

A Ride-A-Round Project Tour Workshop meeting of the City Commission was held on January 26, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Police Athletic League van. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lee A. Wheeler, III.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jack Van Sickle; Terrye Y. Howell; Jean K. Scott; Kathy Manry; Lee A. Wheeler, III.; Mayor.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Anthony G. Otte, City Manager; Judith H. Delmar, Asst. City Manager, Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk; Jerry Torrance, Assistant to the City Manager.

Agenda Item 1. CRA BOND ISSUE & CITY PROJECT TOUR

Mr. Otte reported on Agenda Item 1. He said that this proposed street list, to the best of his knowledge, is the same list that the Commission used on its last ride-a-round plus streets that were added by staff. There will be no decisions made today. The list will be brought back at the February 5 regular City Commission meeting or at a later meeting if the Commission feels it needs more time to make a decision. Commissioners can also ride around on their own to see if there are any other streets they wish to add. Commissioners do not have to rank them. The City's former Engineering Consultant Bruce Powell compiled the list but the conditions of the streets have changed since then.

The following list shows the changes, deletions, and additions made by the Commission:

[begin street list]

STREETS RESURFACING PROJECT
 January 29, 2008

The City has been divided up into four sectors Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast. The streets within these sectors were categorized and prioritized by the condition of the road and assigned a numeric value, with #0 being the worst and #10 being the best. Highlighted streets indicate, streets were added by staff.

NW sector:	From – To	Recommended Changes
#3 1 st St.	Central to Sea Board	Change Sea Board to Dr. JA Wiltshire
#4 Sessoms	MLK to 1 st St.	Remove from list, spot improvements
#4 Crystal	Wetmore to 1 st St.	Spot improvements
#5 Stuart	MLK. To 1 st St.	
#5 Park	Wetmore to 1 st St.	Remove from list
#5 Sea Board	1 st St. to MLK	Sections of the street needs redoing
#5 Jackson	E St. to G St.	Desperately in need of work
#5 Lincoln	G St. to RxR	Pave from G St to E St
		Seal & stripe from E to RxR
		Pave from RxR to Scenic
#5 Booker	All	
#5 E St.	Wiltshire to Florida	
#5 D St.	Wiltshire to Florida	
#5 Miami	Wiltshire to RxR	Change RxR to Carver, driveways to Carver
#6 C St.	Florida to Dorsett	Desperately in need of work
#6 Wiltshire	Scenic to Miami	Remove, redo intersections as needed
#6 Orange	Wetmore to 1 st	Spot improvements
#6 Carver Dr.	Miami to Miami	

#6 Crescent Cir. All

<u>NE sector</u>	<u>From – To</u>	<u>Recommended Changes</u>
#2 Sherwood	All	Rebuild
#3 Blackwood	All	Rebuild
#3 Lk. Shore	Tower to North Wales	
#3/4 Seminole	North Wales to 1 st St.	
#4 5 th St.	Sessoms to Wiltshire	
#4 3 rd St.	Park Ave. to Dr. JA Wiltshire Blvd.	
#4 4 th St.	Sessoms to Dr. JA Wiltshire Blvd.	
#4 N Wales Dr.	Lakeshore Blvd. to Dr. JA Wiltshire	Change JA Wiltshire to Burns
#4 Sessoms Ave.	1 st St. to North Wales	Spot improvements
#4 Park Ave	Lakeshore Blvd to 1 st .	
#4 Old Scenic	JA Wiltshire to Florida Ave	
#4 Tower Blvd	Burns Ave to Lakeshore Blvd	

<u>NE SECTOR (Cont'd)</u>	<u>From – To</u>	<u>Recommended Changes</u>
#4 Market St	Central Ave to Stuart Ave	
#4 Crystal Ave.	1 st St. to Scenic Hwy.	Do intersection in spots
#4 Market St.	Park Ave to Sessoms	
#5 Park Ave	Scenic Hwy to 1 st St	
#5 Market St	Sessoms to Central Ave	
#5 Stuart Ave	1st St to Scenic Hwy	
#5 Tower Ln.	North and South	
#7 Osceola	Edgewater to 7 th	

<u>SW SECTOR</u>	<u>From - To</u>
#2 Twin Lakes	SR #60 to Wetmore
#2 Nassau	Miami to Dead end
#3 Grove Ave	1 st St to Curran St
#3 Curran St	Grove Ave to Russell
#5 Briggs Ave	Walker St to Phillips
#5 Wetmore	SR #60 to Central Ave
#5 Johnson	1 st to Wetmore
#5 Bullard	Miami to Scenic Hwy
#6 Miami St	Bullard to Central Ave
#7 Sharp St	Bullard Ave to SR#60

<u>SE SECTOR</u>	<u>From – To</u>	<u>Recommended Changes</u>
#2 Palm Ave	Hwy 60 overpass to 7th St	
#3 Winston	Casselberry Ave to 1 st St	Drainage problem
#3 Carlton	12 th St Intersection to 12 th St Intersection	
#3 Polk Ave	1st to Scenic Hwy.	
#3/4 2 nd St	SR60 to Central Ave	
#4 3 rd St	Scenic Hwy to Polk Ave	
#4 Grove Ave	Scenic Hwy to 1 st St	
#4 4 th St	SR60 to Winston	
#4 Domaris	4 th St to Dead end west	Change Dead end west to Scenic
#4 Alta Vista	Emerald Ave to Dead end south	
#4 Hibiscus	8th St to 7th St	
#5 4 th St	Central Ave to Tillman Ave	
#5 Johnson	Lakeshore Blvd to 1 st	
#5 6 th St	Emerald to Dead end south	
#5 Emerald	Scenic Hwy to Dead end east	2 nd St. to 3 rd St.
#5 Market St	Central to Polk Ave	

South East Sector (Cont'd)	From - To	Recommended Changes	
#6	7 th St	Cohasset to Hibiscus	
#6	8 th St	Cohasset (northside of intersection) to South end	
#6	Euclid	7 th St to 8 th St	
#6	Hesperidies	7 th St to Polk Ave	
#6	Frontage	7 th to Hesperidies	Remove
ROAD CONSTRUCTION	From - To	Recommended Additions	
#0	Miami St.	South to Nassau	Sherwood to Blackwood
#0	High St.	Cohasset to Grove	Sherwood, all
#0	Columbia	9 th St to 10 th St	Blackwood, all
#0	Edgewater Dr.	Spriger to Osceola	Edwater Drive to 7 th Street
#0	Twin Lakes Blvd.	ALL	Gibson Avenue
			8 th Street, need engineered & rebuilt
			6 th St to Emerald
			Osceola

[end street list]

During the ride-a-round, the following changes and additions were made to the street list:

Additions: NW sector

Downtown Park Avenue
 Park Avenue & Stuart Avenue
 Lincoln Avenue
 G Street to Harding (half of G Street in the county.)

Additions: NE sector

Alley behind Park & Stuart
 Alley behind Market & First

Additions Roads to be Rebuilt

Sherwood to Blackwood
 Sherwood, all
 Blackwood, all
 Edwater Drive to 7th Street
 Gibson Avenue
 8th St – need engineered & rebuilt

OTHER COMMENTS MADE DURING RIDE-A-ROUND

Mr. Otte said that he has been talking to the Housing Authority Board about using some money toward a streetscape project to put in palm trees on Seminole Avenue. Mayor Wheeler commented that he and Mr. Otte visited the housing units on Seminole Avenue about three weeks ago and saw that they were in bad shape. Ms. Delmar commented that if the Housing Authority would pay the \$29,000 still owed to the City over the last 15 years, we could probably put trees in with that.

Commissioner Manry asked if we have to do an entire street when we resurface. Mr. Otte said no.

Mr. Otte said that B Street was in good shape and should be taken off the list. Commissioner Manry asked if B Street was the street that had the drainage problem. Mr. Otte said that it was C Street that desperately needed work. Ms. Delmar added that the C Street drainage problem has been repaired.

Mr. Otte said he would make a note to check the drainage at the corner of Miami and Dr. JA Wiltshire.

Mr. Otte said a list of alleys needing work done in the north section will be compiled, which is most of them. Commissioner Manry asked if alley maintenance was the responsibility of the City. Mr. Otte said

yes.

Mayor Manry suggested having a City Commission/Code Enforcement Ride-a-Round because we have so many Code Enforcement problems that come to light.

Commission Van Sickle pointed out a pothole that needed to be filled in front of Carver Funeral Home.

Mr. Otte said the City is working with Martin Vargus who is preparing a plan that will recommend where to plant trees downtown. The downtown resurfacing will be put on hold until the planting and curve work is completed, and storm drains cleaned out.

Mayor Wheeler wondered if they would have to resurface Stuart Avenue at night and on weekends so as to not upset downtown merchants. Mr. Otte said that he would ask them about it.

Mayor Wheeler pointed out that the alleys between Market and 1st Street, and Stuart and Park Avenue needed to be repaired. Mr. Otte said he believed that the Market Street alley was recently done and Mayor Wheeler said it looked to be done in patches. Commissioner Manry commented that the alley looked terrible.

Commissioner Manry asked about the city building on Market Street. Mr. Torrance said that we have decided to keep the building and refurbish it. There is going to be an agenda item at the next regular Commission meeting to move forward on the building.

Commissioner Van Sickle pointed out a tree on North Wales near Spook Hill that needed to be removed before resurfacing the street because its roots were growing up through the road. Mayor Wheeler recommended moving the road instead of taking down the tree because it was a very large, old, beautiful tree. Mr. Otte agreed.

Mr. Otte asked if Highlander Way was a city street. Mr. Torrance said it was a county road, but the City was going to resurface about 30 ft. of it from Burns Avenue onto Highlander Way. City Clerk VanBlargan said that she contacted the county and they said that it was not a county road. Commissioner Howell said that if the road does not belong to the county or the city, it must belong to the School Board. She asked if the reason the City was going to repave it was because the School Board does not do that type of work. Mr. Otte said that it was a decision the City would have to make.

Mr. Otte said that since Bruce Powell no longer works for City, we will probably use a contractor through Gerry Hartman. Commissioner Manry asked if we budgeted for that. Mr. Otte said that he believed Bruce Powell's position was still in the budget. Commissioner Manry commented that she does not want to pay another contractor more than what the City paid Mr. Powell. Mr. Otte said that he did not know what the salary would be.

Mr. Otte discussed some drainage problems in the area of the new trail. He suggested building a retention pond on City property and maintaining it for the benefit of that neighborhood. Mr. Otte asked if we needed to charge some type of surcharge for the maintenance of their retention pond. City Clerk VanBlargan said that because the City has so many stormwater problems, we need to implement a stormwater tax. Ms. Delmar said that we have been saying that for the past ten years and the Commission turns it down. Commissioner Manry said that the City of Winter Haven has a stormwater tax and it has been unbelievable how well that tax has benefited them. Mr. Otte said that it is only about \$2 to \$3 per month per household. Commissioner Van Sickle asked if it could be done by neighborhood. Ms. Delmar said that it has to be related to the problem. Mr. Otte said that was a good question because relatively new places like Lake Ashton, Crown Point and North Point have their own retention ponds and there are no problems. Ms. VanBlargan said that they could have a problem in the future. Commissioner Howell asked if it would be a bookkeeping nightmare if done by area. Ms. Delmar said not once it is put into the system. The setup might be a little labor intensive, but there has to be a relationship between the money collected and the problems that you are having. Commissioner Howell said that we need to first repair our drainage problems before we repair most of these roads. Mr. Otte said that the ones with

obvious drainage problems would need to be addressed first. He said that before moving forward with drainage projects we need to at least look ahead and see if we want to do it with a tax or with the bond money. Commissioner Howell said that we need to first repair the drainage before we repair the roads so we do not find ourselves redoing the roads again three years later.

Mr. Otte said that the only problem with building a retention pond for the neighborhood behind the new trail, would be using City park money to benefit a private subdivision. Although, this is the practical method for fixing the problem, we would be using City park money to do it, which is not something we want to do, but we do not have any way around it.

Mr. Torrance showed where the new Skate Park would be located and gave a report on the project.

Commissioner Manry asked what the process was for changing the name of Burns Avenue. Ms. Delmar said that the City Commission could change it. Mr. Otte said that after we changed the name of Walker Street to MLK, the City Commission adopted an ordinance establishing a procedure.

Other locations the Commission toured included areas of the new Whispering Ridge subdivision, Southside Force Main project, Georgetown Apartments, Lake Wales Retirement Center, and Twin Lakes.

Ms. Delmar explained that the roads in the Twin Lakes areas, Nassau, and Miami were never paved because the people who lived there did not want to participate in a special assessment project. But, everyone not living in a subdivision had to pay assessments for those road improvements. Ms. VanBlargan suggested putting in a triangle with flowers and plants like those by Lake Wailes. She said long ago, churches held Baptism ceremonies at Twin Lakes, where she too had been baptized. Over the years, the area became run down and is now in dire need of beautification. Ms. VanBlargan asked if Twin Lakes was in the CRA area. Ms. Delmar said that it was, but it could have been done through a special assessment program. Ms. VanBlargan said that maybe it is time to revisit the idea. Ms. Delmar said that 9th Street South was the first road done without a special assessment tax. Mayor Wheeler said that he did not think anyone had the money to pay a special assessment tax. Mr. Otte said that that it could be paid over time. Ms. Delmar said that it is done by resolution and they would have ten years to pay. Mr. Otte said that he thinks the time limit could be extended. Commissioner Howell said that people were already paying some type of tax for improvements. Ms. VanBlargan suggested using CRA tax money. She said that she believed that the Twin Lakes area was the worst area in the City of Lake Wales.


The Commission scheduled another City Commission Ride-a-Round City Project Tour on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. to finish the street list.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Mayor/Commissioner

ATTEST:



City Clerk