

MALABAR TOWN COUNCIL AND PLANNING & ZONING WORKSHOP
JANUARY 11, 2007 7:00 PM

This meeting of the Malabar Town Council was held at Malabar Town Hall, 2725 Malabar Road, Malabar, Florida. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Thomas Eschenberg. The prayer and pledge were led by Council Member Brian Vail.

<u>ROLL CALL:</u> MAYOR/CHAIR	TOM ESCHENBERG
VICE-CHAIR:	CHUCK McCLELLAND
COUNCIL MEMBERS:	NANCY BORTON
	BRIAN VAIL
	BOBBI MOCCIA - excused
	PAT DEZMAN
ADMINISTRATOR:	ED BOOTH
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK:	CINDI KELLEY

DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE VISION FOR MALABAR

Mayor stated that the time allowed for this meeting, Mr. Booth would address the police department information researched from 7:00 to 7:15 pm. From 7:15 until 7:30, discussion of the vision of Malabar would take place and a separate meeting for a workshop to cover this issue would also be set.

Mr. Booth made a presentation to Council. He gave a brief overview, advantage and disadvantages, of four different ways for police protection for the Town of Malabar. They are: pay the MSTU, create a dual certified fire/police department, create our own police department or have Palm Bay take over services.

Indian Shores has a dual certified police/fire department. They have recommended to Mr. Booth and the Mayor not to go this way as we have an established fire department. It would not be cost effective to combine the two departments. Creating our own police department could be done for approximately \$300,000/year, allowing \$100,000 for each officer; this does not include any start-up costs of the department. To do this, it would have to go out to the public for a vote.

Paying the MSTU would give protection by the County; which we already receive. This would involve an increase in taxes for the residents. This would be set up by an ordinance by Council. A Deputy Commander of the Sheriff's Department was in the audience and gave a brief overview of what paying the MSTU would do for the Town. Right now, we share three Deputies on the south end of the County to the Brevard/Indian River line. A few times during the week, we receive more Deputy coverage due to the way the scheduling is set up with the County. Paying the MSTU would afford at least one more Deputy.

Mayor Eschenberg brought the meeting back to Mr. Booth and stated this should become an action item. Mr. Booth stated that whatever Council decides to do, the public needs to be educated on this issue. We need to discuss this more and write letters to the public. Council needs to decide which way they want to go. Mr. Vail stated it is only fair to give the citizens an option; present the advantages and disadvantages. He is in agreement with sending out letters from house to house. Mr. Booth stated he would draft a letter and bring before Council for their approval before sending it out. In this letter, we should invite the public to the fire department for an open meeting to discuss all the options.

Mayor Eschenberg asked how Council would like to proceed with this. Mr. Vail stated he would like to see a sample letter to the public by the next meeting. Council is in agreement with this.

Mr. Booth gave Mrs. Voltz the opportunity to address Council. She was under the impression that this meeting would provide a decision that Council would be making regarding this issue. Mrs. Dezman stated that a definitive answer would not be given this evening. We need to get with the people of Malabar and find out exactly what they want us to do.

Mrs. Moccia arrived at the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Eschenberg stated that we would carry this over to the regular meeting, as we have public hearings that must be addressed. Mr. Booth will give his report and then a meeting date for the workshop with Planning & Zoning will be set for the vision of Malabar.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, MOTION: McClelland/Moccia to adjourn meeting; VOTE: All Ayes. This meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

BY: _____
Mayor Thomas Eschenberg, Chair

ATTESTED BY:

Cindi Kelley, Deputy Town Clerk

Date