

MALABAR COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

June 24, 2019

7:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at the Malabar Town Hall, 2725 Malabar Road, Malabar, Florida.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with P&P by Chair Mayor Reilly.

B. COUNCIL:

COUNCIL CHAIR:

MAYOR PATRICK T. REILLY

VICE-CHAIR:

STEVE RIVET

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

GRANT BALL

BRIAN VAIL

DICK KORN

DANNY WHITE

ADMINISTRATOR

MATT STINNETT

CLERK/TREASURER:

DEBBY FRANKLIN

Also present Bill Barrett, Chief Foley and PW Dir Tom Miliore.

C. BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR 19/20 Fiscal Year

Chair said we are going to continue discussion on priorities and potential funding sources. Asked TA to take lead.

TA said we will start process with capital assets to acquire in the short term and gave example of a new bed for the dump truck at about 15K.

Projects to accomplish – ditch on Hall between Raulerson to the west to Flashy – put specific money in budget to finish that drainage project. It will be contracted out.

CM Korn said Hall and Weber. No longer have water there. TA said they pitched the ditch towards the west. There is a not a pipe under Raulerson. CM White said the point to address is make sure the homeowners are communicated with. Project consists of two driveway culverts plus ditch construction– about 30K; he will get tighter estimate.

TA said he would like to continue with Town Hall upgrades in Building Department. They took in more revenue than estimated in the last two years and need to spend some of that money down. Mayor said to include carpeting.

CM Korn said we will be asking residents for a millage increase we have to know specifically what to tell them it is for such as to improve the existing drainage. Must be projects that benefit the town, not so we can get new carpet. CM Ball said we need to get money to cap the paved roads before they fall apart.

CM Korn said the patches on roads in Palm Bay – they are much worse than any of our roads the they don't mind. Chief Foley stated he lives out there and the residents are complaining and want the roads repaved.

CM Vail if you let the road get to that state the cost will be triple what it would have been to cap before then. CM Rivet said what we need to do is set aside a reserve for road paving.

CM White said talking points would be to repave Corey and Weber within the next five years. Make it specific to the time – in 5 years pave Corey and in 7 years pave Weber.

TA said the largest short-term expense is the Stormwater Master Plan. Within the next year we could have the master plan in place for approximately 150K and that would allow us to go forward for matching grants. CM Rivet said for a master drainage plan we need to have it done by a professional civil engineering firm. We have gotten good information from others, but they are not the professionals. He is absolutely in favor in getting a professional plan done for the estimated cost of 150K +/-.

TA said the first phase would be an asset inventory and phase 2 would be to take that assessment and put it into a system that we could look at from high level – see the data and GIS information and plan from there for specific project priorities in phase 3 to seek funding for the actual engineering.

Phase 1 and 2 could be completed in the next year with 150K. Where we are and where we want to go. CM Vail said that alone would help. CM Korn said there are good ditches there and they just haven't been maintained. Others said subsequent development has altered the original course of some of those ditches.

Bill Barrett was recognized. He said you must have a measurable study example and show actual outcomes - that will get you funding. What he talked about at prior meeting were scored grants. There is one other way to get money that could help pay for phase 1 and 2 and that is by a legislative appropriation. Palm Bay just got one.

TA said he is looking for the spending priorities for the next year short-term and then the long-term priorities for actual projects based on the information gained in phase 1 and 2. CM Ball said the 150K is a big hit to the reserves.

TA said the rest is what level of service do you want us to provide – road grading – it takes us 1.5 months to make it around Town and get to all the roads graded. CM White brought up Matthews Lane and asked PW Dir Tom about it. Tom had graded it and was in the process when the resident stopped him. He explained that he was not through. CM Vail said he did a great job on Smith. CM White asked if there was training available and offered to PW to improve their skills.

CM Korn said we need a building like at John Rhodes Park that they can have community events.

CM Vail said to build a town hall in vicinity of fire station in conjunction of a hurricane shelter. Work with EELs and county. We have had committees and have funding in the EELs budget for their educational center as a cost share. This could also involve grant money for a shelter. That would give us a community building here at this building.

They discussed using the front acreage on the east side of Malabar Woods Blvd for a new combo town hall/educational center. CM White said the Town Hall is the face of our Town.

CM Rivet said what do you say about the new town hall when residents can't flush their toilets after a heavy rain. What face are we showing the residents?

CM White said he has three goals while serving – roads, drainage and a new town hall. The new town hall will not be a talking point for the increased millage.

Funding priorities.

Dump truck bed is needed for daily work. Is truck worth it? Yes 15 years old but it runs good. We have two dump trucks. The other one is more like a utility dump truck - about half the capacity. Getting a second dump truck would be great.

Do we have the funding now? This would be from reserves. Mayor agrees with Danny – get town hall done. Use excess BP money.

Also prioritize the Hall Road project and put this as a high priority. Get better numbers. Ed on Flashy Lane called CM Korn and asked about the completion of that project. TA said that is maintenance; the ditches need to be cleaned.

Franklin said another consideration is for storm shutters. We got an estimate for just under 5K for the panels and track for the entire building. We have the estimate. We also need to pay for the engineering study to get to the next step. We have plenty of money in reserves – just need Council to make the commitment to prioritize it as a necessary expense.

Funding priorities.

Master drainage study. We are trying to get funding help. CM Rivet said go for it – for the master plan. Mayor said the return on the investment makes it worth it. CM Rivet agrees with Mayor. CM Rivet said they could allocate funds to replenish the reserved funds on deposit. TA asked about timeline to replenish funds. How about 3 years or 50K a year.

Franklin did overview on the 2.5 mil voters approved for completion of FD

Also got a 1.5 mil in early 1080's – for fire dept

Asked for an additional 1 mil to be used for FD and streets and that failed.

Bill said to get grants for a building – convert a senior center to evacuation location you have to provide a study. First thing to look at for the package is to get a little money from each dept. FEMA and EELs are both good opportunities but are limited. Fire Dept and EOCs are easier.

CM Korn said to go after State funding for a building in the parks. People he talked to didn't understand how Bill got the funding. Give them a reason to say yes. Bill explained that the grant funding can be complicated- bigger cities have specialized staff and they may not even understand. Every grant we go for will have some strings attached. Short of a legislative appropriation there will be strings attached.

Bill handed out the package that included the approved budget from this legislative session on just some of the current budget that was appropriated. It lists the legislative appropriation and which cities got money. Gave example of page 3, feasibility study for muck removal of Turkey Creek in Palm Bay. There is 49mil in this one section of the budget. Go to page 5, line 1681, there was 25mil appropriated to DEP to allow them to appropriate funds for innovative water projects that reduce nitrogen and TMDL reductions in the IRL.

CM Vail mentioned retention/detention ponds to allow water to clean. TA where should be focusing our projects. Bill said you are going to need settling ponds. Because of the IRL you are not going to be allowed to accomplish grants without showing that you are providing these. Also get people off the septic tanks near the water. CM Vail said we could get some of this money. Bill said they don't have the rules on how DEP is going to disperse this money yet. Bill said Gov DeSantis also committed three billion for storm water, wastewater and water projects. Stop doing it piece meal and allow it to be project wide if it is a state-wide issue.

Could we use EELs land for settling ponds? Possible?

Mayor said what he wants to do now is ask Bill once we did phase 1 and 2. What else can you help our Town gets grants for? Bill said depending the timeline of the study – the legislative session starts in January and they are moving very quickly on that. I would ask for funding for the study. Spend 75K over the next 6 months – that is your match. Your cost match is 75K as a 50% cost. He has more flexibility on that showing your commitment. Go for legislative appropriation of 75K saying we need another 75K and then we can do scored grants. If we pull in 300K we use that as a match for another scored grant. Can't get planning money in scored grants.

Bill said there is 85Mil in State budget for transportation projects. Drainage is also in transportation money. Page 7, St Cloud, 300K for

Also funding for FD equipment. Last page shows funding for fire stations. Didn't print any pages for shelters. That gives you an idea from economic development, stormwater, roads. Your best chance is stormwater. Best chance of those money being granted. Town Hall would be the lowest priority.

As your list provides him the priority stormwater projects, there may also be some funding available for a road to be redone or fire equipment, this is one their list also. When you get beyond, water, WW, SW, roads and economic – as legislators change, their priorities change. Rank projects in order of the Town. He can go after SW funds in three areas, but it will take a year of planning before going after money for a new Town Hall. Start calling it a multi-purpose building. CM Korn said you are basically a lobbyist, going after legislative appropriations.

CM Rivet – do we have a consensus. Do we want to retain his services? We are not going to double the town's revenue but investment in a professional to work towards getting some of our big projects funded.

Have this as an agenda item on next agenda. FS 11.047 regarding contingency fee. He will not be violating state law. In 1993 they outlawed contingency fees. The contract states the percentage applies only for the scored grants. There is an administrative fee. CM White is impresses and we are talking about the master plan are the tools we need to get the outcome.

For agenda put the contract for Bill Barrett's services for the scored grants.

CM Ball said he is impressed with the lobbyist and thinks it is time for someone to represent the Town's needs in Tallahassee.

TA said we could go for phase 1 now and then phase 2 would be Oct 1. Get the ball rolling – take it out of reserves. CM Rivet said he agrees. TA said they would like to wait until the end of the rainy season to do the physical inventory. He will check with them.

CM Vail – said it is promising.
Mayor said the field work could start in Sept.

Possibly add the Stormwater Master Plan to the agenda. TA will check with vendor and let Clerk know.

CM Bal asked for contract to review before meeting.

CM Vail also wants the section of code dealing with maintenance of ROW on agenda for discussion. Code needs more teeth.

Chair Reilly, without objection, adjourned the workshop meeting at 8:42pm.

BY: original signed
Mayor Patrick T. Reilly, Council Chair

(seal)

ATTEST:

Debby Franklin, C.M.C.
Town Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: 7/01/2019