

**MINUTES FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OF THE CAPE CORAL CITY COUNCIL**

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Meeting called to order by Mayor Gunter at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mayor Gunter, Councilmembers Cosden, Cummings, Hayden, Long, Sheppard, Steinke, and Welsh were present.

BUSINESS

CITIZENS INPUT TIME

Bruce Marvin (District 3) appeared to discuss affordable housing, home selling price of over \$2M in his neighborhood not on a canal, Lee County tax roll for \$216K, 17 homes purchased by a single LLC, four in Cape Coral with higher sale prices. He suggested that this be reviewed due to possible money laundering. He will email his research to Council of the sale on 1424 SE 21st Street.

City Manager Hernandez noted he was advised by Staff that the LLC purchase included multiple properties for that price.

DISCUSSION

**4.B.(1) Presentation from the Collaboratory –
Brought forward by Councilmember Hayden**

Councilmember Hayden introduced Sarah Owen, CEO of Collaboratory, who would discuss solutions to several social issues in the community.

Sarah Owen, CEO of Collaboratory, presented and provided information as follows:

- Collaboratory
- Quote by John Sheppard, one of the Collaboratory founders
- We've been on a journey – 46 years.
- The Building, Co-Working, Meeting Space, Tours, Making Connections
- February 2020 – board approved multi-million-dollar budget to launch an initiative based on ideas and budgets they studied for two years.
- It's more than a name.
- Solve all our major social problems on an 18-year deadline
- Two things are necessary for great achievement...a plan, and not quite enough time.”--Leonard Bernstein

- Here's how. Use a highly inclusive approach to connect and coordinate innovators and problem-solvers.
- There are big, difficult stubborn social problems.
- Population, Energy demand and emissions, Temperature
- National, State, and Lee County statistics/numbers Depression, Kids living below 200% the Poverty Level, Low Food Access, Mothers without Prenatal Care, Suicide Rate
- Our partners in Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Glades are experiencing the same realities.
- Poverty, Clean Water, Abuse, Racism, Illiteracy
- Here's the reality
- Economic Opportunity, Public School Strength, Early Childhood Learning, Maternal Heal, Transportation
- One large entanglement with 100 entangled symptoms, It's all connected.
- Dogs are connected to domestic violence.
- Buses are connected to babies.
- Voting is connected to early childhood education.
- Early childhood education is connected to nutrition.
- Nutrition is connected to police.
- Suicide rates are connected to broadband.
- Broadband is connected to poverty.
- Poverty is connected to tourism.
- We're not well organized to put it mildly.
- Most companies and even most nonprofits
- Our communities (chart)
- There's nothing and no one coordinating all of this.
- We've studied
- NASA, Airbnb, Uber
- There is no collective regional goal.
- We don't make big ideas turn-over proof.
- We don't have time and money.
- We don't plan for egos, competition, and backbiting.
- We're not alone. This is every community in America. Every city. Every county. Every region.
- So, what do we need to do?
- Build trust, navigate egos and competition
- Share meaningful data and information
- Commit to a powerful, holistic regional goal
- Coordinate the action
- Fund bandwidth, bandwidth, bandwidth for collaboration
- Make it turn-over proof
- What can I do next? Let's talk

Councilmember Hayden suggested the concept as it is interconnected to finding solutions. It is based on how to make a difference, bringing communities together, and a goal to bring more medical complexes. This would be a start to initial discussions about what we could do as a government body to help make some significant changes in that 18-year plan. The Collaboratory may be the landing place where these groups meet to help solve some of our most significant problems that exist in our communities. He will continue to meet with Sarah and meet with other government bodies. He offered to provide quarterly reports to Council on the progress.

4.B.(2) Quarterly Grants Management Report

Financial Services Director Mason explained the following displayed slides on the Fourth Quarter FY2022:

- Grants Quarterly Report Fourth Quarter FY2022
- Number of Grants Applied For
- Number of Pending Awards
- Number of Grants Awarded
- List of Grants Applied for – 4th Quarter
- Active Grants (seven slides)

Councilmember Steinke inquired about having a Grant Manager full-time.

Director Mason responded that there was a full-time Grant Manager. There is a Grant Coordinator in Financial Services, and each department has designated grant writers' personnel. There are seven contracts available for grant writers, so the City is well covered with grant writers.

Director Mason explained the following displayed slides on the First Quarter FY2023:

- Grants Quarterly Report First Quarter FY2023
- Number of Grants Applied For
- Number of Pending Awards
- Number of Grants Awarded
- List of Grants Applied for – 1st Quarter
- Active Grants (nine slides)

4.B.(3) Quarterly Parks GO Bond Update

Capital Improvements Director Clinghan explained the following displayed slides:

- Parks GO Bond and Yacht Club Update
- PW Coordinating the Design and Permitting & CIP Coordinating the Construction
- Cultural Park – Original Contract Scope

City Manager Hernandez explained the Parks GO Bond Summary of Estimated Costs dated January 17, 2023, which was distributed to Council prior to the meeting.

Mayor Gunter requested the initial cost evaluations recommendations outlined in the 2018 Referendum.

Director Clinghan continued with the following slides:

- Cultural Park – Additional Scope Proposed
- Initial estimate in 2018 was \$4.5M

Mayor Gunter stated he pulled Ordinance 38-18 approved in June 2018, and the numbers from 2018 were different from what was being presented.

Director Clinghan stated that the numbers would need to be reviewed as he was using the figures posted on the website. The bottom line is that it is still \$60M. He continued as follows:

- Gator Trails Park – Original Contract Scope
- Gator Trails Park – Additional Scope Proposed
- Giuffrida Park
- Del Prado Linear Park
- Sands Park
- Joe Coviello Park
- Yellow Fever Creek
- Lake Kennedy Racquet Center
- Festival Park
- Lake Meade Park
- Crystal Lake Park
- Tropicana Park
- Yacht Club

Mayor Gunter discussed the following:

- 2018 Ordinance Parks GO Bond recommendations
- Follow-up and advise Council where we come up with the initial numbers mentioned in the presentation compared to what was actually incorporated in the Ordinance
- Cost override much higher than anticipated
- Inflated costs for each park
- More to come for other parks
- \$60M 2018 GO Bond initial estimates
- Where are we in 2023 in relation to 2018
- Initial Estimates versus Ordinance figures listed
- Parks Master Plan 2016
- Need clarification – Staff will follow up on the figures

City Manager Hernandez stated there is about \$12.8M set aside in designated reserve to cover any Parks GO Bond cost inflation; \$60M plus \$12.8M to approximately \$73M at this time.

Councilmember Steinke discussed the 2018 original GO Bond of \$60,152,519 and the current total estimates listed at \$73,797,393.

Discussion held regarding:

- Moving the \$10.9M Yacht Club funds to other Parks GO Bond initiatives
- Previous Council allocated the \$12M
- Gross \$10.9M for the Yacht Club minus Design Services and CMAR Services
- Financing and reimbursement Resolutions
- Dollars invested in the Yacht Club identified in the bottom of the spreadsheet
- Yacht Club was 90% Design completed – Hurricane Ian effects and impact – to be discussed at the Retreat
- Question on new parks and existing parks modifications – 7 new Neighborhood Parks; 4 new Community Parks; improvements to 19 existing parks
- 11 parks total on list – 7 completed or contracts issued
- Pending bids: Festival Park, Lake Meade, Crystal Lake, Tropicana, Yacht Club
- Tropicana Park timeline with eagles' nest
- Removal process of the eagles' nest
- Artificial tree pole in the future and impacts to other developments
- Eagle behavior – preference for natural trees

4.B.(4) Quarterly Capital Improvements Update (CIP, PW, and Utilities)

Capital Improvements Director Clinghan explained the following displayed slides:

- Office of Capital Improvements CIP Update
- North 1 West UEP - \$250 Million
- North 3 UEP
- Fire Station #13 - \$7.7M Estimated GMP

City Manager Hernandez requested guidance from Council on how to proceed with Station #13. \$5.8M has been budgeted for construction, short by \$1.9M. The recommendation from the Finance Director is to issue debt funded by the Fire Services Assessment and the General Fund. A new ladder truck was ordered 18 months ago that will be stationed at this station. Both the Fire Chief and the Finance Director recommended that we continue with this project and issue additional debt to cover the full cost of the project.

Councilmember Hayden inquired about using impact fees.

Director Mason stated that impact fees will be used to the extent that they are available; all of the fees are currently going towards the Fire Training Facility. If it is not available,

the pledge will be a coveted budget appropriation utilizing any legally available resources to make the debt payments.

Councilmember Steinke suggested finding the funding for the needed Public Safety.

Mayor Gunter supported the initiative to find other revenue sources, whether it be impact fees, or additional debt. Fire Station #13 was to address the response time.

Council polled as follows whether or not to proceed with this project: Long: yes, Cummings: yes, Welsh: yes, Hayden: yes, Gunter: yes, Sheppard: yes, Steinke: yes, Cosden: yes

Consensus agreed, with no objection, to proceed with Fire Station #13 project.

City Manager Hernandez provided explanation to the new Councilmembers about the location change which included water and irrigation.

Director Clinghan continued with the following slides:

- Fire Training Facility
- Police Training Facility
- New Fleet Facility
- Facilities Master Plan
- 140 Bridges Rehabilitation Program \$1Million per year

Mayor Gunter inquired about how many bridges were damaged by Hurricane Ian.

CIP Design and Construction Manager Corbett explained that Surfside at 25th and Sands were two bridges damaged by Hurricane Ian. There were 18 other bridges that sustained minor damages and would be repaired in the normal maintenance schedule.

Discussion held regarding FEMA reimbursement for repairs of damaged bridges. .

Director Clinghan presented the following slides:

- 28 Weirs Rehabilitation Program with Utilities \$1Million per year
- Jaycee Park Improvements – detailed update at the Jan 2023 Winter Retreat
- D&D Boat Ramp – detailed update at the Jan 2023 Winter Retreat
- Misc. Capital Improvement Projects
- Proposed 2023 Projects

Councilmember Sheppard inquired about the New Fleet Facility and future designs of electrical vehicles. Has this been taken into consideration?

Director Clinghan responded that this would be taken into consideration and planned accordingly for the future.

Public Works Director Ilczyszyn explained the following displayed slides:

- Public Works – FY23 1st Quarter CIP Update
- Public Works Department Capital Improvement and Capital Maintenance Projects
- Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail Program (four slides)
- Road Rehabilitation Program
- Nicholas Parkway East and West
- Alley Reconstruction/Paving
- Median Landscaping Program
- Photo example of Rose Garden Boulevard
- Sidewalk Program
- Water Quality Projects – Bubble Curtains, Palmetto Pine Golf Course Irrigation
- Bimini Basin Mooring Field – detailed update at the Jan 2023 Winter Retreat
- Chiquita Boulevard North Widening (two slides)
- Stormwater Operational Projects
- Property Management – Facilities (two slides)
- Survey

Councilmember Steinke commended Public Works for their work and achievements to complete the projects and under budget.

Mayor Gunter inquired about the Design-Build methodology, cost savings, and narrowing the timeframe. Would this be beneficial for the City?

Director Ilczyszyn responded that there are several methodologies, including the Design-Build. He explained that depending on the project the methodology may vary. The intent is to increase speed and cut down on the number of reviews, time, and eliminate hours on the Design side. This is an appropriate method for the Sidewalks project, depends on what is being done. Two crews in the City would be needed to complete 80 feet per day. Need to decide on 15- or 18-months project timeline.

Discussion held regarding:

- Bubble Curtains in-water construction completion
- Concerns with upcoming rainy season - May/June rainy season starts
- Releases start end of July/August/September – leading to hurricane peak season
- Advocating for more normalized release of flows
- Generator in place to run curtains
- One-year test run to do the acoustic monitoring on curtains
- Waiting on cold fronts to end to have divers inspect the curtains
- Planning to not repeat last year's challenges
- Bubble Curtains conditions
- Catch basins replacements \$1M set aside – provide to Council at the next Water Quality Quarterly update
- FDEP permit for Water Quality may be incorporated into that project

Utilities Director Pearson explained the following displayed slides:

- Utilities Department CIP Projects Update
- Utilities Dept Projects
- Ft. Myers Reclaimed Water Transmission Main
- Southwest Water Reclamation Operations and Maintenance Bldg. Project
- Reservoir Pipeline and Pump Station
- Nicholas Parkway West/East Watermain Improvements
- North Utilities Complex-UCD Admin Building and Warehouse
- Design/permit CRA Sewer MPS-100 and FM
- Palm Tree Watermain and Force Main Improvements
- Design/permit/construct additional North RO
- Construct new water, irrigation and sanitary sewer utilities within the Pine Island Road Corridor – West
- 5 MG expansion for Southwest WRF and Transmission FM along Veterans Pkwy
- Projects Completed 2022:
- Pine Island Road Reclaimed Water Tanks and Booster Station
- Weir 29

Councilmember Cummings left the dais at 10:38 a.m. and returned at 10:41 a.m.

Discussion held regarding:

- Caloosahatchee micro tunneling status – pending meeting and timeline
- Directional drilling separate part from Fort Myers micro tunneling
- Partnership project - having Fort Myers timeline – information would be provided

4.B.(5) Economic and Business Development Office Quarterly Report

Economic and Business Development Officer Woodberry explained the following displayed slides:

- Economic Activity Report – Quarter 1 – Fiscal Year 2023
- Report Overview
- Key Economic Indicators

City Manager Hernandez pointed out the less than 1% industrial vacancy rate.

Ms. Woodberry continued with the following slides:

- Commercial Construction Values – Multi-family
- Commercial Construction Values – Industrial
- Commercial Construction Values – Commercial - Other
- Office Construction
- Industrial Construction
- Retail Construction

- Commercial Building Permits
- Economic Development Marketing Activities Q12023
- Business Attraction, Retention, and Expansion
- Projects Under Construction (three slides)
- Planning and Permitting (three slides)
- Recently Completed Projects
- Aspire Apartments
- The Palms
- Sprouts Market
- Cape Coral Commons
- Gator Mike's – Dinosaur Falls
- Goals

City Manager Hernandez stated that the invitation for the Horizon Council's President's Circle event for late January was sent to Council Office.

Councilmember Steinke discussed the following:

- Attended his first TDC meeting
- Sharing of information by other municipalities during Municipal Input
- TDC communicates these to others
- Put together and coordinate to let them know of a presentation on the new and improved to share with others

Councilmember Hayden inquired about the Lee Health purchase of a large parcel on Pine Island Road. Have there been any ongoing discussions with them about future plans?

Ms. Woodberry stated that they were speaking with Lee Health who was in their master planning stage. It may be a couple of years before they are building anything; they recognized the need and planning accordingly.

Discussion held regarding:

- Victory Park - meeting with developer and consultant sometime this month

Mayor Gunter inquired about seeing data amongst retail, office, and industrial spaces in the SWFL Region and include the ten most populated cities in Florida for comparison where we rank. He asked for an update on the Lee Health project on Pine Island Road.

City Manager Hernandez stated that there is a meeting scheduled at their Health Park facility to review the status report and future plans for all of their facilities in the Cape. Lee Health is embarking on a \$150M expansion in the Cape without addressing the Pine Island Road corridor.

Mayor Gunter requested what is being done on a quarterly basis to promote our City for this year.

Ms. Woodberry discussed the Marketing Strategic Plan for some of our efforts to get the word out. She was looking to our Economic Development Master Plan to be more focused and strategic.

Councilmember Cummings inquired where the City should be with industrial space.

Ms. Woodberry responded that 3-5% would be more standard, industrial has taken off in the last few years. The demand is there, and the City is working on trying to meet the demand.

City Manager Hernandez discussed the challenges of the limited industrial space as the City is not immediately adjacent to an airport, no rail infrastructure within the City limits, and not in close proximity to a major interstate. He discussed future plans with the Burnt Store Road widening in terms of accessing I-75.

Discussion held regarding:

- Marketing outreach
- Outreach to local industrial partners
- Midwest area being hit harder due to high volume of relocations
- Tools being used for outreach
- Working with Urban Land Institute (ULI) - international reach
- Advertised in their publication
- Showcased some of our successful businesses - Mercola
- Attendance at ULI conferences, ICSC conferences, and others
- Advertisement in regional newspapers, Southwest Florida Business Weekly
- Working with Lee County and piggy-back on their leads
- Reinstating our branding at local airports - Punta Gorda
- Campaign was discontinued at both local airports
- Importance to know where our market is – more formal marketing plan
- Council receives summary of economic outreach as part of the Quarterly Report
- What is the Strategic Plan for Economic Development?
- Providing Council insight on economic development opportunities
- Seeking out manufacturers aggressively – anything that relates to this area
- 80% advertisement at this point
- Refresh and re-inventory assets
- Attracting the suppliers
- Targeting manufacturers to relocate closer to our region
- Going after the small businesses of 20-50 employees
- Cape Coral is the glitter supply hub of the United States
- Kinds of businesses to target and assist them to flourish
- Marketing materials in the newspapers - sharing with Council
- Approach areas with purpose

- Attracting higher paying jobs and businesses
- CapeCompetes Incentives – 8-9 formal economic incentives
- ABC Supply project coming forward to Council at the 1/25 meeting
- Discussion at the Retreat on the 318 acres on Burnt Store Road – potential for light industrial – offer incentives
- Inquiries on those acres via phone calls and emails
- Light industrial park – more discussion at the Winter Retreat
- Next week Council could identify what the magnet should look like

Recessed at 11:33 a.m. and reconvened at 11:47 a.m.

4.B.(6) Façade Improvement Program Conceptual Overview

Economic and Business Development Officer Woodberry explained the following displayed slides:

- What is a Façade Program?
- Purpose
- Economic Benefits of a Façade Program
- Salt Lake City
- Hamilton, NY
- Proposed Guidelines (continued for two slides)
- Next Steps
- Phase 1 – Downtown CRA

Mayor Gunter commented as follows:

- Incentive programs to revitalize businesses and areas
- Substantial improvements then mandatory to do Façade improvements as well
- Develop criteria
- Agreed with starting out in CRA area – Phase 1
- With this type of incentive program for the CRA, would the funding mechanism be used for that particular area? Would it come out of the CRA budget?

City Manager Hernandez stated if a project comes in within the CRA, the first funding source would be the CRA, if they have money available. At this time, CRA funding is being allocated to the Cove at 47th and other projects. There is approximately \$1.3M in an account to do property acquisitions. The first would be the CRA, and then City funding through CapeCompetes would be secondary.

Discussion held regarding:

- Timeline of six months
- Get one or two programs up and running first
- Hybrid approach with architect on retainer should the business owner want to use our architect
- See how approaches work

- Most architects are busy due to Hurricane Ian
- Concerns with costs associated with permitting and impact fees
- Up to \$50K would be toward construction costs
- Mayor Gunter suggested bringing back to another COW with the criteria

Councilmember Welsh agreed with the Façade Incentive and potential to build out properties in the CRA and other areas. He did not agree to hold it up as a lot of properties in the CRA were hit by Hurricane Ian. He was in favor of the Program.

Councilmember Sheppard agreed with the Façade Incentive. He was concerned with some businesses that would be using Hurricane Ian as an excuse for the lack of maintenance.

Ms. Woodberry pointed out the payback to City should there be any Code Enforcement liens and other reasons.

Mayor Gunter discussed the minimum requirement to landscaping and upkeep of properties. This should be a multi-faceted approach. He will have a field trip with the City Manager in early February to tour the City. He shared the research he gathered and conducted several years ago regarding a percentage of the budget of any given City is put towards improvements.

City Manager Hernandez expressed caution based on discussions with people in the real estate industry. Why have property owners not reinvested into properties? Answer has been no economic incentives available in the City. He shared the challenges of 100% vacancy and businesses' desire to improve properties.

Councilmember Sheppard stated that the City needs to step up and make it unacceptable for the lack of upkeep of business properties. If new Codes or Ordinances are needed, inform Council. The City might need to improve standards.

Mayor Gunter commented that the previous program he participated in up North was focused on substantial improvement of the property by looking at the assessed value and based on that then a façade improvement would be required. Business will need to decide if they want to participate in the program.

Councilmember Cummings agreed with the comments from Mayor Gunter and Councilmember Sheppard.

City Attorney Menendez stated that structuring the program it is possible that we may need to offer a special benefit to the CRA properties for being in the CRA area.

Councilmember Steinke stated that the owner of the property might not have a concern. Landlord might delegate the maintenance responsibility to tenants. Communicating and accountability would be an important component of the program.

Councilmember Sheppard suggested penalizing the owners not abiding by the City Code and standards for maintaining the appearance of their properties. This should not be offered to owners that have not kept up their properties for 20 years.

Discussion held regarding:

- Tenant/Landlord agreements identifying who is responsible
- Code Enforcement 99% of the time initiated against the property owner unless the tenant is identified as the responsible party

4.B.(7) UEP N1 West Follow-Up

Capital Improvements Director Clinghan explained the following displayed slides:

- North 1 West UEP Update
- Outline
- UEP History (five slides)
- North 1 West Project Area (two slides)
- North 1 West Estimated Costs Utilities Construction Bids
- North 1 West Estimated Costs – UEP Contractors
- Total construction cost - \$203.1M
- North 1 West Estimated Costs – Project Costs - \$249.6M
- Funding Sources
- North 1 West Assessments
- EP's vs. Parcels
- EP's
- Estimated Land Area (SF) and CFEC
- EP and CFEC vs. Average Home Price
- Real Estate Data – Florida Gulf Coast MLS January 4, 2023
- Historical Assessments adjusted to January 2023 Dollars

Director Mason presented the following slides:

- Exemptions Governmental Parcels
- Exemptions Institutional Properties (two slides)
- Exemptions Irrigation Prohibited Connections
- Exemptions Estimated Land Area (SF) City Pays
- North 1 West Financing – Payment Options
- Initial Prepayment
- Adjusted Prepayment
- Maximum Annual Payments 20 Year Term
- Maximum Annual Payments 25 Year Term
- Maximum Annual Payments 30 Year Term (Default)
- Loan Schedule – Water Line Extension
- Bond Debt Service - 30 Year Level Debt Service

- Maximum Annual Payments Comparison
- Hardship Program
- CDBG
- Next Steps

Discussion held regarding:

- Assessment amount much higher than in past assessments
- Notices sent out a year ago about the assessment forthcoming
- Chambers may not be large enough for the public meeting
- Prepayments about 10% - provide breakdown to Council
- Prepayment 20/25/30-year terms
- Amortized amount would be in the area of six figures
- Capital Facility Expansion Charge (CFEC) prepayment
- Does not include amount homeowners would pay to get water hooked up to home
- Need to start process now instead of waiting until March 2023
- Notice should be sent to homeowners informing the amount in the first two weeks of February 2023 once the Assessment Resolution is approved
- Assessment could be catastrophic – many may put home for sale and move
- Detailed Slide 21 – Index values correlation of increased property values (historical assessments adjusted to January 2023 Dollars)
- State appropriations to cut down costs – SB4 – more information to come
- No Federal Grants available
- Benefit to resident if paid off no added interest
- Municipal Bonds for City's portion
- If financing, City would pay the same assessment as a property owner
- Hardship Program – Slide 34 - must qualify annually
- What happens if this does not get paid?
- Tax lien filed and sold annually for three years, property foreclosed and auctioned
- Are new homeowners being informed by realtors of the assessment?
- Former Councilmember Tate advised the Realtors' Association
- Staff can send out targeted information piece to realtors and contractors of UEP
- Sharing communications with realtor industry once adopted
- Seller disclosure - are there any future assessments currently known
- Prior packets communications
- Include simple terms form, providing background, history, requirements, reason
- Every time a house is purchased, suggestion for City to send out welcome to our City type of mailer to include information on trash collection, UEP coming, and any other useful information
- Staff can do multiple mailings to get the information out to residents
- Sharing information and tools for Council to pass along to residents, reason why, wells running dry, State requirements
- Communications to place button on website to see a preview of what is ahead and provide responses to many of the FAQs

- Informational letter, diagram visual picture, include to the UEP webpage and share with Council to know where to send residents for information
- UEP Contractors complaints and challenges
- Shortening timeline compared to prior projects
- Lessons learned, checks and balances – more details to these issues
- Including history on the second letter and simplifying the information
- Performance penalties/liquidated damages contained in contracts

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Councilmember Welsh stated at the last meeting he brought up the desire to have more discussion on moving Citizens Input to the end of our meeting. He inquired if Council had any interest in changing the way we conduct our meetings. Since he made that comment, he received comments from residents in favor of this change.

Mayor Gunter stated Council should be polled for a consensus on whether to move forward. He would not have an interest as this would affect the Consent Agenda.

Discussion held regarding:

- County agenda has a separate Citizens Input for Consent Agenda items
- E-comments available to residents
- Including too many areas of Citizens Input would make meetings longer

Councilmember Cosden was not in favoring of moving it, but she would agree to adding a second Citizen Input

Councilmember Hayden was not in favoring of moving it, has not received any emails on this item, no second input as there are Public Hearings and opportunity for input as well.

Councilmember Sheppard was not in favoring of changing it and suggested asking any Citizens present during Reports if they had any comments.

Councilmember Steinke favored keeping it the way it is since the agendas are posted ahead of time.

Councilmember Cummings liked it the way it is but was in agreement with Councilmember Welsh. She inquired about the reading of E-Comments out loud. She suggested a button on the website from Communications for Citizens to pose their questions so that Facebook live would have them engaged.

City Manager Hernandez explained that there is an E-Comment link on our website. Once we resumed normal operations following COVID, Council discontinued reading the E-Comments into the record. However, the E-Comments are shared with all members of Council, Staff, and they are made part of the official record. They are no longer read due to time constraints.

Councilmember Cummings asked how to bring it back since there are a lot of Citizens that want to provide their input.

Mayor Gunter noted that Council receives a copy, and it was everyone's obligation to read them prior to the meeting.

City Clerk Bruns explained the E-Comment process.

Mayor Gunter asked for a consensus on keeping or changing the process. If the majority is to change the process, it will be brought to a future COW meeting for discussion.

Council polled to keeping or changing the process: Long: same, Cummings: same, Welsh: change, trial run, Hayden: same, Gunter: same, Sheppard: same, Steinke: same, Cosden: same

Consensus reached to keep Citizens Input the same.

Councilmember Cummings inquired about Facebook live.

City Attorney Menendez explained the following:

- Two-way communications issues real time
- Speaking with more than one member at a time
- Great caution should be exercised when commenting

Discussion held regarding:

- Posting YouTube video on Facebook
- Means to livestream meetings
- Communications have looked into broadcasting meetings live via FB
- No response to comments
- Not to engage in active two-way communications
- Delayed broadcast
- Council not monitoring or responding to comments in real-time
- Highlights on videos; two-way communications challenges; no open dialogue
- Uploading YouTube link through FB to engage both audiences
- If anyone wants to comment, then they would need to come to a meeting.
- Communications – post meeting on FB day prior to meeting, day of meeting, and include link to actual meeting
- Ability to turn off comments, most but not all of them
- Taking clip from UEP and boosting it for that location in FB
- Challenges with real-time broadcasting and two-way comment functionality
- Laws and regulations restrictions
- Boosting topic and discussions
- Suggestion to add clip of video after the meeting on FB

- Issue with bandwidth and being able to add to FB
- Communications on next business day to add to the Cape Coral Government page
- Posting videos of meetings - Delays due to size of meeting
- Agenda management packets and discussion point
- City Clerk to start research on agenda management software
- Staff to look into and present to Council
- Distraction from business at Council meetings
- Another avenue and resource to get information out by using FB
- People would not review the entire meeting due to attention span
- Adding where to find video at the end of Cape Clips notification
- FB post directs you to CapeTV/YouTube recording
- Link availability to particular meeting video
- Process of posting videos to FB

Councilmember Cummings suggested taking the footage of the meeting and putting it on the Cape FB page with a title on it.

City Manager Hernandez stated the request as just described is different from what was discussed previously. First issue off the table. As described now, in theory sounds reasonable. We will work with our Communications staff to determine what it will take to do something like that on FB. Essentially you are taking Cape Clips and just identifying where in the video they need to go to.

Councilmember Cummings responded in the affirmative.

City Manager Hernandez mentioned on Cape Clips, it says Council discuss UEP 1, click here for the video discussion to get that portion. He noted it was reasonable and will work with Communications to find out if we have the technical capability with the current software. He stated he would bring additional information to Council.

Mayor Gunter stated all Councilmembers will have ideas and suggestions moving forward. He reminded Council that anytime that anyone of us wants to bring something forward the decision is made collectively as a Council. Today was an ideal time to have those types of discussions.

TIME AND PLACE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

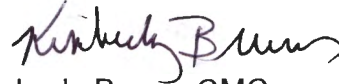
A Regular Meeting of the Cape Coral City Council was scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2023, beginning at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Cape Coral City Council Retreat (2-Day event) to be held on Thursday, January 26, 2023, and Friday, January 27, 2023, beginning each day at 9:00 a.m. at Nicholas Annex, Conf. A200/Green Room, 815 Nicholas Parkway, Cape Coral, FL 33990.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Kimberly Bruns", is written over the printed name.

Kimberly Bruns, CMC
City Clerk