:50:57AM  If that is an example of what they can do, God help us on anything that is done on Ben Hill Griffin.
9:51:05AM  I thank you.
9:51:07AM  Good luck.
9:51:09AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Is that it, Kathy.
9:51:12AM  >>Kathy Hall: That's it.
9:51:13AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Next on the agenda is the consent agenda.
9:51:15AM  Does any of the council members have questions or comments regarding the meeting minutes and the financial report?
9:51:22AM  Any comments?
9:51:24AM  I'll entertain a motion to accept and approve the consent agenda, second by Mr. Bosch, please call the role.
9:51:35AM  >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
Next on the agenda: Corkscrew Road Ben Hill Griffin Boulevard to East of Bella Terra Boulevard.

Steve, would you like to introduce it?

Steve Sarkozy: Thank you, mayor members of council.

This project is coming to you as an informational item but also a request the staff be authorized to negotiate further with Lee County on this important project.

What is proposed by the county is widening Ben Hill Griffin Parkway east all the way from Ben Hill Griffin to -- sorry, widening Corkscrew from Ben Hill Griffin to Bella Terra.

The county design does not match what we are doing on Estero Parkway.

So, in a nutshell, we are asking the Village council to authorize us to negotiate with the county an addendum to their project that will allow us to build out Corkscrew Road, much like we are doing with Estero Parkway, in collaboration with the county.

This is a big move.

We don't want to jeopardize the timeline of those improvements on Corkscrew, but there's a way, we think, of doing a second phase on this project that would build out the landscaping, the street lighting and the off-road pathways on both sides to be very similar to what we have on Estero Parkway.

So this is something of a conflict between our standard for development of a major CIP and the county's and we are looking for council approval to negotiate a reasonable alternative.

We think the way to do that is doing a two-tier project.

Mayor Ribble: comments from council, questions?

MayorRibble: I'd make a motion that we go through and make changes to correct these.

Mayor Ribble: Katy is seconding that one.

Madam clerk, please call the role.

Kathy Hall: No public comment.

Mayor Ribble: I'm sorry.

Lou, do you have a card?

Can you fill the card out?

Sorry, Lou.

You are up.

I'm up.

Lou Frattarelli 202420 Black Tree Lane, Estero.

I'm representing the ECCL transportation council and the East Corkscrew Alliance.

We, wholeheartedly, support the village manager in the
9:54:29AM public works director getting involved.
9:54:32AM Both of the organizations I'm representing have had several
9:54:37AM meetings with LDOT and we struck out as far as getting what
9:54:46AM we think is appropriate.
9:54:49AM We have been in constant dialogue with the village manager
9:54:53AM and the public works director on what we want.
9:54:57AM We would like you to approve their getting involved.
9:55:03AM Thank you.
9:55:05AM Anyone else?
9:55:09AM We have a motion made by council Boesch, seconded by council
9:55:18AM Kathy Hall:
9:55:33AM Good to see Corkscrew road get moving here.
9:55:37AM It's been a long time coming.
9:55:38AM I think that is our number one project we have going
9:55:41AM following up to Estero Parkway.
9:55:43AM The next item is resolution 2020-01.
9:55:47AM Will the clerk read the title of the resolution.
9:55:51AM Resolution of number 2020-01, A resolution of the Village
9:55:52AM of Estero, Florida adopting the Stormwater Master Plan and
9:55:57AM providing an effective date.
9:56:02AM Mayor Ribble: You want to introduce this.
9:56:04AM Thank you, Mayor and Village council.
9:56:06AM The storm water master plan is one of our major planning
9:56:09AM elements that is foundational to the program that the city
9:56:15AM has initiated both regarding maintenance and capital
9:56:19AM improvement programs that serve the community.
9:56:22AM The Stormwater Master Plan is significant.
9:56:25AM It's the first one that came out to ensure we are protecting
9:56:30AM property and life safety issues throughout the community.
9:56:33AM We never formally adopted even through it was the first one.
9:56:37AM So, the recommendation is that we adopt this.
9:56:42AM There's no changes really from what you have seen in the
9:56:45AM past, other than the fact it comes to me for formal adoption
9:56:52AM by the council.
9:56:53AM As we move forward, we will constantly revisit this and all
9:56:56AM of the other master plans so that the decisions that you are
9:56:59AM making are based on sound studies, professional studies that
predate any work that's out there.
So these are really important in terms of how we look at projects throughout the community.
So, this comes to you with a recommendation for formal adoption, even though you saw it a year and a half, two years ago.

**Mayor Ribble:** Council, any questions?
I've gone through this extensively.
I think it is a good document, well put together.
My only concern I have is the priority of the ten projects that we have.
I realize we have a CIP that we will be working on later today, but for the record, the railroad ditch is number ten priority.
That in my mind, as part of my district, is a high priority.
I think the document is fine but my concern is when we go to the CIP it would make sure we have adequate funds to maintain the clearance of that ditch because it does affect 1600 homes or so in my district.
We know from Irma that we had problems with the ditch not flowing properly.
So the priority as number ten is a concern to me.
>>Steve Sarkozy: You are right and one of the dilemmas in the report is that we list in numerical order these projects.
They were not necessarily listed in priority.
So, as on all of your master plans you will have projects that are identified.
Some have a priority, but others don't.
In this case, we are working on that ditch as a priority.

However, it's a very expensive fix, and it's one we will be very mindful of.
The area there, north of the river and east of U.S. -41 is entirely flat.
So the only drainage that we get is along the historical flow way of the Seminole Railroad ditch that runs, obviously parallel to the Seminole rail line.
The Seminole Railroad has no interest in maintaining the ditch.
They don't care.
Their railroad is plenty high above that, but when we don't get flow through that historical flow way it backs up and creates a problem, as council member McLain mentioned affecting a lot of our homes and I think it goes beyond even 1600 homes.
We are in discussions with the Seminole Railroad trying to find a fix to that.
In the past we have gone into that area, under an emergency order, to correct it but that's not the way to do business long term.

So we are trying to find a better fix.

Mayor Ribble: Any other comments?

Howard?

Howard Levitan: The railroad runs throughout Estero to multiple districts.

In fact, the flow on the restaurant goes in different directions, depending which district you are on.

It's critical to the whole village, not just district 3.

So, I think it is really important that we focus in on that.

The other aspect of the Stormwater Master Plan is that I found critical was not just the ten projects that they list but the data that is listed in the report, starting on page 148.

That data shows us what the impact will be when, for example, 300-acres of village center land gets developed.

We now have a way of determining whether or not what the impact will be on existing communities when we develop vacant land.

That's really critical knowledge that we didn't have before that we now have and will have to be a part of our zoning decisions on the Village center.

There's important stuff in here.

I look forward to documenting this formally and we should move ahead and do that.

Mayor Ribble: Any other comments from council?

Jim?

Jim Boesch: I'd like to mention, one of the solutions that will be helpful is trying to become --

Which is more of a local situation rather than this massive situation with South Florida management.

We, the mayor from Bonita Springs and myself are continuing to work.

Steve is helping us out but it is so important with a document like this here that you talk to people who run into water problems, being able to bring this, which we did to them and they see we are sincere at how we are looking at water problems, not just looking to come and take money and do other things.

So, our council helped us with the commissioners in the county and in the period we will be able to solve the problems and join in.

It is so important that we have this document that they see we are serious about how we are addressing our water
problems and be willing to work with them.
I want you to -- I don't want you to get discouraged.
We're not going to quit on this project.
It is a longer project than we imagined.
We will join with them and be a big solution for us locally.
Mayor Ribble: Any other comments from council.
Seconded with by McLain.
Call the roll.
Mayor Ribble: Council member Wilson is absent.
Nick Batos: Aye.
Jim Boesch: Aye.
Jon McLain: Aye.
Howard Levitan:: Aye.
Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
Mayor Ribble: Aye.
Next item on the agenda is consideration of the lien mitigation request from Racetrac Petroleum, Inc.
This is the second discussion we have had before council regarding the lien mitigation related to Racetrac Petroleum, Inc. on U.S. -41 just north of the Coconut Point Ford.
This came to council at the February 19th council meeting.
You referred it back to staff.
There's been considerable discussion with staff, the city attorney's office and the folks at Racetrac.
This comes back to you, in a nutshell, with a recommendation that the city accept $12,000, plus administrative costs for the correction of the code violations, primarily sign violations at the Racetrac location.
The total fines against Racetrac amounted to $188,000.
The only way that we could get compliance is to actually bring a claim formally against them before a magistrate.
There's a suggested settlement here that we think we have gotten the attention of Racetrac.
Mayor Ribble: Council questions or comments?
Anyone signed up from the public?
Okay.
I'll entertain a motion regarding this agenda item.
Jim, seconded by -- second it?
I'd like to amend it to $15,000.
Mayor Ribble: Second on that one?
There was a motion to accept the settlement as proposed.
The motion and second are agreed to raise the fine to 15,000.
That would be the motion.
Won't be two motions.
Mayor Ribble: just the one.
10:05:51AM  15,000.
10:05:52AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Madam clerk, please call the role.
10:05:57AM  >>Howard Levitan: Aye.
10:06:01AM  >>Jon McLain: Aye.
10:06:02AM  >>Jim Boesch: Aye.
10:06:04AM  >>Nick Batos: Aye.
10:06:07AM  >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
10:06:10AM  >>Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
10:06:12AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Aye.
10:06:14AM  Steve, good job.
10:06:19AM  >> Thank you very much.
10:06:20AM  Steve Hartsell here on Racetrac.
10:06:26AM  I confess I’m a little bit confused.
10:06:27AM  Was that a motion to approve the first motion for $12,000?
10:06:32AM  >>Mayor Ribble: No, sir.
10:06:33AM  What is on the record is to make a counteroffer in
10:06:39AM  $15,000 instead of 12,000.
10:06:42AM  You can accept that or not but that was the motion passed.
10:06:45AM  It is basically a counteroffer.
10:06:49AM  >> I will accept the counteroffer on behalf of Racetrac.
10:06:55AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Thank you very much.
10:06:57AM  Burt, that’s it, right?
10:07:00AM  >> I hope the message is clear that we are more stringent
10:07:07AM  than other people on designs and everything else but they
10:07:10AM  have to comply with what we want in Estero.
10:07:14AM  Probably do more business because everything is coming to
10:07:16AM  Estero anyhow.
10:07:18AM  Please ask them to make sure our code enforcement guy
10:07:21AM  doesn't have to be visiting them every two weeks, taking
10:07:24AM  down signs just because we agreed we'll settle the case for
10:07:29AM  $15,000.
10:07:31AM  >> The message has been received loud and clear.
10:07:33AM  Thank you very much.
10:07:34AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Thank you, Steve.
10:07:36AM  Thank you for coming back today.
10:07:38AM  The next item on the agenda is disposal items at
10:07:45AM  Happehatchee Center property.
10:07:47AM  Steve.
10:07:47AM  >>Steve Sarkozy: This item, item 7-d references the newly
10:07:53AM  acquired property that has been called the Happehatchee
10:07:57AM  Center.
10:07:59AM  The Village took over this property at the first of the year
10:08:02AM  and as part of our takeover of the property, now under fee
10:08:07AM  title ownership by the Village, we are going in and cleaning
10:08:11AM  up the parcel.
10:08:13AM  So this was a very gracious donation by the Happehatchee
10:08:16AM  Center to the Village on the premise that we keep the
property for the primary purpose of environmental preservation and environmental education.

The way the Happehatchee Center used the property, they had a lot of stuff laying around that we don't want just laying around. We'd like to clean it up and do a better job of maintaining the property. So, in the spirit of absolute transparency, we wanted to put this forward to let people know what we are going to get rid of.

Because there are some little things that probably have marginal value. We just want it out of there. We have been coordinating this with the city attorney's office. This totally complies with our policies of dispositioning of property, but we are putting it before the council so there is a complete track record. Some of these items are relatively minor, but we think this is the best way to move forward so if someone sees something that has gone you realize why.

>> Is there anything that the public.

>> Mayor Ribble: Howard, please get recognized by the chair.

>> Howard Levitan: Anything that the public may want as a souvenir or?

>> Steve Sarkozy: I don't think so. That is a subjective, very subjective question, but things like the pots, some of the -- they had a planting program, some of the garden groups were trying to give that away to the groups that would maybe use it. But the rest of it is mostly junk and things that we can't use.

>> Mr. Mayor?

I noticed item 109 is hand sanitizer. You may want to keep that one. Keep comedians out of work. Our attorney is trying to branch out a bit. Any other comments from council?

>> I've been involved in some options in real estate. I think the issue with this property is if you had an option there they are probably limited parking in that area.

Just looking at the list, it's hard to tell if any of these items have any value. I hate to throw things away if there is any value to anybody to buy it. But I look at the logistics of getting people in and out of
10:11:01AM the site could be a hazard on its own.
10:11:08AM What’s your opinion?
10:11:10AM >> I think you are right.
10:11:11AM There's not much value, if any.
10:11:13AM It's really de minimis amounts on an individual basis and to
10:11:19AM pull off an auction, I don't think the return is worth it
10:11:24AM for what we are talking about.
10:11:26AM >> Mayor Ribble: Any other comments?
10:11:28AM Katy?
10:11:30AM >> Vice Mayor Errington: I have been on that property
10:11:31AM numerous times.
10:11:33AM There's an understanding with what needs to be kept.
10:11:38AM It is a couple of items.
10:11:39AM You are aware of that.
10:11:42AM Anything that has to do with Ellen Peterson.
10:11:45AM So we know that.
10:11:47AM But the rest of it is like, we don't need a storage facility
10:11:52AM to put that stuff in.
10:11:53AM So let's just get rid of it.
10:11:56AM I’m in total agreement with just getting rid of it and
10:11:59AM cleaning up the place.
10:12:01AM It's a marvelous gift.
10:12:03AM For those who do not know, that was a gift to the Village
10:12:07AM 4.5-acres of property that pulls together the property that
10:12:14AM the Village purchased a year ago.
10:12:16AM It's a beautiful gift.
10:12:18AM It has a lot of potential to do, to be a great benefit to
10:12:23AM the community.
10:12:25AM We don't want to be -- we're government lite, we don't need
10:12:31AM to put this stuff -- it's just stuff.
10:12:33AM So get rid of it.
10:12:35AM I'd say just let -- you know how to do it.
10:12:39AM We have all had to do cleaning to move, and that's what we
10:12:43AM are doing here, cleaning to move and get the property ready
10:12:47AM for whatever comes next.
10:12:49AM >> Mayor Ribble: Any other comments from council?
10:12:51AM Okay.
10:12:51AM How about public?
10:12:52AM Has anyone from the public signed up?
10:12:54AM >> Kathy Hall: No one has signed up for this item.
10:12:56AM >> Mayor Ribble: I will entertain a motion regarding this
10:12:58AM agenda item, Katy seconded by Jim Boesch.
10:13:02AM Madam clerk, please call the role.
10:13:05AM >> Kathy Hall: Council man Wilson is absent.
The next item on the agenda is the Design Review Board appointments and chairman appointments.

Steve.

Steve Sarkozy: This item is somewhat routine in the sense that we offer opportunities for reappointment to some of our boards. That's the case here. We're suggesting that board members William Glass and Mike Sheeley be reappointed. And we will have to do some other things long term with regard to membership here, but they are suggested to be reappointed for a two-year term to expire March 31, 2022. And then we're also suggesting that there be an appointment for the chair for one-year period.

So, Mary Gibbs, our director of community development is here if you have any questions, but this comes to you with a recommendation for approval.

Mayor Ribble: Council, any questions?

Howard Levitan: Just a comment. I think we ought to go ahead and do that. As you are aware, as we were redrafting the Land Development Code, this is a part of the changes that will be proffering in that document we had the consultants from North Carolina here two days last week, Thursday and Friday, in all-day meetings and they have made some suggestions about this. As we discussed that and we will be drafting up something to both put in the Land Development Code, but because this may be something we may need to do earlier we may do this as a separate ordinance amendment to our existing ordinances.

We're not ready to really flesh that out yet. I think the property thing would be to move forward and reappoint the Design Review Board and planning board for the next item. Just move ahead with that, with the understanding that changes might come sooner rather than later.

Mayor Ribble: Any other comments on this item?

Public comments?

Kathy Hall: No one signed up.

Mayor Ribble: No one signed up.

Entertain a motion regarding this agenda item.

Kathy Hall: Clarification, however.

I move that we are just reappoint the board members Bill Glass and Mike Sheeley for terms expiring March 31, 2022. And appoint the chairman -- reappoint Bill Glass as the chairman.
10:16:02AM   >> Barry Jones.
10:16:06AM   >>Howard Levitan: You are right.
10:16:07AM   >>Mayor Ribble: You second that?
10:16:08AM   Madam clerk, please call the role.
10:16:13AM   >>Kathy Hall: Just to make sure staff understands, we are
10:16:15AM   not going to advertise at this point then?
10:16:18AM   >>Mayor Ribble: Not going to do anything.
10:16:29AM   >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
10:16:34AM   >>Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
10:16:34AM   Next on the agenda is planning and zoning board appointments
10:16:40AM   and chairman appointment.
10:16:42AM   >>Steve Sarkozy: This is similar to the previous item but
10:16:44AM   deals with the planning and zoning board.
10:16:47AM   In this case we have two board members, Anthony Gargano and
10:16:51AM   John Yarbrough whose terms expire at the end of March and
10:16:57AM   they are recommended for reappointment.
10:17:00AM   Their term would expire March 31, 2023.
10:17:07AM   It is recommended that we reappoint the chairperson at this
10:17:10AM   time, Scotty Wood, for a one-year term.
10:17:14AM   So this comes with a recommendation for approval.
10:17:17AM   >>Mayor Ribble: Any comments from council?
10:17:19AM   Howard.
10:17:20AM   >>Howard Levitan: I'd just make a motion if I can to
10:17:23AM   reappoint board members Anthony Gargano and John Yarbrough
10:17:30AM   for three-year terms expiring March 31, 2023, to reappoint
10:17:36AM   chairman Scotty Wood for one-year term.
10:17:40AM   And not to readvertise at this point.
10:17:44AM   >>Mayor Ribble: You seconding that?
10:17:47AM   Anyone for public comment before we vote?
10:17:49AM   Madam clerk will you call the role?
10:17:50AM   >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
10:17:54AM   >>Nick Batos: Aye.
10:18:00AM   >>Howard Levitan: Aye.
10:18:02AM   >>Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
10:18:06AM   We have the second reading of ordinance 2020-02 amending the
10:18:16AM   This is a public hearing and public comment will be taken at
10:18:18AM   this hearing.
10:18:20AM   Madam clerk, has the ordinance been properly advertised?
10:18:28AM >>Kathy Hall: 2020-02, amending the transitional development
10:18:32AM code, chapter 2, Article VI, impact fees, division 2 roads
10:18:37AM impact fees by amending section 2-264(B) definitions

10:18:41AM providing for conflict, providing for severability and
10:18:44AM providing an effective date.
10:18:45AM >>Mayor Ribble: Mary, you have a presentation on this?
10:18:52AM >> This is the second reading and you have seen it before.
10:18:55AM We are making a change to the ordinance to clarify we can
10:18:58AM use money for Mike ped type projects in addition to road
10:19:03AM projects that could include stand-alone projects and we are
10:19:06AM doing the amendment now because in the upcoming CIP David
10:19:09AM Willems has some plans for some projects this could apply
10:19:13AM to.
10:19:13AM So it's a pretty simple amendment.
10:19:18AM >>Mayor Ribble: Council any questions for Mary?
10:19:21AM Council have any questions for our attorney?
10:19:24AM Okay.
10:19:25AM I'll open the hearing for public comment.
10:19:28AM If you would like to make a comment, please fill out a
10:19:30AM speaker card and give it to the Village clerk when you come
10:19:33AM to the podium state your name and address for the record.
10:19:36AM Public comment will be limited to three minutes.
10:19:39AM Anyone sign up.
10:19:41AM >>Kathy Hall: No one signed up.
10:19:42AM >>Mayor Ribble: I will now close the public comment portion
10:19:45AM of this hearing.
10:19:46AM The council members wish to discuss the ordinance?
10:19:50AM Do I have a motion for ordinance 2020-02?
10:19:57AM Jon, second by Nick Batos.
10:19:59AM Clerk, call the role.
10:20:02AM >>Howard Levitan: Aye.
10:20:09AM >>Kathy Hall: Council member Wilson is absent.
10:20:10AM >>Vice Mayor Errington: Aye.
10:20:13AM >>Mayor Ribble: We will take comments not on the agenda.
10:20:15AM Anyone signed up to speak on non-agenda items?
10:20:20AM Now we will hear from council member updates.
10:20:24AM Councilman Batos.
10:20:30AM >>Nick Batos: I'd like to bring up an observation.
10:20:34AM [ Inaudible ]
10:20:46AM >>Nick Batos: I want to make a comment about -- like my
10:20:50AM wife.
10:20:53AM >>Mayor Ribble: It's Women's History Month.
10:20:55AM Oh, my goodness.
10:20:56AM Please make a note of that.
10:21:00AM  >>Nick Batos: We did a lot of work and planning on U.S. -41
10:21:03AM  on the landscaping.
10:21:05AM  I really think that it is a shame it has gone so long and
10:21:09AM  looks so poorly.
10:21:10AM  I know there's been a problem with the contractor, but I
10:21:13AM  don't know if this is going to go on forever but I think the
10:21:16AM  staff should look at it and see what can be done.
10:21:19AM  Part of it has not been completed and the part that has been
10:21:22AM  completed, part of it is dying.
10:21:26AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Well, the shame of it is, I just signed a
10:21:30AM  check as Lisa knows, for $891,000 the other day for a big
10:21:35AM  portion of the payment for this landscaping.
10:21:41AM  >>Nick Batos: I don't know why we would be paying at all if
10:21:44AM  it is not done properly.
10:21:47AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Steve, you have to look at that.
10:21:48AM  We still have a balance.
10:21:49AM  Before we go rushing to the checkbook we want to get this
10:21:52AM  straightened out.
10:21:54AM  >>Steve Sarkozy: Frankly, the work out there, the quality of
10:21:57AM  the work has been poor and the follow through has been poor.
10:22:01AM  We have been subject to a low bid.
10:22:03AM  I'm not hesitant to even say it publicly but it's not been a
10:22:09AM  great project.
10:22:10AM  I appreciate your comments here.
10:22:13AM  We are frustrated.
10:22:14AM  If there is a saving grace, the contract did include that
10:22:21AM  the contractor is obligated to maintain the vegetation for a
10:22:28AM  So if there is any loss of stock out there they have to come
10:22:33AM  back but that's not giving us a quality project, which is
10:22:38AM  what we are all looking for.
10:22:41AM  >>Nick Batos: To followup, I understand the problem but if
10:22:43AM  the contractor is not doing the work now, why are we going
10:22:47AM  to expect he will do it the next two years, and further
10:22:50AM  more, I don't know where that check is, that $800,000 check,
10:22:54AM  but if it's not in the mail I wouldn't put it in the mail.
10:22:57AM  >>Mayor Ribble: You are a little late, my friend.
10:23:05AM  >>Jon McLain: Can I comment on that?
10:23:06AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Go ahead, Jon.
10:23:10AM  >>Jon McLain: I echo the concern.
10:23:12AM  How do we get a two-year maintenance from them?
10:23:16AM  I think we should hold back the cost of the expected
10:23:19AM  landscaping costs, hold that in an escrow account until the
10:23:24AM  two-year period is up and then pay it or pay it over the
10:23:33AM  >>Mayor Ribble: We owe.
10:23:37AM  >>Jon McLain: I'd hold some in an escrow account due to
their lack of performance to date.

>>Mayor Ribble: All right.

>>Steve Sarkozy: We will talk to the attorney's office here about legal remedies.

>>Mayor Ribble: A big legal day for us today.

More coming.

Jim?

>>Jim Boesch: I'd like to mention that our mayor is working night and day with one of the directors of the Florida League of Cities and in conjunction with that and this major pandemic that is coming, the Coronavirus, I think it is imperative for us to be out in front of this.

Steve, we definitely need to be having a message on our website of how this thing can be approached.

What we are going to do before the panic comes.

If we can make sure they understand we are working with it.

Two things I recommend, today in conjunction with the Florida League of Cities they sent us a message on the website where we can project to our residents resources and how they should approach this and so forth.

I would suggest that you take this particular message they send us and put it on our website so the people are aware and any questions they have with a big announcement about Corona.

I would make it Coronavirus alert.

So they have any access to something, information and the knowledge that we can make sure they are going to be addressing their problems.

The second thing is we get people from Lee Memorial to tell us what is the plan.

Are they all in place?

And what would somebody do if they even thought they had the virus?

So that we don't get struck down by all of a sudden there are ten people in Estero who have Coronavirus and they are all walking around in a circle and we don't have the answers for them.

>> We talked to staff about putting those updates already on the website.

They have to go through a scrub process where they are made handicap accessible.

I'm not sure they have been posted yet, but that's already our intent.

In terms of responding, respectfully I suggest this one goes beyond what Estero can do because the issue is far bigger than us.

I don't know that there is anything we can do specifically.
10:26:53AM   >>Jim Boesch: I think first of all, it isn't beyond what
10:26:56AM   Estero can do because the people in Estero will be asking us
10:26:59AM   and we don't want to say well, this is way beyond what we
10:27:03AM    can advise you.
10:27:05AM    First of all, I'm just telling you, look up this website
10:27:08AM   that was put on ours and you will see they have some
10:27:12AM   answers, which is at least the beginning start for us.
10:27:15AM    I think we should call Larry and say, what is Lee Memorial's
10:27:23AM    program that they have for Coronavirus.
10:27:25AM    At least that information would be available at least on our
10:27:31AM   website so people now asking questions about this will say
10:27:34AM   we're not just putting it off and not addressing this.
10:27:39AM   We should be ahead of this, not wait until everything comes
10:27:42AM   and hits us all at once.
10:27:45AM    I am strongly urging we address this, at least with
10:27:49AM    information, on our website so if somebody does call it says
10:27:57AM    there's a municipality that certainly is giving us
10:28:06AM   information now rather than everything is --
10:28:09AM >>Steve Sarkozy: Council member Errington had also asked
10:28:13AM    about the issue.
10:28:14AM    We didn't put anything on the agenda thinking that it was
10:28:17AM   something that goes beyond our capacity to respond.
10:28:22AM    To the extent we can forward information, we will try to do
10:28:26AM   that.
10:28:26AM >>Mayor Ribble: I was telling some of these folks -- I was
10:28:29AM    at a political event.
10:28:30AM    Nick was there on Friday night.
10:28:32AM    And Therese Everly, as you know is with the Lee Memorial
10:28:40AM    Hospital board and she was at the event and we spent 20
10:28:45AM   minutes with her and she was giving us an update from her
10:28:49AM   perspective, which is really in line with what Jim is
10:28:53AM   talking about.
10:28:53AM   Just telling you the dos and continues.
10:28:57AM    She is saying wearing a mask is a joke.
10:29:00AM    It doesn't mean anything.
10:29:01AM    It is fashionable but doesn't mean anything.
10:29:02AM   The mask isn't going to protect you from cashing this.
10:29:07AM   It's really made for folks to wear that have the disease.
10:29:10AM   So if you see somebody wearing a mask, go oh, my God, do
10:29:14AM    they have the disease or what's going on?
10:29:16AM    I think, Burt, you had that question with a lady with you at
10:29:21AM    the L.A. airport coming over here.
10:29:22AM    A lady had all of her stuff on and he didn't know what was
10:29:28AM   going on.
10:29:29AM    She is saying poo, poo on the mask.
10:29:34AM    You have to wash your hands with hot water.
10:29:36AM   It doesn't mean I go in, in a hurry.
You go to our men’s room here and you have to turn on the water a minute before it is hot.

I don't know where the hot water heater is, maybe two buildings down but it takes forever to get hot water.

At home it is the same thing, wash your hands with hot water and then wash them.

If you have hand sanitizer.

My wife has 20 of these things all over the place.

You have to use hand sanitizers.

You don't have to shake hands with everybody.

I give them the knuckle bump.

That’s it.

At the church I go to they tell you don't shake hands.

Nobody shakes hands.

All of these things we can list that are common sense but people don't think about them.

Everybody is in a hurry.

I go over to Duff’s and many the men’s room and everybody is in a hurry.

The guy in front of me is washing his hands with cold water.

What's the story with that?

We have to use our heads.

When we see somebody, grab the manager and say, it's a restaurant.

Don’t you think we should have hot water.

Bring it up.

Like if you see something say something.

If you feel cold water, complain.

There is no harm in having it on our website.

I think it shows we care about the public.

We have to take this thing on one bite of the apple at a time.

We can't do a shotgun approach.

I want has to start in each and every community having the right behaviors.

I think that helps your cause because I think it is a good one.

Is that it.

>Jim Boesch: Yes.

>Mayor Ribble: You are up.

> I'm depending on Alex to inform us on everything.

> Mayor Ribble: He had a mask on the other night.

Said it didn't work.

I was watching the show.

> It is for people already sick.

> Mayor Ribble: You are our favorite guy.

When Fox comes here we tell him the same thing, though.
Vice Mayor Errington: I want to reiterate what council member Batos said about the landscaping. I had talked to David Willems a few days ago, probably a few weeks ago and it is bad. It’s bad. Those black lilies aren’t getting any better and the Purple Queens. Remember when we had the Kimley-Horn came in and the consultants and the one end of Estero, the south end and the north, they were supposed to mirror each other. There’s no mirroring of anything there. It’s -- I don’t know. I get the impression when I drive from Corkscrew going north they decided to go through the nursery and pick up any plants they could find to plant. And those lilies are too many. There are too unhealthy. As long as we have waited, five years to get that, that’s a big disappointment for me. That was really going to be something really, really nice. I’m so disappointed. We can go back and make them do what they are supposed to do. I think if we are leaders in the community we say you do it. Don’t pay them another cent until they get it done properly. That means pulling up those plants and replanting and putting mulch down and making sure the irrigation works and not leaving us. They were supposed to have had this finished in January. That’s when they started in October that we were told, and then we go into February and now we’re into March. I don’t see -- nobody’s been out there on that median doing anything from Corkscrew on for five weeks, at least five weeks. So, that’s my soap box on that. The Sprouts is coming along across the district four. Sprouts, I think, is going to be one of the most beautiful stores in Estero. I have to give the Design Review Board credit I watched how they worked with the developer and how they were trying to get that particular store designed. It’s really looking good. I hope it doesn’t disappoint me but it is becoming a beautiful store. That’s it. >>Mayor Ribble: Even though Sprouts isn’t in district three, I do look at it and it is really beautiful.
Looks like a beautiful building.

>>Jon McLain: I cross the street is an Aldi’s going up.

I see the roof being constructed.

And I can’t tell you right now what it will look like but I think it will be the best looking Aldi’s they have.

On another subject, unlike 41 landscaping, Estero Parkway is coming along very well.

David could probably correct me if I'm wrong, but I think they are moving along at a very good pace.

Yesterday it looked like they are widening the street on each side one foot and they are in the process of doing that right now.

So far what I see as I drive by and go home, they are doing a quality job there.

Looks like they are moving at a good pace.

My concern that I have with it, we are now posting construction zones, when they put the cones out and I think that is helping 90% of the traffic slowing down.

We don’t have a speed limit posted, but we want to keep them at 45 or you get a double whammy on your ticket.

The concern that I have, I see even during construction hours, I see pedestrians walking on parts of the sidewalks that are already installed.

This morning, coming to this meeting, I saw a lone bicycle rider out there in the middle of the construction zone driving on the edge of the road with the traffic zooming by.

I don't know if we can close that road or if that is too restrictive to close it during construction hours to pedestrians and bicyclists.

>>Steve Sarkozy: I think if you have a safety hazard situation you can restrict bicycle pedestrian use on a roadway under construction.

>>Jon McLain: I wouldn't advocate to do it during off-construction hours even though when you are riding on it now on the edges, it is bumpy but I think during construction it is an accident waiting to happen.

We should look at that.

Can I ask a question on that.

>>Mayor Ribble: Sure.

>> Under Florida law, isn’t a bicycles entitle to as much use of a street as a car?

>>Burt Saunders: That's also correct.

>> How are you going to stop them the street?

On the edge of the road and it is all bumpy.

>>Burt Saunders: They can ride on the roadway.

Probably close off the bike path but still able to ride in the middle of the road.
10:37:17AM    >>Mayor Ribble: Good luck on that.
10:37:19AM    All right.
10:37:20AM    Howard, you are up.
10:37:22AM    >>Howard Levitan: I want to again say that we spent two full
10:37:27AM    days last week with our consultants and the whole team of
10:37:34AM    people to work on the Land Development Code.
10:37:39AM    It's getting a little big in terms of size but still smaller
10:37:46AM    than the Lee code.
10:37:50AM    Our plans are to start to go public on some of the articles.
10:38:00AM    At some point this spring, as we move towards adoption which
10:38:04AM    has to be by November.
10:38:06AM    So we will be working on this with you all throughout that
10:38:13AM    period of time.
10:38:16AM    Probably with adoption hearings in October.
10:38:20AM    It has to be done by ordinance.
10:38:25AM    There will be two meetings.
10:38:27AM    The public will have plenty of opportunity to weigh in.
10:38:29AM    As we are assured all of the lawyers in town will make
10:38:34AM    their -- on the Land Development Code.
10:38:38AM    What we will do is include as a schedule to the document.
10:38:43AM    We are keeping a running list of any areas where we feel
10:38:47AM    that there are policy decisions that have to be made.
10:38:53AM    We made the suggestion, the consultants made the suggestion
10:38:56AM    and the team has made the suggestion that we draft an
10:39:00AM    approach but we want to identify for everybody that that is
10:39:03AM    a public policy decision.
10:39:05AM    That the council, if anybody here objects to it, we pull it
10:39:09AM    out and talk about it separately.
10:39:11AM    So, you will have the ability to go back and relook at each
10:39:16AM    of those policy decisions that we have done on a drafting
10:39:21AM    basis.
10:39:23AM    But only on a drafting basis.
10:39:24AM    It's pretty voluminous and very detailed.
10:39:32AM    I look forward to moving forward with it.
10:39:36AM    >>Mayor Ribble: Okay.
10:39:37AM    >>Howard Levitan: That's all I have.
10:39:40AM    I have two things that aren't quick.
10:39:42AM    I talked about Therese Everly and Jim covered the
10:39:48AM    Coronavirus problem, epidemic we are having.
10:39:51AM    I have two other things.
10:39:52AM    As many of you folks know February 20th I couldn't stay
10:39:57AM    for the foundation kickoff celebration because we had the
10:40:00AM    meeting of the mayors with a Hispanic group up in Ft. Myers.
10:40:04AM    All of the mayors were there except for one.
10:40:07AM    It was a fantastic evening.
10:40:09AM    It went for two hours.
The mayors were asked random questions.
I thought everybody came prepared and Steve did a great job getting me prepared for some of the issues.
The main issue I bring up again that we discussed was affordable housing, and workforce housing.
We brought this up last month that we want to have a workshop.
We have a lot of good reception about us having a workshop.
I talked to Steve.
We are going to try to plan this thing for one of our meetings in May.
I'm going to try to get Jeff Branch from the Florida League of Cities who is an expert on workforce housing to come down for the workshop.
Several things have to happen.
We have to have our homework done to look at what areas of Estero offers workforce housing now.
We think there say affordable housing available to many folks here in Estero when we come up with that number or what we think is a number, then we have to reach out and think of moving forward with future development, how can we manage affordable workforce housing?
It will be a big topic.
It's one that every community is taking on.
I can tell you Cape Coral sounds like they are pretty much out in front of this thing.
I'm going to get some comments from Joe Coviello on what his best practices were in.
Stay tuned in May.
It will be a great workshop.
Now we have people making all kind of allegations than they don't think that anyone knows where we stand with the issue.
I look forward to having that workshop in May.
The next thing I come to you with a heavy, heavy heart.
Something that I have been working on since long before I was on the council.
That is the traffic light at 41 and Pelican Colony Boulevard.
Alex, I brought this up to you one day when you called me for a meeting that day has come.
The line is in the sand.
We were notified -- Larry Kiterip, before he passed, set up a meeting with the county and the FDOT and we pretty much had every FDOT executive on that conference call -- I think 13 of them as I recall, Steve.
David Willem was there with us and we got them to agree to do a traffic study because we had just opened up the
hospital and the traffic since that opening has been a disaster.
If an ambulance wants to go south on 41, coming out of the hospital, I mean it's almost like committing suicide coming out.
The traffic stacks up there three and four deep each and every day.
If you want to have a nice show-n-tell, go at 4:00 every afternoon and see the disaster brewing over there.
We had our open house with the Lee County Sheriff's Department.
Blake Lee, the captain of the new organization there, a site of Lee health told us they had a cruiser demolished in January involved in an accident at that intersection.
Where am I going with this?
We worked on this thing very hard.
Larry I know is looking down on us.
He is proud of what he did getting our traffic study done and executed and getting the warrants granted to us in August.
At that point in time we had a new Commissioner Ray Sandelli who has picked up the ball and ran with this thing to try to get Lennar who bought out WCI as you know to comply with the Land Development Code by paying for half of the light.
Many of you folks in here know Ned Dewhirst, who is involved in the other development company across the street, who is willing to pay his half.
He has sent me his half of the contract.
Lennar refuses to answer our phone calls we had Nancy Strauss send them a notice on February 7th, asking them to comply with the Land Development Code August 29, 1994, which they failed to do.
I've called their president two Fridays ago.
He called me back late Friday when I was at an event and I called him back again and he still hasn't called me back.
I have dealt with this individual before.
I know many of you folks know the term razzle-dazzle.
I think I'm getting the old razzle-dazzle.
I'm asking for consensus from the council that the next time we have a meeting, next week, we can put this on the agenda for litigation.
Because we need to get this traffic light in there.
It is the right thing to do for the public and all of us.
We go up and down 41 all the time there.
It is matter of time until someone will get in an accident and get killed.
I'm asking for consensus.
10:45:16AM   Burt, do you have any comment on that?
10:45:19AM   >>Burt Saunders: Nothing specific in terms of the details
10:45:22AM   but I think we can help you work with Lennar and get this
done.
10:45:31AM   >>Mayor Ribble: It is between 600 and 800,000.
10:45:39AM   >> They just need to live up to their obligations.
10:45:43AM   If they are not going to do that --
10:45:47AM   [ Inaudible ]
10:45:48AM   >>Mayor Ribble: Jon, do you agree?
10:45:51AM   Jim, nick?
10:45:52AM   Okay.
10:45:53AM   Steve, you got what you need for the next meeting.
10:45:56AM   Okay.
10:45:56AM   That's all I have.
10:45:57AM   Do you have anything as an update for the group?
10:46:01AM   >> I don't.
10:46:02AM   >> Yes, sir.
10:46:03AM   I have a couple of quick things.
10:46:05AM   On the Happehatchee issue, as you know we retain Mark
10:46:11AM   Ebelini to represent the Village of Estero.
10:46:17AM   We are under a retainer with him with a reduced fee
10:46:18AM   agreement to reflect the charges of GrayRobinson, the rates
10:46:22AM   that we have.
10:46:23AM   He's agreed to all of that.
10:46:25AM   There's been an offer of settlement from Save Our Creeks
10:46:34AM   which I won't go into details on that at the moment.
10:46:38AM   In order for the Village to have an executive, closed
10:46:40AM   session to discuss that type of an offer, to be able to do
10:46:45AM   that in a private setting you have to be a litigant this the
10:46:50AM   action and you are not at this point.
10:46:51AM   We have a pleading already prepared to name the Village of
10:46:55AM   Estero as an intervener on behalf of the Happehatchee group
10:47:02AM   so that you would be a party to the litigation.
10:47:04AM   Then we could have an executive session and discuss how you
10:47:08AM   might move forward to resolve the litigation that's
10:47:11AM   currently pending.
10:47:13AM   I don't believe it will be a significant cost increase to
10:47:17AM   have Mark Ebelini to name the Village as an additional
10:47:23AM   appellee.
10:47:24AM   He's involved in that and handling it for the Village and
10:47:29AM   paid for by Happehatchee Center.
10:47:30AM   My request would be to authorize me to work with Mark
10:47:33AM   Ebelini to get it filed and pursuant to section 286.011
10:47:39AM   subparagraph 8 at the next meeting I will request a closed
10:47:47AM   session for your first meeting in April to go over the
details.
10:47:49AM   [ Inaudible ]
10:48:01AM    >>Mayor Ribble: Okay.
10:48:01AM    Jon.
10:48:03AM    Katy?
10:48:04AM    Jim?
10:48:06AM    Okay.
10:48:10AM    >>Burt Saunders: The other thing, the legislature has one
10:48:13AM    more thing after this week and I will give you a full report
10:48:16AM    on the bills that will have a major impact on your
10:48:18AM    operations.
10:48:21AM    Everything is still in flux.
10:48:23AM    A lot of things can happen.
10:48:24AM    The vacation rental bill looks like that issue will probably
10:48:27AM    die for this session.
10:48:28AM    So it will be status quo there.
10:48:31AM    Bert Harris is moving along.
10:48:34AM    >> The governor helped with that one.
10:48:37AM    Put the brakes on that one.
10:48:39AM    We wrote him a thank you letter, by the way, for that
10:48:42AM    action.
10:48:43AM    >> The Bert Harris bill has some things that are problematic
10:48:49AM    if you enter to a settlement with one property owner that
10:48:52AM    settlement applies to all similarly situated owners.
10:48:56AM    Under the current law, attorneys' fees, which means if the
10:48:59AM    city is sued and wins the city gets attorneys fees, mutual
10:49:03AM    attorneys fees provision is changed so the only party that
10:49:07AM    can get attorneys' fee is the property owner if the property
10:49:10AM    owner prevails.
10:49:11AM    There are a lot of little things that potentially have a
10:49:16AM    major impact on what you do.
10:49:17AM    Home-based businesses, we talked a bit about that a couple
10:49:20AM    of weeks ago.
10:49:22AM    You combine home-based businesses with Airbnb and you have
10:49:27AM    significant problems in the ungated communities.
10:49:30AM    I will report on that in a couple of weeks.
10:49:32AM    >>Mayor Ribble: Is that it?
10:49:35AM    >>Mayor Ribble: Now we will adjourn our regular session and
10:49:38AM    convene the workshop in ten minutes.
10:49:40AM    It is 10 of.
10:49:41AM    We will come back at 11:00.
10:49:43AM    Don't forget to use your hot water.
11:00:22AM    >> Thank you, mayor and members of council.
11:00:24AM    The first workshop item is in regards to our proposed
11:00:28AM    Capital Improvements Plan.
11:00:29AM    Importantly, off the bat, this is the first part of
11:00:36AM    discussion that will go on for a couple of months until the
11:00:40AM    council formally adopts the CIP later in the month of April.
We don't need to get real excited today. This is presenting the list of projects and the context and the calendar for how we will look at the Capital Improvements Plan. What's different this year than in years past is that we have now a full set of master plans, or we will as of next meeting, a full set of master plans that will decide the decision making in all of the categories for community investment. David is going to go through some of that. At the same time, you also have a more robust set of objectives or principles that are outlined in your budget. In the staff report, we commented about those. Those principles are important for, not only the council, but the community to keep in mind as we consider specific projects. The principles that we have -- this is the elevator music that we all know and kind of guides our thought process -- but we talk about low taxes, high reserves, transparency and so forth, and all of those apply but importantly for the CIP there are principles that we want to keep in mind as you consider specific projects. One is that we are always looking at quality to make sure that any project that you adopt is done with a high degree of quality. Secondly, we do our Capital Improvements Plan on a pay-as-you-go approach. We don't go into debt to finance these projects. We'll save up money for the big projects, and then do them as, on a cash basis. The only debt that we have in the community is for the purchase of property. In this case the Estero-on-the-River. We also have a principle that talks about informed decision making. The idea is that we anchor our decisions around our master plans so that we are not going off willy-nilly, picking projects, just out of the air and trying to do those. So we are trying to provide a degree of structure that's really important. And those master plans will be complete when you adopt the park and open space plan that's coming next week -- excuse me, two weeks, the branding plan and the bike-ped plan are coming to fruition at the same time. So, the CIP process this year is really a full process and we are trying to standardize the process that we would then follow this a subsequent year.
Part of that would be a high degree of community interaction. So, David will be talking about how we have already done a lot of polling as part of our master plan process but also as part of the public engagement we are proposing each year that we do public information sessions, two of them, in fact, if you can't make one and you are a member of the public you can make the second one, and those are being suggested for Tuesday March 10 at 5:30 and Thursday March 12th at 5:30 p.m. That’s just an opportunity to let the public come in and talk about any particular project or offer other new projects, and then as those public information sessions are complete, we will compile the list of public comments that we have gotten and bring that back to the council in early April.

There will be two kicks of the can in April, a workshop and then final date for adoption, but as you know if you are not ready to adopt in late April you can have other discussions. So, this is the time of the year where we are recommending that we do a standard process for the Capital Improvement Plan, and we do this and will replicate it each year. It is very publicly oriented, open and transparent for public comment and inclusive in the community so that anyone can be involved.

So, I've gone through the general decision-making process, the timeline, and I'd like to turn it over to David now to talk about the major category and the funding pots, you know, so that you and the general public will understand what types of projects we might consider in the CIP.

David?

>>David Willems: Good morning, council.

Before I get to the specific projects, this being the first time we presented the CIP to council and the public this year, I wanted to go into background of how do projects get on the CIP and the different funding sources and constraints with those funding sources. These projects don't come from staff. All of the projects either come from the foundational studies we have already completed or almost completing or they have come from resident complaints. One of the projects we presented a couple of months ago was the Atlantic Gulf Drive and Williams.

That came because of complaints by the citizens. It's not driven by staff but the public. Even with foundational studies, there was huge effort to get public input in those foundational studies.
We used that information to come up with projects in those studies and also help us to prioritize which project we think should come first.

As part of the bike ped master plan, our consultant had an on-line map tool they had open for a couple of months and residents provided suggestions, provided areas where they thought there were safety issues and our consultant used that to come up with what projects they should propose within that plan.

They had over 1,000 points that residents recommended for improvements they thought were important from a bike ped standpoint.

On a branding study, they also did a study, not specifically related to the CIP but there's some information in there that we can use to understand what our residents see as our strengths and weaknesses and things we need to improve.

There was almost 2300 people that filled out the branding survey.

A couple of items that relate to the CIP -- it's hard to read the list but near the bottom of the list as far as our strengths, it was the park system, trails and access to nature.

So, with that the residents are telling us that's something we need to improve and we think that's been addressed in the CIP with the bike ped and the parks and rec improvements we are proposing.

The residents in the branding study considered Estero to be safe.

That was one of our strengths, but there were a couple of caveats they put forth.

One of those was that it is safe except for bicyclists and pedestrians.

What that means to us is bike ped improvements are important to them from a safety standpoint.

And also they have drainage concerns, both water quality and flooding concerns some that is something we need to address for the residents.

From a traffic standpoint, driving around, especially this time of the year, you know there are traffic issues some are already being addressed but this wasn't focused on the bike ped but here again they show we need to improve our walkability and a desire for off-road bike ped connections instead of everything being right on the roadways.

In the CIP there are improvements that try to address that.

Then the most recent study was the parks, rec and open space master plan.

They did an extensive amount of study and they went the
extra step of doing a statistically valid survey, which means they picked a random sample of residents and sent them surveys directly to make sure they got the cross section of the population. And they use that data to prioritize which parks and rec improvements should be recommended for Estero. Also, the improvements that are more class based or activity based. That's how they came up with the recommendations for the bike ped, or parks and rec improvements which we included in the CIP. The second part, I'd like to go over. At the last meeting Kyle went over some of the funding sources. What I will do is expand on that a bit, kind of repeating what the funding sources are and then where can we use that money and what type of projects can we use it for. The important thing to remember here is not all projects are created equally. Certain funding sources have constraints on them. They are restricted funds we can only use for certain projects. So the first source of the money here is for the bonus density fees we have collected from some developments. There's money in there right now. We expect to potentially collect another $750,000 over the next fiscal year. The type of projects we can use that money for is really land acquisition. So we could use it for parks or preservation or different needs here. We have the Estero High parcels and potentially river oaks preserve. The second funding source is park impact fees as the name suggests we can use it for design permitting, land purchase or construction of park and recreation facilities. Here list ready some park facility and land acquisition for specifically parks. This fund is not replenishing. We only get those funds when a developer develops and pays those fees. Once they are gone they are gone until somebody else develops. The gas tax fund is replenishing that is reoccurring but generally for us. It is a relatively small source of funding, less than $400,000 a year typically. We use that for roadway projects.
It provides some funding but not a huge amount for the larger projects. Little larger fund the road impact fees. That's one that we use for basically new roadways. We are working on the modification to allow us to use that for sidewalks, as well. Within this CIP, the road impact fees are used for roadway projects and bike ped projects. Here you can see that the road projects, the projects we can use these funds for are all roadway intersection bike ped. You will see the parks and rec there. That is really for the bike portion of the park and rec facility. You would only be able to use it for the trail portion but since that does potentially add capacity we could use those funds for a portion of that. The general fund is, we can use that for any project. Important to note is projects like landscaping, projects if they are not done with a road expansion. This is really one of the only funding sources that could be used for landscape project that is not part of a -- here it is a much longer list than the other just because every other project we have we could use up general fund moneys for. Then, so this is how we have the CIP set up. It is very similar to what was -- what council has seen in the past. The one change is if you look on the left side there is a column for priority. And what we have done there is just put them in order of which -- at this point staff has put it in order but it is based on information we have heard from the residents, from council and in the master plans. So this is the way, this is the order that staff currently has it proposed. Obviously Estero Parkway and Corkscrew Road are the top two projects. We have River Ranch Road as the third project that project is listed under roadway, but the reason for doing the project is more than just roadway. It's for drainage improvements. It's also for bike ped improvements. It was identified in both of those master plans as needing improvement, as well. I can answer any questions as we go through if you have any questions. >> I have a question when you were talking about money we
are getting from sources -- I guess the settlement we have for preserving of land, the $150,000.

>> Yep.

>> You just listed the purchase of property, is it possible to use that money to purchase and pay off land that we already own and keep it in preservation?

>> I would have to check on that.

I don't know.

>> Right now, until the Land Development Code gets adopted, we only have four potential projects and they all existed in a mixed-use context prior to incorporation.

So we have only a limited --

>> We had some that came in.

That was part of the settlement.

We have to put it into that fund.

But that's it.

I doubt that anything.

>> It's not going to be a huge funding source.

>> The money that we have in there or will have in there that we know about that 750 plus whatever else is in there.

Can that be used in addition to the high school property and river oaks could that be used to pay off and put into preservation land that we already own?

>>David Willems: I don't know that answer standing here, but I can get that answer.

I've got a question, David.

I saw some lighting on via Coconut.

There is an expense, 2.4 million basically.

Will that be recaptured as development continues in that area as part of the impact fee?

I mean we will outlay the cash, but the impact fees will not be able to be used to offset that cost?

>>David Willems: Any new impact fees would go to the road impact fee fund.

It would replenish that fund.

>> Can't be used for lighting, is it?

Impact fee has to be for increased capacity rather than.

>>David Willems: Right.

>> Even if it is there already.

>>David Willems: It would increase that fund but that's not the fund being used for the street lights.

It's gas tax and general fund.

>> Just to move forward on the street light thing, you have a lot of street lights on this list.

I assume everybody in Estero will want street lights on the

25 miles of Estero roads.
You could have listed every one of the Estero roads, as well.

You have roads that aren't even owned by Estero like Three Oaks. I guess I'm wondering about the priorities of these things. Is there a list where you can combine them?

>> We will develop a suggested composites priority list that melds all of these categories together to give you a suggested priority, to narrow down -- essentially the staff recommendation on the CIP.

>> How do you get a list today on roadway projects where you have prioritized Via Coconut first on all of the street light projects?

>>David Willems: The only reason that that is recommended earlier right now -- and all of this can change depending on input from council, the public it can change. The reason that was put there is because in the current fiscal year budget there's landscaping proposed on Via Coconut. So similar to Estero Parkway where the landscaping and lighting went together, they are put together here. But that could change.

>>Mayor Ribble: How about going to the next slide. Another list of stuff you had there.

>>David Willems: That would be an intersection improvement.

>>Mayor Ribble: Are we going to knock on the county's door because El Dorado Acres is unincorporated.

>>David Willems: It is listed as other funding sources. That implies that's not our money.

>>Mayor Ribble: Okay.

>>David Willems: The ones highlighted is coming from us. If it is not highlighted it is coming from somebody else.

>>Mayor Ribble: Got it.

>> I think for consideration by everybody else, I don't know what their feelings are, but you have an enormous amount of money we are spending on county roads.

I'm not saying we shouldn't improve them because it's going through our community. I'm just saying with a limited amount of money, to me, I would take care of the roads that we own first, that we are responsible for before we start to spend money on, large amounts of money, where the county should be doing it.

>> Especially later on the county will come back and widen them any way.

[ Inaudible ]
11:20:29AM  >>Mayor Ribble: Moving right along.
11:20:32AM  >>David Willems: So intersection improvements.
11:20:34AM  This comes out of the Village of Estero, village-wide
traffic study.
11:20:41AM  There were a lot of improvements recommended within Estero.
11:20:44AM  A lot of these are not on our roadways.
11:20:49AM  So, that's why a lot of those funding sources are not coming
from us.
11:20:53AM  The ones that -- the one that is coming up that really has
our -- that we will be working on is the Williams Road and
Atlantic Gulf Drive intersections, those improvements.
11:21:04AM  >> I noticed on the second on your list, the second priority
was the Corkscrew Woodlands Boulevard intersection.
11:21:11AM  Are we talking about closing off the --
11:21:18AM  >>David Willems: Yes.
11:21:19AM  The first step would be to get the traffic signal and the
frontage road in once they are done to close the
intersection so you can not make a left turn out.
11:21:30AM  >> That would be a right hand only?
11:21:34AM  >>David Willems: It would be a right in and there could be a
left in possibly.
11:21:38AM  We'd have to work with -- when you are coming west, you can
take a left.
11:21:45AM  You leave that left in.
11:21:47AM  The real dangerous move is the left out.
11:21:50AM  And you would eliminate that.
11:21:54AM  >>Mayor Ribble: What's the driver and the cost like this,
Coconut Road roundabout, why is that so expensive?
11:22:05AM  The roundabout itself.
11:22:07AM  Roundabouts cost several hundred thousand dollars just for
the roundabout.
11:22:13AM  We have cost of landscaping, lighting, could be land in
those instances because there's probably not enough room in
the current right of way.
11:22:29AM  >> Yikes is right.
11:22:31AM  >>David Willems: They are expensive.
11:22:32AM  The next is the bike ped projects.
11:22:39AM  This is directly from the bike ped master plan.
11:22:44AM  The master plan said that one of our weaknesses is the
east-west connections, and then some north-south
connections.
11:22:52AM  Those are the higher priority as far as the listing is
concerned.
11:22:57AM  But just like everything else, this is preliminary and
subject to input from council and the public.
Here's the landscape and the parks and rec project.
U.S. -41 and Estero Parkway landscaping not shown here, and
then Via Coconut Point.
We have Ben Hill Griffin in here.
That was in the last fiscal year budget, as well.
Steve and I have had some meetings with FDOT about the I-75
interchange landscaping.
They haven't gotten their specifics as far as their budget.
So these are estimates right now.
Steve, can we ask the state for money under the flooding issue for a grant to
recover some of this, or no.
Steve Sarkozy: We can.
I think our prospects would be limited because we haven't
had flooding of homes and property fortunately.
These are -- these are just really taking a good system.
>>Mayor Ribble: Preventative type things.
>>Steve Sarkozy: Preventative type things that take a good
system and make it outstanding.
>> I have two comments.
If you look carefully at the Stormwater Master Plan that is
to be adopted, I've yet to read it which is dangerous
because we are not talking about beautification projects
there.
We're not talking about things that are really sexy.
We are talking about stuff that prevents houses from being
flooded.
If anybody was here during the two back-to-back storms in
2017, you know we were really close and we know that Bonita
had huge areas off of the Imperial River that flooded.
I guess when I talk about priorities, I talk about a hell of
a lot more of the safety area first before we get to street
lights and landscaping and beautifying.
One of the areas where they were particularly commented in
this Stormwater Master Plan were areas that had been
recommended to the county in the county study back in 2008.
One of those, which I thought our experts gave priority to,
was the whole area of halfway Creek, which is south of --
west of 41, south of Marsh Landing and Fountain Lakes.
The area becomes a big marsh and comes back into a creek.
Near the FP&L easement.
We have it on the list here but it seems to be critical to a
lot of the developments on the west side of 41.
And even further south because it impacts the south, as well
going into the Spring Creek area.
I'm wondering whether we ought to give really higher
priority to some of the storm water projects first before we
get into beautification.
From a council standpoint, if we are setting the principles
of how we do that, that's how I think we ought to look at
this.
>> I agree.
>> Just for my own edification, what do you plan for us to
be inputting on this?
Coming to a meeting and saying, I like this, this and this?
There is an enormous amount here to cover.
I think one of the things that I would find helpful -- I
might find XYZ being priorities and someone else has another
reason and to hear their reasoning is an important factor as
far as understanding which one we are doing.
What I'm getting at is I think we need to have a workshop
session, but we have enough time to come prepared and then be able to discuss back and forth.
I'm not just talking about an hour or two at the end of a meeting.
I'm talking maybe a half-day session where -- there's a lot in here to cover unless I'm misreading it.
>>Mayor Ribble: We have a lot of folks that want to way in.
I know some of the ECCL folks have asked to voice their opinion on some of these and I value it.
Just like this light situation today, Lou helped me with that with the news media.
And that's important.
Hear from everybody.
I agree.
We need to have a whole half-day workshop.
There is a lot here.
And maybe something longer.
Maybe something in the morning and break for lunch and come back.
I think we did a good job.
Estero Parkway is one and this Corkscrew Road one has to happen quick.
I don't live out there but I know it is a problem for the community.
They have my support on that project.
Then some of the other ones we can look at and see what makes sense.
>> If you look at the funding and the fact that landscaping and street lights may be more difficult to pay for, except out of the general fund, if -- I don't think I want to do that if you monetize what it will cost us it could eat up a couple, three years on that project alone.
Our job is to prioritize what we can do.
>> One of the things that would in all respect to what we need on Corkscrew Road and it is desperately needed, the road widening.
Once we widen that road and once the construction is completed east of where they are now building, we will have the same problem again.
They will be looking at what other things we can do on that road.
>>Mayor Ribble: You mean east of Bella Terra?
>>Jon McLain: Yes.
I agree.
>> If you widen the road it will go to capacity.
It's not going to solve the problem.
You have already proved that everywhere in Estero.
11:31:34AM  >> We will be spending millions of dollars on the sides of
11:31:37AM  the roads and then we don't know whether or not they will
11:31:40AM  have to widen it again.
11:31:43AM  >> Exactly.
11:31:47AM  >> The real plan is for 30,000 units which I think is what
11:31:50AM  it is.
11:31:54AM  >> Jon McLain: Guess we have to find a way to change their
11:31:56AM  thinking.
11:31:59AM  >> That was a paid political announcement.
11:32:04AM  >> Comment.
11:32:05AM  I went to the open house for Corkscrew, I think it was last
11:32:09AM  week.
11:32:10AM  There is a plan, phase two, I guess it is called for
11:32:14AM  Corkscrew to be widened into six lanes, but that's not going
11:32:18AM  to happen, per one of their representatives until like 20
11:32:23AM  years or so which seems like a long way out.
11:32:25AM  But if they do widen it, it is supposed to be widened in the
11:32:29AM  median and not on the outskirts.
11:32:32AM  Is that your thought also.
11:32:35AM  >>David Willems: Not as simple as that.
11:32:37AM  Part of it will be six lanes in the first phase.
11:32:43AM  Up to FP&L.
11:32:47AM  Generally widen this inside except Wildcat Run.
11:32:55AM  Except for the constraints they have right now they are not
11:32:58AM  able to get the median width.
11:33:00AM  When they do the widening next to Wildcat Run, the widening
11:33:04AM  will be on the outside of the pavement in that location.
11:33:07AM  >> The point there being is for future funding, obviously
11:33:11AM  you want to take that into consideration of what we will be
11:33:14AM  spending.
11:33:15AM  I hate to waste money even though it is 10, 15 years out
11:33:20AM  maybe but be prudent in negotiations as to what we come back
11:33:25AM  for approval.
11:33:26AM  We don't want to put in trees and have to remove them
11:33:31AM  shortly thereafter.
11:33:34AM  >> One of the things our foundational storm water study did
11:33:37AM  not talk about, even though it was mentioned there and that
11:33:40AM  is climate change.
11:33:41AM  So, if all of the outfalls of water on the river that drain
11:33:49AM  our communities that are on the west side of 41 are at a
11:33:54AM  certain level, but because of climate change the river is
11:33:57AM  three feet higher, what happens to the water in the
11:34:01AM  communities, David?
11:34:03AM  It doesn't get out.
11:34:04AM  >>David Willems: Right.
11:34:05AM  It's going to stay in the communities.
Howard Levitan: That's a serious problem. That's one area of the foundational studies, the climate change that we need to start to think about. Even though we don't have beaches or things like that, we have a lot of property that is adjacent to the river and to water that can get impacted by significant sea rise.

Mayor Ribble: Steve is going to cover that on our one to ones. We talked about that yesterday.

Howard Levitan: One to ones?

Mayor Ribble: Yeah, head to heads and one to ones.

Howard Levitan: That's something we ought to in terms of foundational.

Mayor Ribble: He has that on his list of things to do.

Can I throw one point for the future for the next meeting. If we are going to have some sort of a workshop on this. I don't know if we should be taking up all of this on one workshop or we should just take a half or a piece of it and try to get nail that down to some degree and then when you have done two or three of these then merge them with what we put together. I don't know if this -- there's an awful lot here. You are looking at the money here.

We obviously are not going to have the money for quite a while to do all of this stuff. I think it has to be given a lot of thought before we put one, two, three and four down next to it.

If you recall back in the early days of Estero, we had the public green dots and we put the green dots on the programs that everybody wanted. It was at the church. We monetized that list. It was 160 million.

I think the list expanded and not contracted. It is obvious that we can't do it, even in our lifetimes. So, especially now.

Mayor Ribble: You feeling bad again, Howard.

Howard Levitan: I'm feeling great but we can't do that. We have figure out a way to prioritize this stuff.

Mayor Ribble:

Jon McLain: I think if we ever did that again we shouldn't give everybody just green stickers and let them put their priorities, give them one, two, three and four and make them prioritize what is really important to them so we don't have everybody saying this is a very important thing.

It is, everybody is important but we just -- it's like the
county.
You are talking about, I don't know, you probably know,
David, a few years ago the infrastructure at that point for
the 35 plan I think had all of the needed things they
anticipated needing and what the funding source was.
We were a little short, a billion dollars.
I'm sure it is worse than that now.
>>Jim Boesch: I have been through this before and it is up
to the council to solve.
When you have a meeting with all of the residents you can
see all of the residents will take their communities.
That's going to be a green sticker and now you open the door
wide so they all think their number one priority.
You have everybody's number one priority.
If you have one, two, three, you would never see a two or a
tree because everything they want on their own.
So this is something -- I'm not saying we don't share it
with the public but this is something that I agree with Nick
is too important not to have a full four-hour workshop to
understand this whole thing and see what's going on so we
have some type of basic knowledge, first of all, of the
project we are talking about.
And then we can sit down and talk about priorities with
David and to see how we can do it but all of this stuff here
is misleading to the public because they see it listed and
don't understand that -- I agree with you, Howard, that a
lot of stuff won't be done in our lifetime, this work on the
project.
We have to sit down and share with the public and make some
decisions.
I'm not saying that the public can't ask if things can be
readjusted but we have to come up with a solution.
One last comment from me.
I think it is as important to me, although I represent a
district, I don't think that we can look at this on a
district-by-district basis.
We are elected at large and we have to react to this on
at-large basis and go with what is best for the entire
community, regardless of whether our district gets --
>>Mayor Ribble: I think we have a track record.
We have already done that t. I don't think we need to make
that point.
We have already done that.
I mean Estero Parkway, that's a great example.
>> I'm not saying anybody didn't.
>>Mayor Ribble: I love Coconut Road, too but I don't know if
it is the next priority.
We have to sit down and talk about it.

>> We incorporated and one of the things where Nick is going around and taking about the advantages of corporations and talking about our infrastructure in Estero was in good shape, compared to other cities, which I won't name.

I think we benefited from that.

I think us moving forward with these dollars we have to think about you know the safety of our whole community first and foremost.

That can help us maybe help prioritize those areas where we should focus where the dollars have to be spent for the safety of our community.

And then look at those items separate.

I want to make sure long term, you know, we are talking about environmental changes that we have addressed those now and continually going into the future and not do projects that are going to be, you know they are quality of life but there's different levels of quality of life we have to address.

It is a big challenge for us I think.

>> Mayor Ribble: Let's keep rolling here.

>>David Willems: No, I think it is great input.

I think that is what staff was looking for is the input you have been providing.

I was just going to go over.

So in the packet, we tried to present the information in a couple of different formats.

The first is just the overall CIP and then this shows what the next year will be.

These are the projects that we would start on next fiscal year.

It's just a listing of all of the projects.

So, these are right now seen as the higher priority ones, but with input from council that will likely change.

Parks and rec and land acquisition.

The same as before but in a different format.

We want to go over what we see are the next steps, what we are proposing as the next steps.

We are going to do two public meetings.

>>> One on the 10th and 12th at Legacy Church across the street.

Right now the schedule is to do another presentation to council on the 1st and potentially adoption on the 15th.

But as Steve said that could move back depending on how much
input or how many workshops we have to discuss the projects
in detail.
>>Jim Boesch: I would have done it before we went to the
general public.
We got this material one day.
>>Mayor Ribble: I know.
It took a long time to go through this.
>> I'm not being critical.
It looks like a lot of information and took a long time to
present but I'm wondering if we should go to the public
prior to us having some of our own thinking and direction to
you guys a little more clearer.
That's up to you.
>> I agree with that.
>> I agree with that.
The whole idea with this agenda was to anchor this in
getting input from the general public.
That's why it's going out to make sure that we have all of
the projects listed and we have any feedback from the
community at least initially.
What I was thinking as you were talking is maybe instead of
having the April 1st meeting, hold -- I don't think we
have anything for the tentative zone hearing on
April 8th, maybe making that the first extended
discussion with council.
Then you have not only the study but you also have the
community input and you can start to go through a lot of
details.
>> Mayor Ribble: Then you are not going to do sessions one
and two in March, is that what you are saying?
>>Steve Sarkozy: I'd like to do that.
>>Mayor Ribble: I thought you said you wanted the workshop
first.

>> Steve wants to do informational thing from the public to
us.
I don't have a problem with that.
>>Mayor Ribble: I will tell you why I have a problem with
it.
We get these calls all the time where somebody thinks of a
great idea and how wonderful it is but they are not seeing
the forest for the trees with things that really have to be
done.
They think -- like, for example, I'll just go back two years
ago when the ECCL was going mentally ill over a regional
boating park and fish camp.
There is no way we could do that.
We'd never get the boat traffic up and down the road both
People have a bass boat and they want to put their bass boat in and have a good time.

Our own manager was happy with that.

I got into a couple of things with him on that.

Now we got it to where it is a manageable thing.

Sometimes we get great idea and they fester and everybody gets together as a posse, that's a great idea, put big TVs on every street.

There will be information and 5 g and all of that stuff.

Then they come to the council meeting in April and they are fired up about this great idea they had.

That's not realistic.

I think you have it backwards.

You start this off saying this list has been compiled by public input and the needs an all of that.

So we seem like we have already had a tremendous amount of feedback from the public, which has given us this document here.

I think the council needs to help go through that and prioritize it and then once we have it prioritized, bring that information back to the public to say, did we get it right in your opinion?

Where are we off?

I'd -- that's my opinion.

That's why we are on the council.

David, how much does it total, the whole thing?

David Willems: I don't have that with me right now.

That information back to the public to say, did we get it right in your opinion?

Where are we off?

I'd -- that's my opinion.

That's why we are on the council.

David Willems: I don't have that with me right now.

I can get it to you.

It's a lot.

Mayor Ribble: You have a lot of work to do.

David Willems: I don't know off the top of my head.

300 million.

David Willems: Yeah, I don't know.

Jim Boesch: The point is if you have a public workshop the

300 million will be 600 million at the end of the workshop.

600 million.

And we are telling the people to come on and you can give your input.

But we have no intentions of spending 300 million, never mind 600 million.

That's where you lead them on the wrong path.

They think they have a say in this.

So one project has a little road that has to be done, we have to have this road put in, this here.

Before you know it, they think it is on the list and we say
no, we can't do that.

We start irritating the public.

Mayor Ribble: You know, we are going to go.

I was thinking of this great line.

Every now and then I have a great drive with myself looking in the rear-view mirror.

Coming in today I'm thinking we are government lite, we are really dead lite.

With the CIP are we forever indebted a them next council that comes in won't be able to manage stuff.

We can spend money with the sign of a pen.

Look at this landscaping thing.

I went through the checks the other day, I have never seen a check that big, 891,000.

Why did you sign it?

Because I had the folks come out and they told me the work was done and I signed it on the recommendation of the management.

So it was signed.

I will tell you what, Howard, from now on I will call you first.

Howard, don't wait for the call.

891,000 is a lot of money.

Think of where that came from.

Come on.

Jon McLain: David, we have here what I think is a short schedule to do such a large project.

Talking about a month and a half, less than a month and a half from now.

When do we have to have this information adopted by?

Doesn't this go until -- couldn't we stretch it out to the summer?

Sure.

Nick Batos: I think the consolidated schedule is unrealistic.

The other thing I mentioned before, I was at Dr. Canales' house the other night and probably the cheapest guy there.

They had big spenders there like Jim -- was there.

He and I had a Diet coke together.

I read through his survey that morning from the ECCL that they did.

I'd like to hear from them and their survey and how does it match our survey.

Are we on the same wavelength or not?

Why not hear what they say about it?

Maybe they will sway me.

But the work was done and there's a lot of passion and they
are all residents.
So let's hear what they have to say about it.
I'm done.
>> Cancel the work shops.
If you want to get into a council discussion first, we can
easily do that.
We would have to take either the March 18th, probably
more likely the April 1st meeting and have an extensive
council discussion at that time.
And then move the public information sessions to a later
date in April.
>> Two workshops to go through all of the stuff here.
Instead of scheduling one council workshop so we can get
into this here and at the end of that if we decide no, we
need more time, than we can schedule another one.
Nothing should be done in terms of the public until we have
had a chance to go over this stuff and know what we are
talking about and know how we will prioritize.
I agree with Jon, safety has to be the number one
consideration in all of this stuff.
That's how we have to rate this stuff.
It is a sensible, practical thing.
But I would have no public information sessions until we
know what we are talking about.
So we have a public information March 10th and they call
us and say what about this?
We don't know.
We haven't had a workshop.
Too much information.
That's what we tell the public?
>>Mayor Ribble: He's got it.
So, when are you going to do your one on ones with us?
That will help to move some of this along at the workshop?
>>Steve Sarkozy: They were planned for the last week in
March.
So we have time to do that.
>>Mayor Ribble: Okay.
Good.
>>Steve Sarkozy: Why don't we plan an April 1st workshop
and an April 8th workshop.
The April 8th would be exclusively for the CIP.
>>Mayor Ribble: Okay.

>> It's not a council date.
>>Steve Sarkozy: It is a special date.
So you would have an hour on April 1st and then four
hours -- April 1st is a regular meeting.
>>Steve Sarkozy: That's correct.
11:50:54AM >> It is a public meeting anyhow.
11:50:57AM >> Steve Sarkozy: They will both be public meetings.
11:51:03AM >> I'm sorry but do you think having another workshop like
11:51:06AM this, an hour workshop before we have a chance to have an
11:51:09AM extensive workshop where we can start to understand this
11:51:13AM thing, I don't know what that hour workshop is going to
11:51:15AM accomplish if we haven't had a chance --
11:51:19AM >> Mayor Ribble: What is on the agenda for April 1st?
11:51:21AM Doesn't look like much on there let's just don't a hour
11:51:25AM council meeting and workshop.
11:51:30AM >> Mayor Ribble: All right.
11:51:31AM You get your four hours, Nick.
11:51:37AM >> Nick Batos: I wasn't be difficult.
11:51:40AM >> Mayor Ribble: I agree with you.
11:51:42AM I'm still voting for you.
11:51:46AM What else do you have here?
11:51:49AM >> David Willems: That's it.
11:51:49AM I think that is all we have?
11:51:51AM >> Mayor Ribble: Is a different way.
11:51:52AM We have a big proud.
11:51:53AM Any comments from the public?
11:51:54AM We will give you 30 seconds each.
11:51:57AM Oh, Jim left already.
11:51:59AM As soon as I mentioned how much money -- oh, you snuck away
11:52:03AM from me.
11:52:04AM [ Inaudible ]
11:52:05AM Any comments?
11:52:06AM Any comments?
11:52:09AM Okay.
11:52:11AM Mark?
11:52:12AM Lou?
11:52:16AM [ Inaudible ]
11:52:19AM >> They are going to need to use the microphone.
11:52:32AM I just want to make a couple of comments.
11:52:35AM We have been continuously working with the public works
11:52:37AM director and the Village manager on all transportation
11:52:40AM projects.
11:52:41AM We just got the CIP also.
11:52:45AM And it's very voluminous and it contains, if you get into
11:52:50AM the details, it contains not a only what you saw today but
11:52:54AM it contains almost every project in Estero that needs to be
11:52:57AM done at some time.
11:52:59AM It's not this year, it goes five years, probably will go out
11:53:03AM even further than that.
The only other thing I wanted to say is on Corkscrew Road and I live on Corkscrew Road but you are talking about 11,000 residents out there that are a part of Estero.

It's a disaster Corkscrew Road. We need to get that -- it's a top priority.

Even though it is a county road, it's Village of Estero. And we need it to look --

>>Mayor Ribble: Watch the news from 4:00 to 5:00 today. You will see me on there in case you weren't paying attention.

>> I know what you said and repeated that also. So let's do a good job.

Thank you.

>>Kathy Hall: I have four other folks that want to talk on this topic.

Ed Weil.

20350 Rookery Drive.

I will try to keep it within three.

What I'm concerned about sports at Estero High School is being challenged currently because of loss of places to practice and play.

Estero High School is one of three high schools with the largest athletic programs in Lee County.

Two additional schools are planned to add 2300 more students to the Estero High campus and will be asked to serve 5500 students on top of each other.

Eliminating all practice fields, but one 70-yard field for practice.

To be used by two football teams, four soccer teams and then followed by four Lacrosse teams.

Do you think we will have a field to play on?

You take out sports, look out for the value of your property.

Will it be playable?

No.

The high school lost two nearby fields because Estero community park repurposed its multi-purpose fields for just football to handle 100 kids.

They have been instructed not to allow the high school to use their fields.

That leads us to the Village of Estero.

We don't have our own park.

Not one single park.

We should be given the community park like Bonita and Cape Coral by Lee County since our impact fees and taxes diverted to Lee County should eliminate and cover the general fund investment used to build this park.

We need right now to buy the adjacent land from the church
11:55:47AM and the golf range.
11:55:49AM There's a lot of reasons for park and fields this in town.
11:55:53AM The NRP guidelines for a village of 33,000 says we should
11:55:58AM have six fields for recreation.
11:56:00AM Estero has zero.
11:56:02AM We have been told we will double in size.
11:56:07AM And when you add the families up Corkscrew Road, we have
11:56:10AM been talking about, we will being if Estero for education
11:56:13AM and recreational needs, we don't have the fields.
11:56:20AM In 2017, you had me do a study,
11:56:23AM 20 sports organizations serving 4600 kids in our area.
11:56:27AM We found they lacked fields and facilities, no room.
11:56:31AM And just one and a half years, the number jumped 35% to 6200
11:56:36AM kids.
11:56:37AM And now they are being cut.
11:56:38AM Plus, our own coalition study, our families and workforce
11:56:44AM told us they need fields for rec program for their children
11:56:48AM to lay locally so they can handle it and kids can have a
11:56:52AM decent life.
11:56:53AM Then we found out Three Oaks is full.
11:56:57AM We need to redesign the entire educational park campus for
11:57:01AM the best use for everyone, create a master plan with the
11:57:05AM Village and school district working together for now and in
11:57:08AM the future and buy the additional land now.
11:57:17AM Thanks.
11:57:18AM >>Mayor Ribble: Bob Dion.
11:57:20AM >> Bob Dion, Pelican Sound.
11:57:21AM I will be brief based on what was just said.
11:57:24AM I appreciate the thought there.
11:57:26AM I will be involved in the future of meetings.
11:57:28AM I wanted to say I agree with Howard and Jon priorities.
11:57:32AM Storm water, if we have everything under water, how are we
11:57:36AM going to play in the fields?
11:57:38AM Thank you.
11:57:43AM [ Inaudible ]
11:57:57AM >>Mayor Ribble: Thank you for taking my time.
11:58:01AM I'm in Coconut Shores.
11:58:03AM A in I'm along Coconut Road.
11:58:07AM Presently it is very difficult to get out of our community.
11:58:10AM We have to cross the westbound lane to get out and go up to
11:58:15AM 41.
11:58:16AM Traffic is supposed to be at 45 miles an hour, generally you
11:58:22AM understand it's much higher than that.
11:58:26AM With the new community that's going in at the end of the
11:58:29AM road, that's going to add 600 more units, in addition to all
of the boat traffic down there, they are also putting in
four more towers at Rapallo.
The traffic already is impossible.

We really need something done on that road now.
Not in the future.
I understand there's financial concerns.
We're putting in 120-unit hotel right at the end of Coconut
Road before it gets to 41.
Without that traffic light that you are trying to get down
the road, it's going to make it impossible to get out of 41.
So we really, really need your assistance.
4.5 million in impact fees is going to Bonita Springs.
>>Mayor Ribble: Don't even worry about that.
>> Okay.
I'm thinking that would be.
>>Mayor Ribble: That thing is a rumor.
It's whatever.
Don't worry about it.
It is being taken care of.
>> That sounds great.
Last comment I have is I'm really disturbed with the
community in putting an airport on the corner of Coconut and
41.
That's tongue and cheek.
What we have got there is these powered parachutes.
I don't know if you have been through there when these guys
are taking off and buzzing over the communities.
It's nuts.
So anything that can be done with those things.
>>Mayor Ribble: Yes.
They do show up.
>> They buzz the communities.
I happen to live next to it and they will spiral around
flying.
It's horrible.
So, anyway, thank you for your time.
>>Mayor Ribble: Thank you.
Is that it?
Any other comments from council?
Burt, anything else?
>> Is there a workshop on April 8th?
>>Mayor Ribble: Yes, four hours, pack your lunch.
Have Daphne put your canteen in the little lunchbox.
Any other comments?
Meeting adjourned.
Thank you very much.
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