

VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP OF DECEMBER 11, 2015

The Village of Estero Council Workshop was held on this date at the Estero Fire Rescue District Meeting Room, 21500 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero, Florida.

Present: Mayor Nick Batos - District 6, Vice Mayor Howard Levitan - District 2, Councilmember Bill Ribble - District 1, Councilmember Katy Errington - District 4, Councilmember Jim Boesch - District 5, and Councilmember Jim Wilson - District 7.
Absent: Councilmember Donald Brown - District 3 (excused absence).

Also present: Village Manager Steve Sarkozy, Village Attorney Burt Saunders, and Village Clerk Kathy Hall.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Batos called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Batos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Village Clerk Kathy Hall called the roll; all members were present with the exception of Councilmember Brown (excused absence).

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Mayor Levitan moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Councilmember Boesch, called and carried unanimously, with Councilmember Brown absent.

5. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- (A) Presentation: Lee County Sheriff's Office – Captain Keith Day and Lieutenant Dennis Petracca

Captain Day provided information regarding reports for the Village of Estero, with concentration on traffic issues. Discussion included traffic; crimes reported for the month of November; homeless camps; and an issue in Pelican Landing that was handled successfully.

Lieutenant Petracca provided information regarding accumulation of speed data for Estero; in general, he believed that there wasn't a huge speed issue. Discussion involved commercial trucks; traffic surveys during "season"; citizen complaints in Bella Terra; and the possibility of having a presence on an ongoing basis.

Discussion followed regarding utilizing existing resources, allowing time for further traffic study that would provide better information, and placement of the speed machines.

Public Comment:

Ed Weil, Rookery Pointe resident, inquired regarding a full time deputy on staff to meet with the Homeowners Associations to address safety. Brief discussion followed regarding the ability of the Sheriff's office issuing tickets and warnings within gated communities.

Don Eslick, ECCL, urged Council to place the reports on the website and addressed egress problems.

Mayor Batos suggested that the reports include whether they believed that accidents were being caused by egress issues.

(B) Presentation: Lovers Key State Park - Rich Donnelly and Mark Generales

Mark Generales explained that the Friends of Lovers Key were seeking endorsement, and requesting that the Council adopt a resolution and add the project to the list of legislative priorities, of an environmental education center which they were seeking funding assistance from the State. Through a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Generales provided park information related to attendance, beach access, nature trails, revenues, volunteers, staff, and economic impact. (Written materials provided)

Rich Donnelly, building designer, provided information regarding the 3600 sq. ft. LEED certified building.

Discussion ensued regarding a resolution of the Council to be prepared for the next regular Council meeting.

Public Comment:

Patty Whitehead, Old Estero resident, inquired whether there would be a public comment period for the building design.

Don Eslick, ECCL, spoke regarding the MPO 2040 Plan, and noted that the water element was the top priority. He also spoke regarding an extensive study that was done related to a shuttle boat system, which he encouraged the Council to look into.

(C) Zip Code Issue Update

Village Attorney Saunders reported that contact was made with Curt Clawson's office and the response was that they were still working on it; a letter was also sent to the Director of the Postal Service.

The meeting went into recess at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened at 11:26 a.m.

(D) Community Development - Outline Process for Upcoming Rezoning Hearings

Community Development Director Mary Gibbs provided detailed information regarding the quasi-judicial process for the rezoning hearings that would begin in January. Council questions and discussion followed.

Mayor Batos called for public comment and no one came forward.

(E) Council Meeting Procedures and Protocols (Discussion of draft)

Village Attorney Saunders spoke to the draft Rules of Procedure and discussion followed. The Village Manager proposed that this be a workshop item on January 20, 2016 and Councilmembers were encouraged to provide comments to him prior to that time.

Mayor Batos called for public comment and no one came forward.

8. PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Bill Williams, representing Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), provided reports regarding the November and December 2015 CAC meetings, noting that the CAC voted to remove the CR 951 extension project from the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan/Needs List at the November meeting. He indicated that an affirmative vote of the MPO on December 18, 2015 would make it official. (Written materials provided)

Ed Weil, Rookery Pointe resident and Estero High School girls' varsity soccer team coach, announced that the team had won 14 straight wins and a fundraising event would take place at Culver's next Monday.

9. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Errington inquired regarding Regional Planning Council. Mayor Batos requested that the issue be placed on the next regular meeting agenda to provide formal declaration regarding membership.

Councilmember Boesch spoke to an article related to water in the *News Press*.

Councilmember Wilson noted the importance of obtaining further traffic volume information from the Sheriff's office prior to the Village going forward with the traffic study.

Mayor Batos stated that the MPO would be contacting the Village Manager regarding information on how the Village should put a request for proposal out for the traffic study, which should be done during "season."

10. VILLAGE ATTORNEY COMMENTS

None.

11. VILLAGE MANAGER COMMENTS

None.

12. ADJOURN

Councilmember Ribble moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Errington, called and carried unanimously, with Councilmember Brown absent.

Mayor Batos adjourned the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA

By: *Kathy Hall*

By: *Nicholas Batos*

Kathy Hall, MMC
Village Clerk

Nicholas Batos
Mayor

Minutes approved as submitted: January 6, 2016