



**City Council Work Session
City of Belleair Beach, Florida**

**Monday, January 29, 2024
Community Center, 6:00 PM**

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Dave Gattis followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Present were Councilmembers Frank Bankard, Lloyd Roberts, Kim Shaw Elliott, Mayor Dave Gattis, City Manager Kyle Riefler, City Attorney Randy Mora, and City Clerk Renee Rose.

For continuity, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

1. Introduction to Codes Review Project (Luis Serna – Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc.)

Mr. Luis Serna provided a presentation introducing the project. He summarized the purpose behind updating the Land Development Code (LDC) and shared an overview of the city's codes. Council members, members of the Board of Adjustment and the Planning and Zoning Board shared their concerns based on variance requests and other issues. City Attorney Mora said this will be a collaborative process. Mr. Serna shared suggestions for additions to the code that aren't yet addressed. City Attorney Mora noted extra sensitivity toward short-term rentals based on state statute. Mayor Gattis requested a tentative schedule as the project progresses.

2. Discussion on Employee Pay Study. (Councilmember Roberts)

Councilmember Roberts was prompted to bring this forward because public works positions have been difficult to fill, and he believes the reason is salary related. In comparing similar jobs with neighboring communities, Roberts suggested increasing the field service worker pay by \$4 an hour. City Manager Riefler said this would require a budget amendment. Mayor Gattis said council should not get involved with staff, as they are the city manager's staff. Consensus was achieved to have City Manager Riefler bring a budget amendment to council to accommodate an increase in pay for public works field staff.

3. Discussion on City Manager Salary. (Councilmember Bankard)

Councilmember Bankard noted when City Manager Riefler became the manager, the 3-year agreement was two years at a fixed rate, then would be eligible for an annual increase in the third year. He proposes that increase be made this year and retroactively made back to January 1. Council discussed various options. Mayor Gattis requested numbers for consideration.

Mayor Gattis continued the pay discussion regarding the council, stating that its increasingly difficult to fill council seats. He directed staff to gather information and shared the results. It isn't a compensation so much as it is appreciation pay and could be used to help with Form 6. If they decide to move forward with this pay, it won't affect or benefit anyone currently sitting on council because it requires two election periods. Bankard said it's a privilege to serve and the money should go to employees. Roberts supports a small compensation if it helps other people to want to sit on council. Council continued to discuss compensation and Form 6.

Anders Wellings, 709 Harbor Dr, suggested that council members can submit an expense report for fees associated with Form 6 for reimbursement from the city. Further council discussion followed.

Mayor Gattis directed staff to place the matter of council compensation on the next agenda at the amount of \$350/mo for mayor and \$250/mo for council members.

4. Discussion on Stormwater Project, Possible Solutions and Engineering Estimate. (Councilmember Shaw Elliott)

Councilmember Shaw Elliott shared a recent history of the progression on the stormwater project. She was generally supportive throughout the progression, but also saw an opportunity to consider appropriate improvements beyond just what was done previously. The recent project failed, so in order to move it forward, she suggests tying it to a study. Council and staff discussed the project that failed at the previous meeting. Shaw Elliott proposed putting the project back on the next agenda for approval along with the study proposal. Mayor Gattis would support both measures and suggest starting the resurfacing part of the project on the north side to allow time for the study on the south side. There was further project discussion. The consensus was for staff to place the project and the study on the next agenda.

5. General Business.

Councilmember Bankard noted a recent incident in which Deputy Robertshaw and Chief Davidson rescued a distressed individual in gulf waters and asked if the city can provide some formal recognition. Consensus was achieved.

ADJOURN

Mayor Gattis adjourned the meeting at 7:54pm.

Motion passed 4-0.

2-5-2024
Date Approved

APPROVED: Dave Gattis
Dave Gattis, Mayor

ATTEST: Renee Rose
Renee Rose, CMC
City Clerk