

1 MINUTES OF THE LAKE MARY CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION held August 6,
2 2009, 5:00 P.M., Lake Mary City Commission Chambers, 100 North Country Club Road.

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5 Mayor David Mealor John Litton, City Manager
6 Deputy Mayor Gary Brender Carol Foster, City Clerk – Excused
7 Commissioner George Duryea – Excused Jackie Sova, Finance Director/
8 Commissioner Shirley Gray – Excused Assistant City Manager
9 Commissioner Jo Ann Lucarelli John Omana, Com. Dev. Dir.
10 Bruce Paster, Public Works Dir.
11 Kathy Gehr, Asst. Parks & Rec. Dir.
12 Steve Bracknell, Police Chief
13 Mike Biles, Police Lt.
14 Craig Haun, Fire Chief
15 Mary Campbell, Deputy City Clerk
16

17 The work session was called to order by Mayor David Mealor at 5:05 P.M.

18
19 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- 20
21 I. Proposed 2009/2010 Budget
22 General Fund
23 a. General Fund Programs
24 b. Special Revenue Funds
25 c. Revenue Projections
26

27 Mayor Mealor said Commissioner Gray was representing the City at the Leadership
28 Seminole function and would be joining them shortly.
29

30 Mr. Litton said a lot of work and effort went into this. We tried to get started early and
31 get ahead of the curve but it became a moving target in late April and early May with the
32 revenue projections and not knowing what the real estate market was going to do. The
33 department heads prepared to start out with a 10% reduction in the overall budget and
34 we can't do that without tapping into personnel. We were hoping that wouldn't be the
35 case but we had to be prepared that way. At the end of the process we ended up
36 between 5% and 8% on the operating side. The levy is 3.6355, which is 9.18% less
37 than the rolled back of 4.0031. We are the only one in the County that's doing that.
38 Even though we are going to feel it this year--and more so if the economy doesn't
39 straighten out--we are still better off than just about everybody else.
40

41 Mr. Litton said there are no pay increases in the budget for any personnel and that
42 includes both merit and pay plan adjustments. We restructured the holiday pay for
43 police and fire personnel and the Commission approved that at Strategic Planning. We
44 took out the YMCA benefit, tuition reimbursement, and Publix gift cards that we give
45 annually.
46

1 Mr. Litton said on the salary and fringe benefits we changed one police officer to CSO
2 and that was Picklesimer's position. That person is also going to do the police
3 standards. The current part-time employee is leaving in October to complete her
4 pharmaceutical school. We were able to combine those positions. One of Jackie's
5 people went to part-time mid-year. The rest of the positions that were eliminated from
6 the budget have not been filled because we didn't need them. Most are growth related.
7 We have the pension contributions and it is expensive. Police and fire constitute over
8 \$10 million. When we only get \$7,201,000 in property tax revenue we have to make the
9 rest of that up plus fund all the other positions. That's what makes it tight. Our fund
10 balance is going down and at the end of this year it will be just a little over \$10,127,000
11 and that compares to the estimate at the end of '09 of \$10,677,095. He said he didn't
12 feel comfortable going below \$10 million.

13
14 Mr. Litton said he took out the \$300,000 contribution for the pool and believed the other
15 partners were going to do that as well.

16
17 Mayor Mealor said in terms of looking at personnel, the last thing this Commission
18 wants to do is hurt the very talented and dedicated team of professionals. When we
19 look at some doing furloughs, layoffs, and cutbacks, the net gain may actually be a
20 zero. We have seen a lot of our economic development activity at a slower pace. One
21 of the things I thought I would want to do with this budget is to talk about what is
22 involved when somebody pulls a permit. He said he believed that somebody had to
23 have it notarized. He asked if something had to be notarized when you pull a permit to
24 do building construction.

25
26 Chief Haun said the plans have to be sealed.

27
28 Mayor Mealor said if somebody wants to do some work, what is it that requires them to
29 get it notarized.

30
31 Mr. Litton said he didn't know of anything that requires a notary.

32
33 Mr. Omana said Community Development primarily focuses on the professional
34 certifications.

35
36 Mayor Mealor said if a typical citizen pulls something from the City they do not have to
37 have that notarized. He used the example of the Hancock family. They have a front
38 door, the work is done, and they need a permit pulled. When somebody comes down to
39 pull a permit do they then have to have it notarized.

40
41 Mr. Litton said he didn't believe so.

42
43 Chief Haun said if you are pulling a permit for somebody else, there has to be
44 something recorded that you are their representative—some type of authorization letter.
45 We used to deal with a lot of permit runners that would bring in permits for a number of

1 different builders and contractors and they had letters by those contractors that
2 authorized them to pull permits.

3
4 Mr. Litton asked if the signature was notarized. Chief Haun answered negatively and it
5 was just a letter. We do have notaries in the building department right there at the
6 counter.

7
8 Deputy Mayor Brender asked if there had been any discussion by employees regarding
9 the tuition reimbursement. Mr. Litton said he hadn't heard too much and thought most
10 people understand. We try to focus on those things that a few people are taking
11 advantage of and was not being utilized by the employees as a whole, like the YMCA.
12 Those are good benefits and they use them but it's a small number compared to the
13 entire workforce.

14
15 Deputy Mayor Brender said if it was small numerical numbers then maybe it is
16 something we can salvage. It doesn't add up to a lot.

17
18 Mr. Litton said we can keep it in mind but it all adds up. He said he was hoping these
19 were "suspensions" and not permanent removals. All the employees are glad they have
20 jobs, and they realize a lot of their neighbors don't. Although they would like to have
21 everything they have had in the past, they understand we all have to tighten our belts
22 and are glad that we are not like other cities having to put people on the streets. We've
23 kept a lot of benefits like the longevity pay, sick leave buyback, and safety incentives.
24 Everybody has the opportunity to eligible for it. They may not get it because they don't
25 have enough time or had an accident. The safety incentive helps us in our insurance
26 premiums.

27
28 Ms. Sova went over the revenues. The ad valorem taxes were budgeted at \$7,201,252
29 and that's 95% of keeping our tax rate the same. We could have calculated the tax rate
30 several different ways but this was to keep the tax rate the same so even though
31 people's valuations dropped, they are going to see the benefit of it rather than us going
32 to the rolled back rate which is 4.0031. That was to keep the revenue level which many
33 people don't understand that's not a tax increase. What it does is keep the City's
34 revenue level. The state had several other options we could have taken but we chose
35 to present a budget with a level tax rate.

36
37 Ms. Sova said in franchise fees and utility taxes, the largest ones are related to
38 electricity. We did not calculate any potential rate increases by either of the power
39 companies. The City has about a 50/50 split between FPL and Progress Energy and
40 we don't know what's going to happen with those rate increases. Any changes in the
41 fuel adjustment charges doesn't affect our receipts because those aren't part of the
42 calculations. Florida Power & Light were in the paper earlier this week that they feel like
43 the energy charge for their customers is going to be reduced enough to offset any rate
44 increase that they might get. Progress Energy's rate increase is still out there and we
45 had a citizen bring that up at the last meeting, but we haven't pumped up our revenues.
46 We don't feel it would be prudent to do that.

1
2 Ms. Sova said the franchise fee was down a bit from 2008 projections because
3 construction is down so we are not getting as much money out of those roll offs. We
4 thought we would be revenue neutral this last time around because the residential went
5 up but the commercial didn't go up as much so we tried to adopt revenue neutral rates.
6 We have heard a lot from the commercial side over the years about their rates so we
7 don't expect a real jump there.

8
9 Ms. Sova said telecommunications is another big one and we keep talking about how
10 flat it is and it bobs all over the place. Every time the monthly money comes from the
11 state she just has to scratch her head. It is very much related to one provider. She has
12 asked the state and they keep telling her they are auditing them. We have called the
13 provider a couple of times to try and get an answer.

14
15 Mr. Litton interjected it is very secretive the way it is handled.

16
17 Ms. Sova said they have an exemption from the public records statute. The
18 telecommunications providers got that exemption and it is an exemption to the extent
19 that I have to sign a statement that I won't release it or I could be in all kinds of trouble
20 for doing that and could be prosecuted for it. The reasoning behind that for them is
21 somebody could glean something about their business or steal customers. They are
22 pretty proprietary about that.

23
24 Ms. Sova said the business tax receipt for occupational licenses will stay level because
25 we don't have a lot of businesses moving to town. Building permits are down from the
26 previous years but not anything awful and it's almost level with this year's activity. She
27 thought this year we would come in right at budget. The work hasn't stopped but is just
28 slow.

29
30 Ms. Sova said court fines continue to dwindle as the state gives the courts the ability to
31 have more and more of these monies. The courts take advantage of whatever the state
32 lets them have. When we look back at 2006 we have to remember they were winding up
33 construction on I-4 and we had a spike and then the courts starting kicking in and taking
34 full advantage of everything.

35
36 Ms. Sova said the local option gas tax is slow and we are not going to meet budget this
37 year. The price of gas has people driving less. We haven't budgeted for any grants but
38 we developed a budget for the stimulus money and will put it in a separate capital
39 projects fund.

40
41 Ms. Sova said the state revenue sharing is reflective of the times. That is the number
42 the state provides to us. We are hesitant to go above it. She said she typically budgets
43 below the state's numbers because every time she uses the state's number she crosses
44 her fingers that we get there. We expect reduced revenues. Last week there was an
45 article and the Governor was pleased that they were finally getting revenues on target.
46 That also affects the half-cent sales tax.

1
2 Ms. Sova said the zoning fees were way down and that is reflective of the slowdown in
3 activity. That works hand in hand with the site plan fees.
4
5 Ms. Sova said police services might pick up a little bit. Dispatch will get some money
6 and we get money from the sheriff for some cooperative efforts.
7
8 Ms. Sova said rescue is pretty level. She said Commissioner Gray asked about
9 transport fees and she and Chief Haun have started working with the billing company to
10 speed up the collection process. Before budget started they weren't sending anybody
11 to collections for a year and we got that moved up to six months. We asked them to
12 take us up to 110 and 120 days after that original bill to begin the collections process.
13 They warned us that they feel that could have some public backlash from people
14 complaining they don't like their accounts going to collections that fast. That is their
15 rationale for waiting so long. We will deal with it if it happens.
16
17 Ms. Sova said we budgeted the same as 2009 for the Farmer's Market. We are about
18 on target with that. There is a little summer slowdown but the market is doing well.
19
20 Mr. Litton said we have lost five more vendors from the Farmer's Market because they
21 are just not making any money. It's too hot. He said he was going to ask under his
22 report tonight to close it down for three weeks and come back after Labor Day.
23
24 Ms. Sova said the skate park has slowed down a bit from the height of its popularity.
25 We thought we would do better with the splash park this year than we did. We think
26 that has to do with Sanford and other cities opening one so some of the travelers we
27 were getting are going to the ones closer to home.
28
29 Ms. Sova said for the Sports Complex the league rentals are about where they have
30 been for many years. Concession revenues are down. We had Ron Sides for a lot of
31 years and he did a bang-up job running that concession. They have had problems even
32 keeping it open and it is reflected in the revenues. The tennis center is pretty stable.
33
34 Ms. Sova said interest income is reflective of a lot of our larger investments. A lot of the
35 stuff that has been making 5% is going to start dropping off. We are not going to make
36 budget this year. We are doing very well with what we've got. At the Florida Finance
37 Officers conference they couldn't believe we were doing as well as we are. The SBA
38 today is making .41%. We don't have any money in the SBA anymore but we are using
39 that money market with Seaside and they called to notify me that they lowered the rate
40 to 1.40%. The comparison rate is great for what it is.
41
42 Deputy Mayor Brender asked if the \$300,000 for the Events Center was based on
43 current revenues. Ms. Sova said at the end of July we are at \$313,000 and that is one
44 of the "plus" revenues.
45

1 Ms. Sova said left transfers from water and sewer at the same numbers as 2009. We
2 do a thorough analysis every year. We have some room where we could be
3 transferring some more of it but we don't want to get into the position where it is our
4 practice.

5
6 Ms. Sova said streetlighting is down a little because of the slowdown of collectibles. We
7 have a different scenario with the water and sewer move in/move out activity. Banks
8 are paying water bills and they are starting to get grants from Seminole County and
9 other agencies. The School Board just paid a water bill. We are starting to see some
10 suffering.

11
12 Mr. Litton said the state side changes. Every time we get a report we don't know what
13 it's going to be.

14
15 Mr. Litton said overall expenditures are down over \$1.5 million. This year will be
16 \$18,155,000 and the projection for '09 is \$19,662,000. We have each program broken
17 out and it is boring; there is just nothing there. He said Commissioner Lucarelli asked
18 him about fire training and he believed that once the current classes finished that we will
19 have 24 paramedics out of 38 so we are overstaffed. We have always set aside monies
20 to send out own people to paramedic school. We know them, we grow our own, and it
21 has worked out extremely well. We are not going to be sending any more for now; we
22 don't need any more.

23
24 Mr. Litton said most of the expenditures in each program are extremely flat. We didn't
25 change anything. We got into electricity more this time trying to be more accurate in
26 projections and those numbers are good guesses.

27
28 Mr. Litton said fleet is a big cost and will continue to be. Page 270 shows the vehicle
29 replacement schedule. In 2010 it is \$231,000 but the next year (2011) it jumps to
30 \$711,000 and then \$894,000 (2012). We bought a fire engine this year which will be
31 delivered in the next three weeks or so. We have a rescue unit that is going to be due
32 in the next two or three years and that's a big hit. We are in a lull right now; the last
33 couple of years have been good to us but we are going to have to pay the piper
34 eventually on those cars and heavy equipment. We have asked the fleet people to take
35 on more of a role with routine maintenance of the fire equipment and rescue vehicles
36 and they have done a good job and it has saved a lot of money. We have an excellent
37 fleet services department and they are very dedicated.

38
39 Mr. Litton said for capital projects in the General Fund we did it differently this year. We
40 took some of our old money that has been sitting there and instead of transferring new
41 money we paid the piper with that. There is a program sheet for each capital project.
42 We still have money to do some things in downtown and it's extremely important that we
43 not forget the downtown. We don't have any major new capital projects but we still
44 have some T-21 things going on and we will have the stimulus money we will have to
45 set up as a capital project once we get everything finalized. In the police department it

1 is pretty much the routine items (replacement of laptop computers and cameras, radars,
2 ticket writers).

3
4 Commissioner Lucarelli questioned the money for the overpass sign. She said she
5 thought we weren't allowed to do that. Mr. Litton said Mayor Greene said he would
6 deliver but he didn't think it was ever going to happen.

7
8 Mr. Litton said the one new thing we are in the process of installing is the KVAR
9 capacitor system at the Municipal Services Complex as an energy saving device.
10 Hopefully it is going to pay for itself plus in energy savings. If it is half as good as it is
11 supposed to be then we will putting it on all our buildings.

12
13 Mr. Litton said we don't want to fall behind on street maintenance, sidewalks, and
14 resurfacing. The Sand Pond Road/Skyline Drive road improvement project is still out
15 there. We are still trying to acquire the property. By some of these people holding out it
16 has come back to bite them a little bit because the values have gone down. It's good if
17 they are willing to sell but now they want to wait it out.

18
19 Ms. Sova said debt service is in the five-year plan as much as it is in the one-year. She
20 added some verbiage to the one-year. We have a debt service payment that is always
21 due on 10/1 so we front funded that this year so the money is always there so we don't
22 run that fund negative for six or eight months waiting on the money. We've got some
23 bonds ready to mature in a couple of years so in 2011 the debt service drops by
24 \$200,000. In 2012 it drops by half a million dollars and in 2014 it drops by another half
25 million dollars. We are on that downhill curve so as we approach these trying times with
26 our revenues, that's some very good news for us. In 2010 we meet \$1.8 million for debt
27 services and in 2014 it is \$675,000. It's real good news and it's coming soon enough to
28 help.

29
30 Deputy Mayor Brender asked if there was anything in the five years ahead that we are
31 looking at bonding. Ms. Sova said the only thing coming is the downtown and she didn't
32 know of anything they were planning to bond.

33
34 Ms. Sova showed the comparative millage rates. A lot of these cities presented their
35 rates and it got sent back to go do something about it because the commissions were
36 not happy to see the numbers. She got a call from one of the cities yesterday asking a
37 whole group of numbers across the general fund and they are going to have to figure
38 out a way to cut three people. We are not doing that. The average is 5.19 and we are
39 at 3.63. Pretty much everybody is trying to keep their same rate or go to the rolled-back
40 rate.

41
42 Mr. Litton said when the tax notices come out later this month they are going to see the
43 School Board with their increase and they are going to start looking at the bottom line
44 and are going to say there's a tax increase.

1 Ms. Sova showed a calculation she did a couple of years ago that she kept up to date.
2 It tells us that if were to join the County's MSTU for fire service the citizens would be
3 paying more money than us keeping our own fire service here. The gain that we get is
4 smaller this year because the taxable value of property is smaller. She believed the
5 County was not planning to change the MSTU rate. If we were to say we were wholly
6 funding the fire department that millage rate is 2.17 of our 3.6 and that's excluding all
7 the other revenues.

8
9 Mr. Litton said that doesn't guarantee our citizens will have the same level of service.
10 The County could close one of our stations down and still collect that much money.

11
12 Mayor Meador said Ms. Sova was right to be very cautious with the state because the
13 stimulus money ends in a year and a half. It is obvious that we have done a great job.
14 We haven't had to tap into our fund balance. He said relative to what is presented, he
15 asked what are the Commission's priorities in terms of things that you would like to see
16 done. He said he wanted to be sensitive to some of the issues that we have to deal with
17 based on the communities that we live in. We talked about vehicle replacement. It is
18 slight this year but there's an uptick next year and dramatically the year after that. He
19 asked what we were going to do this year so when we sit here one year from now, what
20 are we going to do maintain the integrity of our process that differentiates us from our
21 peers. That's what I will ask our colleagues to do. Just as we said in that workshop at
22 the Events Center some time ago, we enjoy something that few do because of the
23 quality of the people that we have. The philosophy of this Commission has been pretty
24 much tell us what you need, we will give you the resources, and we will stay out of your
25 way. He thought the recognition the City has received this past year is an indication of
26 how we are doing it.

27
28 Mayor Meador said we need to be sensitive to morale issues but at the same time the
29 message that you are communicating back to your team is that this is a very serious
30 process and we don't take it lightly. What we are doing is not only for this fiscal year but
31 what it's going to look like the next two, three and four years out. It's not the first time
32 we have seen this dip. The City and its wisdom and the talent of its team let us address
33 that a decade ago and we are better off today. We will be better off a decade from now
34 than we are right now if we do the right thing. He asked Jackie and Mr. Litton to keep
35 us informed on a monthly basis as to any trend lines that they see. We have said there
36 is a threshold we don't want to go over on the fund balance and we are not going to get
37 below a certain number. As we see anticipated expenses, how do we offset that for this
38 time next year. This is one of those times where it is not going to be a level of
39 enjoyment that we have had in the past in terms of what we can do, but I appreciate
40 what you are doing in capital projects is good. It is a very conservative approach and
41 we can get things done. You are very wise that we are going to invest some money in
42 this downtown infrastructure. We need to keep that visible just as we had people invest
43 across the street; it's a risky time to do that but at the same time there will be a payoff.
44 As the department heads are going around doing their jobs on a daily basis, he asked
45 what things we can do that make that impression.

1 Mayor Mealor addressed Ms. Gehr. In terms of beautification, it was his hope that we
2 continue City Hall/Central Park holiday lighting. He said he didn't know if we could it to
3 the degree we did it last year and don't know if we should, but hoped that was
4 something we could maintain.

5
6 Mayor Mealor said he didn't know who does it but thanks for keeping basketball nets on
7 the goals and in operational shape. It makes a difference. There must have been 15 to
8 20 adults on that basketball court on Country Club. He asked what we could do in
9 terms of infrastructure approval by the Commission to change the use of that land
10 adjacent to that court. He asked if there was something we could do in terms of
11 beautification. It may not cost a lot of money but it sends a message. What Ms. Gehr
12 and her team have done on the corner at the fountain, though we had some critics on
13 the front end of the fountain because of the costs associated with it, we now receive
14 compliments to the way it looks.

15
16 Mayor Mealor said he would be dependent on the Commissioners to direct us where we
17 want to go based on what we are seeing right here.

18
19 Mr. Litton said on vehicle replacement, we have a vehicle replacement fund. Each
20 department pays rent for those vehicles.

21
22 **SIDE 1B**
23

24 Mr. Litton said those vehicles change all the time. The Crown Vic's are on the way out.
25 That was the police car that everybody used for the last decade. We had our parts set
26 up for the Crown Vic's and then we go to Chevrolet and not only do we have to have a
27 new parts inventory but new training and it's expensive to change over. We have a
28 Charger, Impala, and a Tahoe for the K-9.

29
30 Deputy Mayor Brender said we should be exploring hybrids

31
32 Mr. Litton as to the holiday lights, we didn't take it all out. There is still enough money to
33 do a lot but maybe not to the extent that it has been done in the past. It's more the
34 labor that goes into that type of things. It's the two months that the guys are putting
35 them up and taking them down and are not doing other things they could be doing.
36 That's a policy decision. Money is not the issue.

37
38 Deputy Mayor Brender said if they are not putting up and taking down lights then are
39 they cutting the lawn extra times.

40
41 Ms. Sova said one of the big projects they missed the last several years is the dugout
42 maintenance. That's the season and the time to be doing that.

43
44 Ms. Gehr said she had a list of things but did not bring it with her. We do a lot of things
45 in the wintertime because it is our down season and the frequency of mowing isn't as
46 bad as it is in summer. We do our tree trimming, pressure washing, painting of curbs,

1 play equipment, park benches and tables, boardwalk repairs, installation of play
2 equipment, painting of posts and fences, sidewalk repair, installation of new irrigation
3 lines, create new landscape beds, oversee ball fields. We do stuff in the stair step parks
4 that we can't get to like replacing timbers and mulching. We assist with batting cage
5 annual maintenance. We maintain the gazebo, Liberty Park, Estella Park. There are a
6 lot of things we do in the wintertime.

7
8 Ms. Sova pointed out the position cuts in Parks.

9
10 Mayor Meador said several months ago when the economy was being presented he felt
11 we should do away with that but the more he thought about it he thought it was a
12 negative for the community and there is a payoff for that in terms of perception.

13
14 Mayor Meador said when people get their tax notices we are going to be criticized
15 because of the bottom line, but with what Jackie just showed us with debt service, the
16 projected savings we start articulating what we are doing in a proactive manner. What
17 we've done in this process right here and what we are going to do long term will offset
18 some of that criticism.

19
20 Mayor Meador said he was associated with two amazing organizations: the University of
21 Central Florida and the City of Lake Mary. You can't buy two better horses right now.
22 However, I can assure you in the budget planning process we are so far ahead of most
23 and those are the kinds of things that make me thankful for the team that we have
24 across the board.

25
26 Mr. Litton said the other thing we have not done is eliminate those things that we give
27 back to the community in form of support such as the art festival and special events. He
28 said he agreed that was important. It is perception and the community coming together.
29 We might not put four officers out there every time and maybe will just have to do it
30 through routine patrol, but we don't want to stop those events from happening because
31 they mean a lot to the community. It would send a bad message.

32
33 Deputy Mayor Brender said he agreed that the lights for Christmas as far as perception
34 and the family gathering that goes on the whole season is far more important than how
35 well the dugouts look for 15 kids. Mr. Litton interjected that we get calls from 15 sets of
36 parents.

37
38 Deputy Mayor Brender said as time goes by if there is something out there that is critical
39 and needs to be done and can be done then there are ways to take a look at something
40 like that.

41
42 Mayor Meador asked Mr. Litton what he saw as the game plan for the Commission prior
43 to the first public hearing.

44
45 Mr. Litton said we just need to know what the Commission's priorities are as it relates to
46 what is and what isn't in this budget. We proposed a budget that will retain status quo.

1 Mr. Litton said we will continue to do what we are doing and how we are doing it. We're
2 going to add any services but are going to keep and maintain the services. There is not
3 a lot of money going to the downtown but there is some. There is not a lot of
4 infrastructure going in. We want to move the City forward. Some of it is going to come
5 out of the Water and Sewer Fund. It is important to try and attract reclaimed customers.
6 Hopefully we will have a project underway before too long. We need to know what the
7 Commission wants or doesn't want or thinks that we can do without that we are
8 presently doing. He said from his perspective he didn't see anything that we could cut.
9

10 Deputy Mayor Brender said he didn't think there was anything big we could cut nor is
11 there anything big that we need to have. If there was a need out there the department
12 heads would have addressed it. We have a little bit of play so if we get word that some
13 developer is coming downtown and wants to do something then we can make
14 adjustments and make it worthwhile.
15

16 Commissioner Lucarelli said the biggest outcry at the TOD meeting was infrastructure
17 that is needed in the downtown and that's going help move it. It just costs a lot of
18 money and where do we get the money from without going into massive debt.
19

20 Mr. Litton said that's one thing we will have more information on as we go through this
21 process.
22

23 Mayor Mealar said he knew the Trailblazers were doing some work related to the
24 cemetery. We had talked about a Heritage Park and at one time talked about it being
25 adjacent to the Events Center. The triangular piece that's the entry into the City just
26 beyond Misty Oaks where Walter's Electric is now has the potential to be a Heritage
27 Park/gateway feature not unlike what we did at Rinehart and the Boulevard.
28

29 Mayor Mealar asked where we are with the ACi presentation. Mr. Omana said that was
30 scheduled for the August 20th meeting.
31

32 Mr. Litton said he wasn't sure we needed a second budget meeting.
33

34 Mayor Mealar said unless a department head sees something that we've absolutely
35 overlooked then this is as about as straight forward as you can get.
36

37 Mr. Litton said the Water & Sewer Fund is pretty straight forward as far as personnel.
38 There are no changes. We are about to finalize those improvements including the
39 computer and dispatch center to watch over another check of the system at all times
40 and will probably present that at the next meeting. We put in safeguards in the event
41 something does happen we can make sure we get on it a lot faster than we did the last
42 time.
43

44 Deputy Mayor Brender asked if the decrease in water sales was because of reclaimed.
45

1 Mr. Litton answered affirmatively. He explained the actual dollars won't go down
2 because the cost of water is going up but we never know what St. Johns will do along
3 the way. On Page 240 is the revenue and there are projections. We have a tower in
4 the capital. We have air strippers in 2012. That project has been moved out and he
5 was not sure we would need it.
6
7 Mr. Paster said we may not because of all the water conservation measures. Water
8 flows are down the last few years. We have projected growth but the City is 80% to
9 90% built out. Nothing further is coming from the Floridan Aquifer; it's all above the
10 confining layer and is being trapped there.
11
12 Mr. Litton said on Page 244 is a list of capital projects in the Water & Sewer Fund for
13 the next five years. We will be replacing the air conditioning system in the Public Works
14 building on Rinehart Road.
15
16 Mr. Litton said he couldn't stress enough how much we have used the five-year plan
17 during this process and we have every year. If it's not there with a capital project it is
18 going to get thrown back unless it is an emergency or a mandate.
19
20 Mr. Litton said in Stormwater we have never raised the stormwater fee, nor do we need
21 to. That is one of the best things this Commission ever did. We are doing relatively well
22 with the drainage situations. We will continue to do maintenance that needs to be done.
23 We have the roads identified in advance and we project what needs to be done within
24 the next five years.
25
26 Deputy Mayor Brender asked about the stair step parks. Ms. Sova said there is money
27 in the Capital Projects Fund. It is carry forward money and we added some money to it.
28
29 Deputy Mayor Brender said they needed to keep an eye out for properties along the
30 stair step parks that may become available for purchase.
31
32 Mr. Litton said another item we talked about with the police department is the dispatch
33 center and the possibility of combining with Oviedo and Winter Springs. The County
34 doesn't have room for us nor do we want to go with the County. During these
35 discussions one thing that came out was dispatchers working for us are doing part-time
36 work for some of the other cities and vice versa. They are all trained professionals.
37 Port Orange has done it and has had some success. That's not going to happen this
38 year but is something that needs to be out there because it is a very expensive but very
39 beneficial service that we provide our citizens.
40
41 Mayor Mealor asked Mr. Litton what he needed from the Commission between now and
42 the first public hearing.
43
44 Mr. Litton said any thoughts they wanted to share or any project or program that they
45 would like to see considered. We can always bring it back. We have time to
46 incorporate it.

1
2 Mayor Meador said if something comes up between now and then just share it with Mr.
3 Litton and he in turn will share it back to the Commission. He said he was very
4 comfortable with the way this has been presented. We don't know what the future is
5 going to hold. His one concern is the uncertainty at the state level and at this time next
6 year we are positioned as well as we are right not if not better.

7
8 Ms. Sova said we probably are and some of that is because of the five-year plan. Debt
9 service is going to drop off and we did some re-capture in the Capital Projects Fund this
10 year.

11
12 Mayor Meador said we get a lot of compliments from our citizens. It is a direct reflection
13 of the quality of the team that we have. This is a real compliment based on what others
14 are experiencing right now. The decision we had this morning dealing with personnel at
15 his other job, Lake Mary is not doing that and in and of itself it is a benefit and amenity.
16 He thanked everyone in the room for their hard work, particularly his colleagues who
17 have set a tone with this city for the past several years.

18
19 Mr. Litton said it goes back to when Mayor Meador was here the first time. It was in
20 place then.

21
22 Mayor Meador said it has been done with a vision and a plan, and that starts at the top.
23 We don't know what the future is going to hold but we've got to make sure that we don't
24 miss a beat. The only constant that we have is change and those wanting to remain the
25 same are falling behind.

26
27 There being no further business, the work session adjourned at 6:25 P.M.
28

1 Mr. Schaffer thanked everyone, particularly the Community Development Department,
2 for accommodating and helping him and giving him this experience. He said he would
3 take it with him the rest of his education and further careers.

4
5 VI. Special Presentations

6
7 A. Pedestrian Tunnel at Lake Mary Boulevard & International Parkway – Anton
8 Curry with Seminole County Public Works Department, Engineering Division
9

10 Mr. Omana said earlier this year we met with the Seminole County folks over this matter
11 and wanted to bring it before the Commission as an informational item. We will be
12 coordinating with Mr. Curry and his staff as well as the engineers, public safety, and
13 countless other people in this undertaking.

14
15 Anton Curry of Seminole County came forward. He introduced the consultants: John
16 Hornbeck of RS&H; and David Martin, Project Manager and head of the Trails Program
17 for Seminole County.

18
19 John Hornbeck, 624 Brechin Drive, Winter Park, Florida, came forward and gave a
20 Power Point presentation. Copy attached and made a part of these minutes.

21
22 Mr. Hornbeck said they met with City staff on May 5, 2009, and submitted 100% plans
23 on July 28, 2009. ACi has been advertised for this project with an upcoming proposal
24 due this month. Construction will be advertised soon. Construction is expected to start
25 in January 2010 with a 12 to 18-month construction time, and six to eight months for the
26 tunnel construction. Some of the construction before that is utility relocations and
27 ramps leading up to the tunnel and not impacting the roadway until absolutely
28 necessary and for the minimum amount of time necessary.

29
30 Mr. Hornbeck showed some design renderings. The plan is updated a bit in the
31 southwest quadrant which is in the lower left hand corner. That plan shows the trail
32 going down and back up. We're actually going to take it down and underneath the
33 tunnel and the sidewalk will go around. The movements at the signal will remain open
34 because the tunnel will be closed and gated at night so pedestrian movements at the
35 signal will remain. The goal is to fix the tunnel/trail traffic that crosses both Lake Mary
36 mid-block through the shopping center across the intersection. Down at the circle a lot
37 of trail users cross there. We are trying to standardize the crossing and go diagonally
38 underneath the intersection.

39
40 Mr. Hornbeck showed renderings of the aesthetics they hope to achieve. There will be
41 a paint scheme similar to the bridge (pedestrian overpass at Lake Mary Boulevard and
42 Country Club Road). There will be a decorative wall that will be a concrete faced block
43 wall that is imprinted into the concrete façade as well as some black railing, etc.

44
45 Mr. Hornbeck said the tunnel is 215 feet long, 14 feet wide, and 10 feet high. It is a large
46 tunnel and there is no sense of confinement. This tunnel is going to be cast in place as

1 opposed to the tunnel on 434 that was precast. The opportunity to fully waterproof it will
2 be presented. One of the issues when we met with City staff was the drainage. After
3 Tropical Storm Fay the high water mark was still 4-1/2 feet below the bottom of the
4 tunnel. Lake Mary is on a ridge and water goes away on either side so that will facilitate
5 the drainage of the project.

6
7 Mr. Hornbeck said what we were looking at for the tunnel was ridability to provide the
8 clearest lines of sight at both approaches. It will be ADA compliant with handrails on
9 both sides. It will be stepped similar to the bridge out here with a 30-foot rise and then a
10 5-foot flat. It will have internal lighting and will be closed at dusk. We will have new
11 signal poles in two of the quadrants where the tunnel comes in and there will be
12 shoebox lighting that will shine right above the entrance to the tunnel.

13
14 Mr. Hornbeck said as shown in the renderings we have architectural finishes for the
15 walls as well as the tunnel and we think it will fit in the surrounding community.

16
17 Mr. Hornbeck said we have revised the plan so the sidewalk will be going around and it
18 won't drop and go back up. There is an AT&T vault there and at the request of the
19 utility owners it was going to take too long and cost too much money to relocate. They
20 have a 10' X 10' vault so we tweaked the design to avoid that.

21
22 Mr. Hornbeck said there is quite a bit of utilities in the area so there will be some
23 relocation work early on in the project. The trail will drop down about 14 feet below
24 grade. We are not going to have the fencing/caging like on 434 so you will be able to
25 get all the way down here. The tunnel will be gated at night but it will be lit above the
26 lower elevation area.

27
28 Mr. Litton asked who would be responsible for securing the tunnel at night.

29
30 Mr. Hornbeck said Trails & Parks will have people assigned to it from the closest local
31 park so Seminole County will be responsible.

32
33 Mr. Hornbeck went through what they anticipate during construction. Phase 1 is the
34 pre-tunnel construction phase and in both areas the traffic will remain in its existing
35 lanes. A lot of the pre-work and utility relocation will be done in this area and basically
36 clearing the area so tunnel construction can begin. All the ramps will be constructed in
37 this phase.

38
39 Mr. Hornbeck said next is what the contractor and ACi want to keep as short as possible
40 and we have notes in the plans that say they cannot be in any given construction phase
41 unless they are actually building tunnel construction and they need to go from one
42 phase efficiently into the next phase or they have to return to this state.

43
44 Mr. Hornbeck said in Phase 2 we are going to have a temporary signal on span wire
45 and it will impact traffic. On I-4 there are two exits that serve most of this area and the
46 reality is that once construction starts, a lot of traffic will divert to the north exit. We

1 have two left turn lanes coming southbound to eastbound and we have two in every
2 phase which is what was there previously until this third left turn lane opened up. We
3 will go back to two for most of the construction. We have two through lanes on Lake
4 Mary for each phase.

5
6 Mr. Hornbeck said in Phase 3 we are actually working in the center of the intersection
7 and this is the shortest duration phasing. This is the only phase that a through
8 movement on International Parkway is not provided. Emergency vehicles will be able to
9 do that but the standard movement will be a right and then a U-turn. It will be a
10 dedicated U-turn and they won't have to go all the way to Heathrow. Anyone wanting to
11 go south through the intersection will turn right, U-turn and then come that way. We'll
12 have ground mount signs and those where we can put up the messages to keep the
13 motorists informed.

14
15 Mr. Hornbeck said Phase 4 is the final phase as we go to the north side. Six to eight
16 months we anticipate for this phase.

17
18 Deputy Mayor Brender asked if this would be precast.

19
20 Mr. Hornbeck answered negatively and would be cast in place. There will be a
21 temporary sheet pile wall that will be put in the intersection. They will work down in the
22 pit and will form up the concrete and steel, pour the concrete, allow it to cure, get their
23 cores, get those sampled and then cover up and do the other.

24 **SIDE 2A**

25
26 Mr. Hornbeck said we envision three phases moving across the intersection.

27
28 Deputy Mayor Brender said on the traffic problem in the third phase, he suggested
29 taking down the No U-Turn sign at the entrance to Heathrow. There is a fair amount of
30 traffic that does that.

31
32 Mr. Hornbeck said we are going to provide a separate U-turn before that.

33
34 Deputy Mayor Brender said if the U-turn is prior to the entrance to Oakmont, you are not
35 going to be doing any favors to traffic.

36
37 Mr. Hornbeck said if traffic wants to go straight through, they are going to need to turn
38 right, go down Lake Mary and then U-turn at the U-turn we are going to provide. We will
39 look into taking down the Heathrow No U-Turn if they happen to miss the U-turn that we
40 are going to provide.

41
42 Mr. Hornbeck said one thing that did come up based on the other construction tunnel is
43 at each of the movements because the lanes are closer than they normally are to put
44 No U-Turns for all the directions at the intersection. That caused problems on the other
45 project so we want to try to prevent that.

1 Commissioner Duryea asked the estimated cost. Mr. Curry said \$4.8 million. Funding
2 is mostly from the Second Generation Sales Tax.

3
4 Commissioner Gray asked if tunnels or overpasses were more costly. Mr. Curry said he
5 didn't know. When we did Lake Mary the price was higher because we did it differently
6 and the contractors were aggressive with their prices. Lately we have seen tremendous
7 cost reductions so we have been lucky lately. He said he didn't know which would be
8 cheaper.

9
10 Commissioner Gray asked if Oakmont would be losing any of their parking lot. Mr.
11 Curry answered negatively.

12
13 Deputy Mayor Brender asked what was next and was there still Second Generation
14 money. He understood there was something at 46A by the Marriott.

15
16 Mr. Curry said we have a project that the City is involved with as well. We submitted
17 some plans to put in a right turn lane at 46A and International.

18
19 Deputy Mayor Brender said but there are no pedestrian tunnels or anything planned
20 right now. Mr. Curry said that was correct.

21
22 Mayor Mealor thanked everyone for the update.

23
24 Mr. Curry said after construction the road will be returned to its existing condition with
25 the triple left and everything else and the striping exactly how it is.

26
27 VII. Unfinished Business

28
29 There was no unfinished business at this time.

30
31 VIII. New Business

- 32
33 A. Ordinance No. 1329 – Amending traffic regulations and providing for new fees
34 – First Reading (postponed 7/9/09)

35
36 The City Attorney read Ordinance No. 1329 by title only on first reading.

37
38 Ms. Reischmann said this is to bring the code in sync with the statutes regarding traffic
39 regulations, all of which are adopted into our code. The intention is to clear up some
40 provisions that are obsolete and outdated. The statutes preempt for the most part the
41 City's regulations so we are making sure we are in conformity with those and showing
42 such things that we have such as lower speed limits in certain areas of the City based
43 on studies that have been done and primarily trying to clean up the parking ticket
44 section to reflect the way things actually work in the City as far as the police department
45 being the one that primarily handles the ticketing and the payment of the tickets. If it's
46 not paid in 30 days then it would go to a collection agency and those sorts of things. It

1 is also to reflect the fact that the statutes allow for the DMV to withhold registration
2 renewals for those who have three or more parking violations which is helpful to
3 enforcement. The fine schedule is to be updated. However, in the ordinance itself
4 we've just listed the types of violations so that a resolution can be adopted to increase
5 those fines and then it can be increased by resolution in the future quite simply.
6

7 Deputy Mayor Brender said he noticed the Code Enforcement Officer and a few other
8 people are able to ticket. Chief Bracknell said including the Community Service
9 Officers. Before it was limited to code enforcement and police officers.

10
11 Mayor Mealor asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against Ordinance No. 1329. No
12 one came forward and the public hearing was closed.
13

14 **Motion was made by Commissioner Lucarelli to approve Ordinance No. 1329 on**
15 **first reading, seconded by Commissioner Duryea and motion carried by roll-call**
16 **vote: Deputy Mayor Brender, Yes; Commissioner Duryea, Yes; Commissioner**
17 **Gray, Yes; Commissioner Lucarelli, Yes; Mayor Mealor, Yes.**
18

19 IX. Citizen Participation
20

21 No one came forward at this time and citizen participation was closed.
22

23 X. Reports
24

25 A. City Manager
26

- 27 1. Request Commission authorize expenditure from Law Enforcement Trust Fund
28 for City's share of startup costs for Narcotics Overdose Prevention Program
29 (NOPE) in an amount not to exceed \$2,214.88, and authorize City Manager to
30 execute associated budget adjustment
31

32 Mr. Litton said this is a request for an expenditure from the Forfeiture Fund in the
33 amount of \$2,214.88 in support of the NOPE program. This is a voluntary program and
34 Chief Bracknell equates it to the mock DUI where students learn about the bad side
35 about drugs.
36

37 Chief Bracknell said NOPE stands for Narcotics Overdose Prevention Education. One
38 of the biggest problems with overdoses is children and prescription drugs. This
39 program is similar to the mock DUI. They bring in large photographs of children who
40 have perished as a result of an overdose. We go before the audience and give
41 testimony from the law enforcement and medical point of view and then the parents of
42 the deceased children speak. All the police chiefs in Seminole County discussed this
43 program and is something we thought was well worth the expenditure from a forfeiture
44 fund from a dope dealer.
45

1 **Motion was made by Commissioner Duryea to approve the expenditure of**
2 **\$2,214.88 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund and authorize the City Manager**
3 **to execute the associated budget adjustment, seconded by Commissioner**
4 **Lucarelli and motion carried unanimously.**

5
6 2. Request Commission authorize expenditure from Law Enforcement Trust Fund
7 for donation of City's share of Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in an
8 amount not to exceed \$239,756 and authorize Mayor to execute associated
9 letters

10
11 Chief Bracknell said the State of Florida has cut funding for many worthwhile projects
12 and one of those projects is the JAC (Juvenile Assessment Center). From a law
13 enforcement point of view, it's an invaluable program. The sheriff's office shoulders the
14 majority of that burden and his funding has been decreased for the staffing of that
15 particular function. All the police chiefs during the last few meetings have had open
16 discussions. The sheriff was faced with \$127,000 deficit as it relates to that and he
17 asked for some help. We have a Byrne grant that came out and he asked us to help
18 fund that. That means if we arrest a juvenile and it's in the middle of the night, we
19 cannot just bring him to jail. We catch children skipping school and we cannot take
20 them to jail. We end up babysitting and trying to find a "responsible" parent. Depending
21 on the crime we could possibly dump them into the adult jail which is greater problems
22 for the law enforcement officers. We would have resources sitting at the jail or in our
23 police department for hours and hours. The sheriff's office asked all the surrounding
24 agencies to help them fund that. The grant was originally supposed to be \$120,000+
25 which would have covered that particular need. We cannot lose our JAC and not
26 having a place to bring juvenile offenders as opposed to dumping them into the
27 mainstream.

28
29 Chief Bracknell said on the Byrne grant was the MAGTF (Multi-Agency Gang Task
30 Force). We have a severe problem with gang activity within Seminole County. We
31 have activity in Lake Mary, albeit not as great as others. That Byrne grant came back
32 richer than anticipated. The sheriff's office presented an idea to put this extra money
33 into the MAGTF and we would fund overtime for 54 six-hour operations. That's one a
34 week throughout Seminole County. The police officer would sign up for overtime (time
35 and a half) and he or she would to the sheriff's office and under that umbrella would go
36 out to identify locations throughout Seminole County. We would work the detail, 54
37 operations at six hours an operation. That officer's time and a half rate would be
38 calculated at times six hours and be refunded to the City of Lake Mary so there would
39 be no cost to the citizens of Lake Mary. The sheriff has indicated he would provide
40 supervision to run that operation and you would have nine officers and a supervisor
41 doing hot spots throughout Seminole County. We thought we would approach the
42 Commission and see if it's something they could give direction on.

43
44 Mr. Litton said Lake Mary's portion is \$26,639. The total grant is \$239,756 and it is
45 divided among the nine law enforcement agencies.
46

1 Commissioner Duryea asked if anyone else had voted on this. Chief Bracknell said
2 Altamonte and Longwood have not yet made a decision, but all the police chiefs agreed
3 they wanted to be a part of this.

4
5 **Motion was made by Commissioner Duryea to expend the monies in accordance**
6 **with the memo and authorize Mayor to execute associated letters, seconded by**
7 **Commissioner Lucarelli.**

8
9 Commissioner Gray asked for clarification. This money was given to us and the grant
10 was an overpayment so now we are going to put it back in the pot.

11
12 Chief Bracknell said that was correct. The grant amount was for \$239,736. This is a
13 Byrne grant and the City is not on a hook to fund a single cent. We are redirecting this
14 grant, which was a gift, to enforcement actions.

15
16 Deputy Mayor Brender said the JAC is definitely an item that cannot and should not
17 ever be dropped. He remembered before we had it that it was not a pretty scene taking
18 12 and 14-year-old kids to the county jail. The JAC is more able to handle the kinds of
19 problems that juveniles get into and they have a full-time staff so it's important to keep
20 that going.

21
22 **Motion carried unanimously.**

23
24 Mr. Litton said now that we have finished the budget work session we can schedule the
25 presentation on the Downtown Master Plan by ACi at 5:00 P.M. on August 20th if that is
26 the will of the Commission. They prefer work sessions because they want to continue
27 the interactions and the attendee participation in the process.

28
29 There were no objections from the Board.

30
31 Mr. Litton said he wanted the Commission to be aware that we just finished with
32 Progress Energy and now Florida Power & Light will be removing trees near The
33 Reserve under the same scenario. They have been in contact with the HOA and the
34 City and they will do replacements in accordance with the schedule presented.

35
36 Mr. Litton said it has been recommended by staff that run the Farmer's Market to cancel
37 the Farmer's Market for August 22nd and 29th and September 5th and return on
38 September 12th. They are having very little participation. We lost five vendors today so
39 we are down 12 or 13 vendors overall. It's just too hot. If there are no objections we
40 will do that and get the word out immediately.

41
42 There were no objections from the Board.

43
44 B. Mayor

45
46 Mayor Mealor had no report at this time.

1
2 C. Commissioner (1)
3

4 Deputy Mayor Brender said he attended the Chamber Breakfast and Lake Mary
5 received recognition for being in the top 100 just like Oviedo but everyone seems to
6 forget we are No. 1 in Florida. He said he would be advertising that fact more than that
7 we were in the top 100.
8

9 Deputy Mayor Brender said on National Night Out he attended The Landings which
10 always has a good show. He missed Huntington because he had to do something at
11 the Marriott. The National Night Out has gone downhill over the last five or six years.
12 He asked if the program was still running nationally.
13

14 Chief Bracknell answered affirmatively but believed in these economic times, combined
15 with the heat, it put a damper on it. We actively went to the neighborhoods and the
16 interest was a little low. With some direction from Mr. Litton we have some ideas for
17 next year and will be coming back to the Commission with that. We're hopeful to
18 breathe a little more life into it.
19

20 Deputy Mayor Brender said CALNO meetings pick up in September at Seminole
21 Community College. He said he would provide further information on that August 20th.
22

23 Commissioner Duryea said he and Chief Bracknell had talked about the gang thing
24 some time ago. He said he met a fellow that was involved with the City of Orlando in
25 their efforts to put a handle on that kind of thing. It's almost to the point where it's
26 overwhelming. He asked Chief Bracknell if he could see any progress and anything
27 coming out of it that's good.
28

29 Chief Bracknell said many cities have started different programs that relates to
30 enforcement. We have our eyes on the people we need to have our eyes on.
31 Enforcement, enforcement, enforcement. Getting them off the streets, having contact
32 with them. We are working with the probation/parole folks with these kids who are out
33 of jail and on probation. We are working with the probation people and going out and
34 knocking on doors and searching their homes. We believe that getting them into the
35 system and with constant harassing we are making a small dent. Seminole County is
36 doing a better job than any other county in identifying gangs, their locations and
37 activities and bringing enforcement.
38

39 Deputy Mayor Brender said he was amazed at how many people there are in gangs in
40 Seminole County.
41

42 Chief Bracknell said we just had training with our officers. When we come in contact
43 with a person that we feel meets the criteria for being a gang member, if they are
44 identified as a gang member, their penalties are enhanced if they commit a crime. We
45 are actively doing those identifications. We share a common records system.
46

1 Commissioner Duryea said he was glad they know it's going on. He said he was
2 brought up in a city where it was absolutely crazy and he commended Chief Bracknell.

3
4 Commissioner Gray said she attended the ribbon cutting for the Residence Inn.

5
6 Commissioner Gray said the Leadership Seminole orientation was today for Class 19
7 and Deputy Police Chief Colin Morgan seemed to enjoy it. There are 54 in the class
8 and only one person could not make it today. There was a reception following.

9
10 Commissioner Gray asked the status of Rinehart Place. She asked if there was an
11 estimated time of opening the light.

12
13 Mr. Omana said what we know at this point is that the bank had filed a Motion for
14 Receivership in circuit court and the judge ordered a mediation, so right now it is in the
15 hands of attorneys for both sides to see if they can come to an agreement as how to
16 best finish this project. We cannot issue any CO's for the CVS since that specific
17 project is tied to the signal for purposes of ingress and egress. It's a very delicate and
18 complicated matter, but we are hoping to hear soon from the attorneys involved as to
19 what is going to be the game plan. All the parties want to finish this project. The devil is
20 in the details so as soon as we have information we will pass it along to Mr. Litton.

21
22 Commissioner Gray said it appears the bank is open. Mr. Omana said Old Southern
23 Bank has been issued a certificate of occupancy. We were able to do that because Old
24 Southern Bank is separately platted and owned by the Old Southern Bank folks and
25 they tie into the access point that ABC Fine Wine utilizes so they are not dependent on
26 the signal for functioning.

27
28 Commissioner Gray asked if there was an ordinance that has some teeth in it so we can
29 make owners of the property responsible for the maintenance of the property, whether
30 or not the property is occupied, vacant, or in foreclosure. We are getting some houses
31 and properties that are looking bad. There are swimming pools in these developments
32 that are black and weeds are high. One is at 829 Eagle Claw and she went on the
33 property and closed the screen door. The HOA manager said the foreclosure was
34 dismissed.

35
36 Ms. Reischmann said the City Manager had one prepared that was a registration
37 requirement so that the City would be informed of the mortgagee that is responsible
38 when the property is in foreclosure. The City Manager's concern was that it involves the
39 staff and time to deal with this registration system. She said she understood that a lot of
40 these properties can be handled as effectively and faster just through the mowing of the
41 grass and closure of the screen door by the City and then assessing those costs against
42 the property, which is currently in the code. A lot of cities are going to this registration
43 process that creates more work for Bruce Fleming. The mortgage companies are
44 claiming they don't have the authority or ability to take any action until there's actually
45 been a foreclosure. We would dispute that and say that once the property is

1 abandoned, under the mortgages generally there is a provision that says they can take
2 action to secure the property and keep it maintained, but they do dispute that.

3
4 Ms. Reischmann said cities that have gone to the mortgage registration ordinance
5 haven't had a great deal of success. Generally the properties in foreclosure are ignored
6 for the large part even with the registration ordinance and you can't get hold of the
7 attorney that's handling the foreclosure. It's these mills that take on all these
8 foreclosure cases and they don't return phone calls. It's very difficult to get to the
9 property manager responsible for the property. The idea behind these registration
10 ordinances is you would actually post in front of the property to call so-and-so property
11 management company with complaints. This way you would have neighborhood action
12 to supplement whatever the city could do. That's the theory but it's hard to get them to
13 register and when they do register it's hard to get hold of anyone even if they give you a
14 number to call. This was attempted to be done on a state level because all the banks
15 lobbied the legislature and said we can't have to deal with each city and county
16 individually; we want a state system but that bill didn't go through.

17
18 Commissioner Gray said the homeowners' association can't go on the property to cut
19 the weeds because it is private property.

20
21 Mr. Litton said the City can go on the property if they meet the criteria of the code. We
22 don't need anything else. The most obvious violations are foreclosures and the greatest
23 numbers are residences.

24
25 Commissioner Gray said a constituent lives on Jennifer Court and they are on septic
26 and the streets flood. They also wanted to know when they were getting sewer.

27
28 Mr. Paster said on the stormwater issue we just finished a project last week where we
29 re-cut all the swales between the property line and the road, removed lots of dirt and re-
30 sodded it to allow the water to flow off the road and flow down the swales to two inlets
31 on either end of Jennifer Court. The stormwater issue has been resolved. He
32 explained that over time those areas just fill up with grass trimmings.

33
34 Mr. Paster said there are currently no plans to sewer that end of town so it will still be on
35 septic system.

36
37 Commissioner Gray asked if they had to cut into something on 427 if their septic tank
38 went bad.

39
40 Mr. Paster said they have to hire a company to re-do their septic system. Drainfields go
41 bad over many years and they reconstruct it to a newer type of drainfield.

42
43 Commissioner Lucarelli said she attended the Oakmont Senior Center Open House and
44 it is very nice.

1 Commissioner Lucarelli said she attended the ITT Technical Institute Health and Safety
2 Fair. They are offering some great classes and degrees.

3
4 Commissioner Lucarelli said she attended the UCF President's Forum at the Church
5 Street Ballroom. They had eight or ten students from the inaugural class for the medical
6 school that opened on Monday and it was neat to talk to them and get feedback. She
7 said Dr. Hitt gave a speech. It was great to see the plans, how they got there, and the
8 partnerships that were developed. It's a real role model for the area hoped we could
9 keep building on that.

10
11 Commissioner Lucarelli said she attended the Residence Inn ribbon cutting.

12
13 Commissioner Lucarelli said she attended the Chamber Breakfast this morning and was
14 disappointed they didn't get sideline tickets.

15
16 Commissioner Lucarelli thanked the police and fire departments for the great job on the
17 National Night Out. There was a great turnout. They had water balloon fights for the
18 kids, beach ball toss, and they gave away two bicycles.

19
20 D. City Attorney

21
22 Ms. Reischmann had no report at this time.

23
24 Commissioner Gray said Seminole Community College is renaming themselves
25 because it is going to be a four year college. Everybody has an opportunity to throw a
26 name in by going on their website. They want to take "community college" out of the
27 name.

28
29 IX. Adjournment

30
31 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

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37 David J. Mealor, Mayor

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41 Mary Campbell, Deputy City Clerk

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