

**FRUITLAND PARK CITY COMMISSION COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MEETING MINUTES**

May 24, 2012

MEETING STATISTICS. A regular meeting of the Fruitland Park City Community Redevelopment Agency was conducted in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 506 West Berckman Street, Fruitland Park, Florida on Thursday, May 24, 2012 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. CM Bowers delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Kelly.

ROLL CALL. Mayor Bell asked City Clerk Diane Gibson Smith to call the roll.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT. Commissioner John L. Gunter, Jr., Commissioner Sharon Kelly, Mayor Christopher J. Bell. Vice Mayor Jim Richardson arrived at 6:50 p.m. Commissioner Albert O. Goldberg was excused.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS/OTHERS PRESENT. City Manager (CM) Ralph O. Bowers, Public Works Director (PWD) John Bostic, Community Development Director (CDD) Charlie Rector, and City Clerk (CC) Diane Gibson Smith.

01 APPROVED USE OF CRA FUNDS TO PUT IN SIDEWALKS ALONG VICTORIA AVENUE

CM Bowers stated a letter had been sent to the Lake-Sumter MPO requesting help in obtaining "Safe Route to School" grants for sidewalks. This was done at the request of the Commission's MPO representative. Victoria Avenue needs to be done as soon as possible. The others can wait until we find out if we can qualify for Safe Route to School grant funding.

Mayor Bell questioned how much Victoria Avenue would cost. CM Bowers noted not a great deal of money is needed - approximately \$8,000. More specific information will be brought forward before we go out for bids on this project.

Commissioner Kelly moved and Commissioner Gunter seconded to approve using CRA Funds to put sidewalks in along Victoria Avenue. The motion carried with all members voting aye.

02 DECIDED TO LOOK AT STORMWATER FUNDS RATHER THAN CRA FUNDS FOR VALLEY OF THE SPRINGS STORMWATER ISSUE.

Mayor Bell noted this item is on the agenda, but the project should really be completed from the Stormwater Funds, not CRA Funds.

Rick Ranize, a concerned citizen, stated the location is within the CRA area and the CRA plan does state this project would qualify. CM Bowers noted either CRA Funds or Stormwater Funds could be used.

Mayor Bell stated we set up the Stormwater Fund for these types of issues within the City.

CM Bowers stated there is plenty of money within the Stormwater Fund to handle this project.

Mayor Bell suggested putting together a Stormwater Workshop so the projects can be prioritized. In the past, we had a gentleman on Berckman who needed a project done. There are projects out there

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and those projects need to be prioritized. Public Works needs to put together a list of those projects and then we can schedule a workshop.

Commissioner Gunter questioned if we are moving ahead with the Valley of the Springs project out of Stormwater Funds? CM Bowers stated yes, if the Commission authorizes him to move ahead with the project at a regular meeting.

CA Gerken clarified that Mr. Ranize was correct the CRA Funds could be used for drainage issues, but the Stormwater Fund is available. The Stormwater Funds are designated so they must be used for specific purposes. CRA Funds are available for more items. This could be revisited in the CRA if there is not enough money in the Stormwater Fund for the Valley of the Springs project.

03 DECIDED TO CONTINUE RESEARCH PRIOR TO MAKING DECISION ON HOW TO MOVE FORWARD ON SUNSET WAY.

CM Bowers noted Sunset Way repairs will be approximately \$200,000 for a one-way street.

Mayor Bell stated perhaps we need to review different options on this.

Commissioner Kelly questioned how many different residents live on that road. CDD Rector stated six residents live on that road.

Commissioner Kelly suggested since the road is so narrow and right-of-way is needed, nothing can really be done on this until that right-of-way is obtained. She noted she would like to see at least a 20 foot road through there.

CDD Rector stated his research shows 20 foot ROW road through there currently. JG Properties were supposed to give additional right-of-way to make it a 30 foot road. It appears this happened, but he is not sure things were recorded. It appears only five or six lots were affected. This will be reviewed.

CM Bowers stated if there is a 20 foot ROW, we can build a 16 foot one-way road, but the cost is still the same.

Mayor Bell stated Mr. Dodd's issue isn't so much the road as it is the drainage.

Mr. Dodd arrived. He stated his main concern is getting the right-of-way through there. The drainage is the aggravation factor of it.

Mayor Bell asked if building a one-way street would resolve the drainage issue. CM Bowers stated this would require swale drainage. We do not have a design. The design will cost approximately \$40,000.

Mr. Dodd suggested the cost would be less now than in the future as some of the property is going into foreclosure. There is a vacant lot for sale beside his house which would make a perfect drainage pond.

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Mayor Bell stated we had a CDBG grant in that area before and questioned if we could apply for another one which would include roads, sidewalks, drainage, etc. The area would need to be expanded. This will be looked into.

Vice Mayor Richardson arrived at 6:50 p.m.

Mr. Dodd stated the ROW is always going to be an obstacle unless you take it.

Vice Mayor Richardson left the room at 6:52 p.m. and returned at 6:55 p.m.

Commissioner Kelly questioned if the first part of the road could be made a driveway for them and then another entrance for the rest of the road going out on the west.

Mr. Dodd stated that was tried at one time. He noted he ends up with enough water now, this would not help. He would not like to have the road closed there.

Commissioner Gunter stated there are several other people who would need to use that road.

Commissioner Kelly requested the map be brought up. CC Gibson Smith pulled up Lake County's GIS map of the area.

Mayor Bell stated Sunset Way is not unique. Another area is Seminole Avenue. For \$200,000, we could have drainage and pavement on Sunset Way, but no additional right-of-way.

Mr. Dodd suggested this problem has gone on long enough. He stated he has tried to be accommodating and allow the run-off to go on his property. He would like to nail everything down and complete it.

Mayor Bell stated we can make a one-way street with the existing right-of-way and do the drainage.

A discussion concerning buildings currently located within the right-of-way took place.

Mayor Bell stated legal right-of-way would first need to be established and then perhaps we can come up with a rough estimate for a CDBG grant. He noted we do not currently have the funds to do the project the way it should be done.

Mr. Dodd stated we have a 40-year old project that needs to be resolved.

The decision was to continue the research and review everything prior to making a determination on how to best move forward.

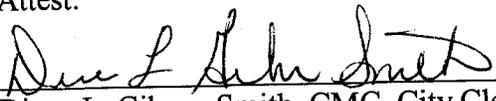
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04 ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Kelly moved to adjourn the CRA meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Christopher J. Bell, Mayor

Attest:



Diane L. Gibson Smith, CMC, City Clerk