

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 9, 2009**

**APPROVED BY
January 13, 2010
CITY COUNCIL**

The City of Bradenton City Council met in regular session in the City Hall Council Chamber, 101 Old Main Street, Bradenton, Florida on December 9, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Mayor Wayne Poston; Councilman Ward I Gene Gallo; Councilwoman Ward II Marianne Barnebey; Councilman Ward III Patrick Roff; Vice Mayor and Councilman Ward IV Bemis Smith and Councilman Ward V Harold E. Byrd, Jr.

City Officials: Carl Callahan, City Clerk and Treasurer; Claude Tankersley, Public Works Director; William Lisch, City Attorney; Mark Souders, Fire Chief; Michael Radzilowski, Police Chief; Tim Polk, Department of Planning and Community Development Director; Staci Cross, Information Technology Director, and Carolyn Moore, Human Resources Director.

Press: The Herald and The Bradenton Times.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Poston.
Ecumenical invocation was led by Pastor Shirley Baucom, Kingdom of Life Christian Church.
Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Poston.

PRESENTATIONS

Bradenton Fire Department Accreditation Recognition

Fire Chief Souders displayed the Reaccreditation Plaque awarded to the Bradenton Fire Department by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International Accredited Agency (CFAI) and stated only 125 fire departments in the world had been honored with this award.

Chief Souders stated that the Bradenton Fire Department was the first fire department to be reaccredited via a 15-minute phone conference.

Mr. Callahan administered the oath to any individuals who wished to speak on any non-agenda items and during the public hearings.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No one came forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Minutes of November 18, 2009.
- b) R-09-84 Appointing **Gregg Guinta** and **Richard Whetstone** to the Planning Commission.
- c) R-09-85 Appointing **William Cook, Jr.** to the Construction Board.
- d) R-09-86 Appointing **Jason Bartz** to the Downtown Development Authority.
- e) Budget Adjustments.
- f) Public Event- request by Sacred Heart Catholic Church to hold a procession for "Virgin Guadalupe" December 13, 2009.
- g) Public Event- Reels at Rossi Park every Friday starting January 15, 2010 to December 17, 2010.
- h) Public Event - "Brewgrass" 3rd Annual Bradenton Beer Festival, Saturday, February 6, 2010.
- i) Public Event - De Soto Heritage Festival "Seafood Fest" March 26 - 28, 2010.
- j) Public Event - De Soto Heritage Festival "Annual Easter Sunrise Service" Sunday, April 4, 2010.

- k) Public Event - De Soto Heritage Festival "Bottle Boat Regatta" Saturday, April 10, 2010.
- l) Public Event - De Soto Heritage Festival "5K Run", Saturday, April 24, 2010.
- m) Public Event - De Soto Heritage Festival "Grand Parade" Saturday, April 24, 2010.

Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith requested item i. Public Event-De Soto Heritage Festival "Seafood Fest" March 26-28, 2010 be taken off the Consent Agenda for discussion.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA items a-h, j & k, with item i removed for discussion was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Barnebey and passed 5-0 for approval.

Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith gave a brief overview of meetings he had attended with the DeSoto Heritage Committee to discuss downtown parking concerns during the Seafood Fest.

General discussion: Moving police vehicles and private employee vehicles to the parking garage to free up more spaces in the City Hall parking lot.

Joe Miller stated that an issue remained as to where a trailer could be located to allow the entertainers to change before they go on stage.

The discussion moved away from the Seafood Fest to the safety issues associated with the Grand Parade.

Lengthy discussion: Where barricades should be placed along the parade route. Setting up and taking down the barricades.

Councilwoman Barnebey suggested that one way to possibly prevent clustering of large crowds along the parade route was to extend the parade from 39th Street to 43rd Street.

Discussion: Cost of barricades for public safety on the existing route and more cost if route was extended.

Mr. Miller stated extending the parade was a good idea but would need to be approved by the DeSoto Board and FDOT permitting would take some time.

Councilwoman Barnebey stated, as the future chairperson for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), she would discuss assisting the permitting issue with the MPO.

Discussion: Large cost of security by the police and sheriff departments. A suggestion was made to request assistance from all the Manatee County law enforcement agencies as the De Soto parade was the largest parade in the state and generated a lot of revenue throughout the county. Perhaps the county would assist with the cost of the parade.

Safety guidelines by the De Soto organization requiring that all parade entries provide walkers in orange safety vests for all floats and vehicles to stop people from running out into the street.

Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith stated the De Soto group had agreed to place the entertainer's changing trailer behind the stage to prevent blockage to Mattson's.

MOTION TO APPROVE the Seafood Festival with a stipulation to continue to work to resolve the parking issues and set a special meeting on January 6, 2010 to discuss the De Soto parade issues was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Barnebey and passed 5-0 for approval.

BUSINESS/ADVERTISING, PETITIONS, HEARINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

SA.09.0018 WARD 2 NEIGHBORHOOD 4.06 RS

PUBLIC HEARING

Request of Bradenton Christian School, owner; ZNS Engineering, agent for a Special Use Amendment for installation of four light poles and fixtures at the school athletic field at 3304 43rd Street West (zoned R1B).

The public hearing was opened; anyone wishing to speak in favor or opposition please come forward.

Mary Davis Wallace, ZNS Engineering gave a brief overview of the request to install four light poles given to the school.

Dan van der Kooy, Superintendent of Bradenton Christian School (BCS) and a homeowner in the Village West subdivision Lot 9 adjacent to the BCS field, gave a brief history of the BCS property site as it related to the adjacent homeowners. He stated the school was built in 1971 and the Village West subdivision was developed in 1984. He stated the school had always tried to be good neighbors, addressing concerns brought forth by the Village West neighbors.

Mr. van der Kooy stated the school had been renting the Braden River High School football field but were told that public schools could no longer rent to private schools. He referred to the Florida Activities School Association Handbook which said; if the school ever had to host state series games, the school would have to have adequate lighting to accommodate night games. He stated that they had asked to use G.T. Bray Park but there would be conflicts with various schedules.

Discussion: Opposition to using the field for 33 soccer games.

Speaking in favor of the request were **Belinda Francis, Don Bower, Lisa Judge, and Mike Barber**. Each attested that they had no problems with having night games, as they would provide the opportunity for parents and siblings to attend. The lights given to BCS had been inspected and approved. BCS had always strived to be a good neighbor and had been in existence a lot longer than the Village West subdivision. The state of Florida had the best high school football teams in the nation, and BCS had the potential to go all the way to state championship some day.

Speaking against the project were **David Manke, Robert Stall, Richard LaBrecque, Edward Ertel, Jim Delmonico, Robert Weibolt, and Fredrick Hewitt**. They voiced their concerns that huge flood lights on poles would decrease the real estate value of the neighborhood and affect their quality of life. Some were not opposed to having 5 football games at night, but were opposed to having 33 soccer games at night. BCS was a bad neighbor and their students trespassed on adjacent neighboring lawns parked on lawns and left trash in the neighborhood. The poles given to BCS did not meet specific codes, and the bleachers were placed too close to the property line.

Len Najjar, ZNS Engineering, addressed the concerns regarding the light poles and stated that the poles had been inspected, complied with code and were in good condition. Some of the poles needed minor repairs but were serviceable. He noted that the light towers would have additional safety features.

Discussion: Utilizing the field at G.T. Bray Park. Bleacher and fence location.

Tom McCollum, ZNS Engineering, briefly gave an overview of the 7 stipulations made by the Planning and Community Development staff and the 5 stipulations made by the Planning Commission.

David Windham, contractor who installed the bleachers, stated the new larger bleachers were placed exactly where the old ones had been.

The public hearing was closed.

Tim Polk gave the Planning and Community Development staff report as follows:

STAFF EVALUATION:

In an ideal situation, the ball field would be located farther away from the residential property. However, this was a pre-existing condition. Records on file indicated the ball field had been at its present location since 1979. The subdivision received final approval in February 1984.

The ball field had been constructed approximately 50 feet from the west property line. The poles were proposed for installation 23 feet from the property line. Based on the proposed height of the poles, there was not a clear drop zone. Abutting properties had 15-20 foot setbacks, leaving an overlap of 7-12 feet. The installation would require that the structures supporting the lights, as well as the lights, met the 130 mile per hour wind load required by the building code. The installation must be designed by a structural engineer.

The applicant had stated that the lighting would be utilized 11 nights for football games and 22 nights for soccer games. This number included practices as well as games, and it should be noted that soccer games begin and end earlier than football games.

Mr. Polk stated the staff recommendation for 7 stipulations were as follows:

1. Prior to installation of the lights, the applicant would submit a landscape plan designed by a landscape architect, indicating dense buffering between the football/soccer field and the property owners to the west. The landscape plan would be approved by the Planning and Community Development Director, and implemented prior to final inspection of the lighting.
2. The light poles would be a minimum of 30 feet from the west property line.
3. The illumination should be downshielded in order to ensure that illumination was only broadcast to necessary areas, and would not escape upwards or over to off site locations, including onto adjoining properties. Wattage should be the minimum necessary to sufficiently light the field. Lighting specifications should be consistent with the photometric plan submitted with this request, and should ensure that the lighting should not spill onto the abutting properties through the use of downshielding and orientation of the luminaries.
4. A timer system should be designed and incorporated into the plan that should allow for programming of the lights with automatic shut off capability.
5. The applicant should install clear and visible signage that identifies the contact information for the department that would handle any complaints regarding operation of the illumination of the ball fields and any other potential light-related complaints
6. The PA system utilized for games requiring lighting would not be used for play by play announcements, but would be limited to public announcements such as general spectator safety advisories, player introductions, game status updates, pre-game and half-time announcements.
7. This approval was granted on the condition that sports events identified in this application should conclude prior to 10:00 p.m. with the exception of scheduled football games for which the time should be extended to 11:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION (November 16, 2009): APPROVAL, with stipulations 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7 as recommended by Staff, and renumbered as follows:

1. Prior to installation of the lights, the applicant would submit a landscape plan designed by a landscape architect, indicating dense buffering between the football/soccer field and the property owners to the west. The landscape plan would be approved by the Planning and Community Development Director, and implemented prior to final inspection of the lighting.
2. The illumination should be downshielded in order to ensure that illumination was only broadcast to necessary areas, and would not escape upwards or over to off site locations, including onto adjoining properties. Wattage should be the minimum necessary to sufficiently light the field. Lighting specifications should be consistent with the photometric plan submitted with this request, and should ensure that the lighting should not spill onto the abutting properties through the use of downshielding and orientation of the luminaries.

3. A timer system should be designed and incorporated into the plan that should allow for programming of the lights with automatic shut off capability.
4. The applicant should install clear and visible signage that identifies the contact information for the department that would handle any complaints regarding operation of the illumination of the ball fields and any other potential light-related complaints
5. This approval was granted on the condition that sports events identified in this application should conclude prior to 10:00 p.m. with the exception of scheduled football games for which the time should be extended to 11:00 p.m.

Lengthy discussion: Height requirement of poles needed for good illumination. Setbacks of the poles as a safety feature.

Councilman Gallo stated he had concerns for safety to the players running into the poles and requested that protective padding be placed around the poles.

Councilwoman Barnebey stated she would make the motion as she believed sports, which included marching bands, were a good influence on youth. She encouraged BCS to be mindful of their neighbors when it came to noise, parking and trash.

Councilman Roff stated he would support the motion as the ball field had been in existence since 1979 with the subdivision having been developed in 1984. He stated as an arborist he could assure the neighbors that the young trees and landscaping would be more than sufficient for buffering in the long term.

Councilman Roff asked for a gentlemen’s agreement that the school would assign people to go out after a game and pick up trash.

MOTION TO APPROVE SA.09.0018 with the recommendation made by the Planning and Community Development staff and Planning Commission with the staff’s original 7 stipulations was made by Councilwoman Barnebey, seconded by Councilman Gallo and passed 4-1 for approval with Councilman Byrd in opposition.

~~~~~

**SU.09.0070 WARD 1 NEIGHBORHOOD 4.08 RS PUBLIC HEARING**

Request of Cortez Village, owner; Judy Witt, agent for a Special Use for an indoor adult entertainment arcade located at 6640 Cortez Road West (zoned PDP).

The public hearing was opened; those in favor please come forward. No one came forward.

Those who were in opposition, please come forward. No one came forward, the public hearing was closed.

Tim Polk gave the Planning and Community Development staff report with the staff recommendation and the Planning Commission recommendation for approval with 2 stipulations as follows:

1. Hours of operation would be as stated in the application, specifically 10 am to 12 pm.
2. Prior to occupancy, a representative of the Bradenton Police Department Crime Prevention Unit would conduct an inspection in order to provide suggestions and initiatives for safety for the business and the clients.

**Ruth Seewer**, Development Review Manager, stated the applicant would not allow anyone younger than 21 years of age in the facility. She stated a game of chance would be illegal; however, a game of skill where the person had an option to stop the machine was legal.

Discussion: Should the state decide that this type of adult entertainment was illegal; any decision made by the Council would be dissolved with that ruling.

**MOTION TO APPROVE SU.09.0070 with the recommendation made by the Planning and Community Development staff and Planning Commission with 2 stipulations was made by Councilman Gallo, seconded by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith and passed 5-0 for approval.**

~~~~~

CP.09.0027 WARD 4 NEIGHBORHOOD 20.04 RS RESOLUTION 09-88 PUBLIC HEARING

Request of Richard Bennett, Matthew Kezar, William and Lynn Bacon, owners; Grimes Goebel, et al, agent for an amendment to the City of Bradenton Comprehensive Plan to change the Future Land Use Designation from Res-3 and Res-6 to Suburban Commercial Corridor, for 47.32 acres of property located at 907 57th Street East (zoned County A-1).

RESOLUTION 09-88

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON, FLORIDA, TRANSMITTING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS A PROPOSED (LARGE SCALE) AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS OF FACT; AUTHORIZING TRANSMITTAL OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT APPLICATION CP.09.0027, CITY OF BRADENTON, AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The public hearing was opened, those in favor please come forward.

Calib Grimes, agent for the applicant, displayed renderings of the property which had been previously annexed into the city. He gave an overview of the process needed to assign a comprehensive plan future land use to the property.

Those who were in opposition, please come forward.

Sandra Lange, 1017 57th Street East, resident for 26 years and neighboring property owner to the subject property, stated concerns she had for the wetlands in the back of the area about the increased traffic backup that was already a problem on Morgan Johnson Road from the SR 64 intersection.

General discussion: A delineation survey would be needed of the wetlands. That a site plan would be forthcoming, to have Ms. Lange contact the Planning and Community Development Department to review the site plan and discuss her concerns.

The public hearing was closed.

Tim Polk gave the Planning and Community Development staff report with staff and the Planning Commission recommendation for approval with 2 stipulations as follows:

1. Subsequent to the adoption of this amendment, the property owner(s) should apply for a Land Use Atlas Amendment for a Planned Development Project (PDP) land use designation prior to or concurrent with a development application.
2. A wetland delineation survey would be submitted with the development application.

MOTION TO APPROVE CP.09.0027 with Resolution 09-88 and the recommendations made by the Planning and Community Development staff and Planning Commission with 2 stipulations was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Roff and passed 5-0 for approval.

NEW BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS, CITY ATTORNEY AND COUNCIL

Carl Callahan

Industrial Development Revenue Bonds by the City of Bradenton for the benefit of Manatee County Rural Health Services, Inc. **PUBLIC HEARING**

RESOLUTION 09-81

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITY'S INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2009 (MANATEE COUNTY RURAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC. PROJECT) IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS TO MAKE A LOAN TO MANATEE COUNTY RURAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC. (THE "BORROWER") TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO FINANCE THE COST OF ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVING OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE BORROWER, TO REFINANCE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE BORROWER INCURRED FOR SUCH PURPOSES AND TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF ISSUING THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT, A BONDS PURCHASE AGREEMENT, A MORTGAGE, ASSIGNMENT OF RENTS AND SECURITY AGREEMENT, AN ENVIRONMENTAL INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND AN ASSIGNMENT OF LOAN AGREEMENT, MORTGAGE, PROMISSORY NOTE AND OTHER COLLATERAL; AWARDING THE SALE OF THE BONDS BY A NEGOTIATED SALE; AUTHORIZING OFFICIALS OF THE CITY TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; MAKING CERTAIN OTHER COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Callahan stated that in 2001 Bradenton supported the issuance of some industrial revenue bonds for the benefit of Manatee County Rural Health Services (MCRHS). The Bank of America and MCRHS wish to complete another bond transaction nearly identical to the 2001 transaction, to refinance the 2001 debt and other debt, and also to provide funds to MCRHS for new facilities. He stated there would be no financial impact upon the city. He stated that Manatee County had recently approved the Interlocal Agreement (ILA).

Having reviewed the ILA, Mr. Callahan, Bill Lisch, City Attorney, and John Stokes, City's Bond Attorney recommended approval to authorize Mayor Poston to execute Resolution 09-81 and the Interlocal agreement between the City of Bradenton and Manatee County.

The public hearing was opened; those in favor or opposition please come forward. No one came forward, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution 09-81 was made by Councilwoman Barnebey, seconded by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith and passed 5-0 for approval.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE Mayor Poston to execute the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Bradenton and Manatee County for MCRFHS was made by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Byrd and passed 5-0 for approval.

~~~~~

Florida Police Benevolent Union Contract

Mr. Callahan gave an overview of the police union contract which had been previously approved by the lieutenants for a two-year period with some economic reopeners, he recommended approval.

No discussion followed.

**MOTION TO APPROVE the Florida Police Benevolent Union Contract was made by Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilwoman Barnebey and passed 5-0 for approval.**

~~~~~

RESOLUTION 09-89 TAX CREDIT APPLICATION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON, FLORIDA, ACKNOWLEDGING CONSISTENCY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CURRENT CITY OF BRADENTON ENTERPRISE ZONE REDEVELOPMENT CAPITAL PROJECTS, SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BRADENTON’S ENTERPRISE ZONE; FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLIANCE WITH SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION TAX INCENTIVE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Callahan gave a brief overview of the tax credit application which was similar to the Manatee Players’ tax credit application. He stated the Enterprise Zone had been established July 1, 1995 to provide technical and financial incentives to a variety of businesses within the Enterprise Zone and to include select organizations which could participate in the Community Contribution Tax Credit Program.

Mr. Callahan stated the City Council had approved project elements to include capital improvements and construction projects in the core areas of the Enterprise Zone as follows:

- City of Bradenton’s McKechnie Field Stadium
- Riverwalk Project Area along the Bradenton Waterfront area
- Central Community Redevelopment Agency Projects
- 14th Street Community Redevelopment Agency
- Bradenton Enterprise Zone Redevelopment Projects
- City of Bradenton Redevelopment Projects

No discussion followed.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 09-89 was made by Councilwoman Barnebey, seconded by Vice Mayor and Councilman Smith and passed 5-0 for approval.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Gene Gallo, Ward I: Nothing to report.

Councilwoman Marianne Barnebey, Ward II: Invited everyone to attend the 14th Annual Winter Wonderland Event in downtown Bradenton where there will be snow mountains, and an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Councilwoman Barnebey wished the best to Manatee High School on a very important football game this Friday.

Councilman Patrick Roff, Ward III: Happily reported that the Wares Creek Project was moving ever closer to realization. He stated he had talked to an environmental crew hired by a dredging company who were inspecting the area and taking soil samples to prepare for a bid.

Vice Mayor and Councilman Bemis Smith, Ward IV: Nothing to report.

Councilman Harold Byrd, Jr., Ward V: Thanked the CCRA for retrofitting lights on Martin Luther King Avenue and stated it added a special holiday atmosphere to the neighborhood.

Councilman Byrd reported the groundbreaking for Dream Center would be December 15, 2009.

Councilman Byrd stated he would not be attending a scheduled march on Saturday, December 12, 2009 regarding the laser death incident, due to the death of his mother-in-law.

Mayor Wayne Poston: Reported that at a Smart Growth Seminar which had been attended by City of Bradenton and City of Sarasota representatives, the Realize Bradenton presentation had been featured. He stated a comment had been made by some of the representatives from Sarasota: "How did Bradenton get so far before us in developing these kinds of strategies?" Mayor Poston stated in a population survey the City of Bradenton was now larger than the City of Sarasota.

Mayor Poston and City Council members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Carl Callahan:

RESOLUTION NO. 09-91

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRADENTON, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR CITY OF BRADENTON EMPLOYEES USING PERSONAL VEHICLES TO TRAVEL ON CITY BUSINESS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Callahan stated Resolution 09-91 would decrease the mileage rate from \$.55 to \$.50 which comes after the announcement made by the IRS.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 09-91 was made by Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilman Roff and passed 5-0 for approval.

REQUEST BY Carl Callahan and Police Chief Radzilowski to authorize Mayor Poston to receive a Federal JAG Grant of \$70,000 to be used to update communication technology in the police department.

MOTION TO APPROVE the request to receive \$70,000 from a Federal JAG grant was made by Councilman Roff, seconded by Councilman Byrd and passed 5-0 for approval.

REQUEST BY Manatee Glens and the Housing Department to extend the 2004 Shelter Plus Care (S+C) grant award which would allow Manatee Glens to fully utilize the funding upon approval of the extension.

MOTION TO APPROVE the request to extend the 2004 Shelter Plus Care (S+C) grant award was made by Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilman Roff and passed 5-0 for approval.

Mr. Callahan distributed a booklet published by the Pittsburgh Pirates entitled "Anna Maria Island & Longboat Key-Florida's Gulf Island-and on the mainland-Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch."

Mr. Callahan gave an overview of booklets depicting the Pittsburgh sporting venues not only in the Pittsburgh area but throughout the nation which utilized wonderful marketing techniques to

promote tourism in the gulf coast area, by partnership elements from Radio, Signage, and Publications.

Mr. Callahan asked for support from the council and to contact anyone they know at the Tourist Development Council (TDC) to help promote this marketing. He stated he would be attending a meeting on Monday to request funding to help with the EDA and CRA grants to help with the Pirates renovations.

Chief Souders: Nothing to report.

Staci Cross: Stated that the police, fire, public works, and code enforcement utilized wireless providers for air cards to assist them to stay mobile on the job. She stated the current provider was Alltel and that Verizon had purchased Alltel. She stated this meant that we now have to negotiate a new contract with Verizon. She stated the problem was that Verizon would not honor the Alltel contract and the new prices were higher than what had been budgeted. She stated she was not opposed to Verizon, but that in a 12-month period there would be an increase of \$12,000 which was not budgeted for.

Discussion: Negotiating cost from other providers and with Verizon. Could Verizon legally break the contract?

ACTION: Decision to have Ms. Cross come back with more pricing options from AT & T and Sprint and look at the cost comparison with Verizon. If time allowed, she would bring back her findings at the January 6, 2009 Special Meeting.

Chief Radzilowski: Nothing to report.

Claude Tankersley: Nothing to report.

Tim Polk: Nothing to report.

Bill Lisch: Nothing to report.

Carolyn Moore: Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

NOTE: This is not a verbatim record. An audio CD or DVD recording of the meeting is available for a fee upon request.