

**CITY OF DELTONA, FLORIDA
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2013**

A Workshop Meeting of the Deltona City Commission was held on Thursday, November 25, 2013 in the City of Deltona's 2nd Floor Conference Room at 2345 Providence Blvd., Deltona, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor John Masiarczyk.

2. ROLL CALL:

Mayor	John Masiarczyk	Present
Vice Mayor	Heidi Herzberg	Present
Commissioner	Zenaida Denizac	Present
Commissioner	Webster Barnaby	Present
Commissioner	Nancy Schleicher	Present
Commissioner	Fred Lowry	Present (5:37 p.m.)
Commissioner	Chris Nabicht	Present
Acting City Manager	William "Dave" Denny	Present
City Attorney	Becky Vose	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Mitch Honaker	Present

Also Present: Economic Development Manager Jerry Mayes; Building and Enforcement Services Director/Acting Deputy City Manager Dale Baker; and VCSO Captain Dave Brannon.

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

The City Commission and staff said the pledge to the flag.

4. BUSINESS:

A. Discussion re: Tallahassee Lobbyist Issues/Plan.

Kirk Pepper and Larry Cretul from Capitol Insight Lobbyist firm facilitated a planning meeting to develop an agenda on issues to be engaged by the lobbyist firm on behalf of Deltona, they discussed base timeline of the House, Senate and Committee sessions, a key point being to get an issue into either a House or Senate Bill, amendments in Florida having to be germane to the original bill, policy changes that both offensively and defensively effect a City, identifying appropriation requests, general narrative building to develop a level of "Deltona" awareness in Tallahassee, developing City specific issues, prioritizing short term, medium term and long term goals, and understanding the art of the possible.

The Commission discussed identifying other county projects, non-budgeted items, developing a communication process between Deltona and the lobbyist firm, having a strong voice in Tallahassee to represent Deltona, the Commission being united in the message it gives the lobbyist firm, economic development being a major issue for Deltona, what the lobbyist firm expects from

Deltona, Deltona providing clarity to the lobbyist firm, the Acting City Manager being the conduit for passing direction to the lobbyist firm that the Commission has concurred as being an agenda issue for Tallahassee, Commissioners being able to contact the lobbyist firm on topics that do not provide direction and that does not have Commission concurrence, knowing what the probabilities are on Tallahassee's agenda, focusing on Deltona's major issues, staff drafting a standard operating policy (SOP) for future Commissions to adhere to when communicating with a lobbyist firm, and developing a performance review with Capitol Insight at the end of session.

The Commission discussed the following goals/issues:

- Opportunities to support funding for Deltona Infrastructure (new & improvements)
- Enterprise Zones and Brownfields
- Sewer Hook-ups
- St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) changing from a non-elected bureaucracy to an elected bureaucracy to limit the onerous restrictions levied by SJRWMD
- Funding for roads and road resurfacing
- Homeless Issue funding
- Transportation funding issues like Voltran funding or identifying local transportation funding
- Eco-tourism funding
- Re-apportionment of the school tax for Volusia County
- Killing the septic tank bill unless funded by Tallahassee
- Supporting Spaceport in Volusia County
- Local authority for cities to do emergency ambulance transport
- Money for reclaimed water project both in Deltona and neighboring cities
- Funding for streetlighting
- Emergency traffic warning light systems, mandating that every street light in the county being on the same system
- Sober houses (recovery houses) and group homes-follow the issue
- Communications service tax restructuring and how changes would affect the City
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funding, Sadowski Trust, and supporting continuing the funding
- Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) support, developing a hybrid bill that would encompass CRA and Enterprise Zones
- More local control over Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) projects and gateway areas to Deltona
- Funding for converting from septic to sewer
- New development funding

The Commission and Capitol Insight representatives discussed lobbying FDOT for funding during the I4 widening project for local feeder road improvements of the roads that come off of I4, Capitol Insights experience dealing with counties, the Commission developing a list of issues to provide to the lobbyist firm, gas tax development being a four (4) to five (5) year process in Tallahassee, the possible revision of the Communications Services Tax (CST) policy, possible sales tax cuts, possible funding for local projects, narrowing Deltona's list of issues from a large list to a prioritized needs list, identifying a few specific points in infrastructure, providing a few funding

issue options to be discussed in Tallahassee, the lobbyist firm providing feedback on where funding is available from Tallahassee, and zeroing in on Deltona's issues list.

The Commission discussed developing a strategic plan, a prioritized list of what roads need to be resurfaced first, and other infrastructure improvement priorities such as parks or streetlighting improvements. Also discussed was identifying issues that Deltona does and does not have control over, Commission members attending functions, getting involved in areas that can affect the City, and setting aside an area on the agenda at Commission meetings to discuss legislative issues.

After discussion, the Commission concurred to add a line item called "Legislative Update" to all Commission meeting agendas.

Commissioner Denizac stated she hoped that what the Commission discussed at the meeting was not forgotten or was not followed through on in the future.

The Commission discussed prioritizing issues, end result and reality funding, bringing a strong message to Tallahassee on how bills effect the largest City in Volusia County and the second largest City in Central Florida, Deltona being both in a defensive mode and an offensive mode in Tallahassee, providing a Deltona demographics palm card or postcard to be given out to the lobbyist firm and at events that Commission members attend, Commissioners attending webinars, possibly recording webinars for later use, and a possible Commission trip to meet with legislators in Tallahassee.

Commissioner Lowry left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Commissioner Denizac stated that she and Captain Brannon are organizing a forum for December 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers on saving our families from domestic violence, and that she would be able to provide more information as the planning progresses.

5. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

Acting City Manager Dave Denny stated that in 2012 the Commission approved a grant for the loop trail from Thornby Park to the County's Green Springs Park along Lake Shore Drive, the City has an approved 17 foot easement from the condominium association, the trail design plan will cost the City around \$45,000, of which 90% will be reimbursed by the Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and that the City has applied for a 10% match from ECHO (Environmental, Cultural, Historical, and Outdoor Recreation), but has not received an answer yet. He also stated that in budget year 2015/2016 the City will have to pay the entire cost for the construction of the trail upfront which would be approximately \$420,000, of which 90% percent will be reimbursed by a grant, and that the City has to do a budget amendment this year for the trail design costs.

The Commission and staff discussed measuring the rate of return for trails, one of the top three (3) items that large corporations look at when deciding where to establish a business is quality of life issues and trails, putting in trailheads, moving forward with the loop trail project, excepting grants that are earmarked for particular projects, providing research and facts to support funding requests, and the possibility of developing the Community Center property.

Mr. Denny stated the Grand Marshal for the Christmas Parade cancelled, and he asked the Commission if it would like him to invite Eric Graveling, a Deltona resident who is the 22nd Annual Great Floridian Triathlon to be the Deltona Christmas Parade Grand Marshal.

After discussion, the Commission concurred to invite Florida Triathlon Winner Eric Graveling to be the Grand Marshal for the December 6, 2013 Christmas Parade.

Mr. Denny stated that he is tendering his resignation from employment with the City to be effective December 31, 2013. He also stated that if needed he would be willing to extend his contract until January 31, 2014 while the City goes through the process of hiring a new City Manager.

The Commission and Mr. Denny discussed various reasons for his decision to resign, and the Commission asked Mr. Denny to take a few days to have individual meetings with each Commissioner to discuss his resignation. Mr. Denny replied that he would discuss his decision individually with each Commissioner that would like to have a meeting, and that he would call Commissioner Lowry to inform him of his decision to resign.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Mitch Honaker, Deputy City Clerk