

City of Marathon
City Council Workshop Minutes
April 23, 2024, 2024 5:30 pm City Council Workshop Minutes

CALL TO ORDER - A Workshop of the City Council of Marathon, Florida was held on April 23, 2024 in the Marathon Council Chambers, 9805 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, Florida, Mayor Still called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL - There were present:

Councilmember Gonzalez

Councilmember Matlock

Councilmember Smith

Vice-Mayor Landry

Mayor Still, comprising a quorum.

Also, in attendance were:

City Manager, George Garrett

City Clerk, Diane Clavier

City Attorney, Steve Williams

Planning Director, Brian Shea

Code Director, Ted Lozier

Building Official, Gerard Roussin

Public Works Director/City Engineer, Carlos Solis

Parks Director, Paul Davis

Members of the Public

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Williams read the notice of the executive session in the FOLKs case 4:22-CV-100002 to take place at 4:30 pm on May 14th. Williams brought temporary permit TEMP-24-5 to the attention of the Council, Mayor Still added Special Call meeting discussion as item 7 on the agenda.

Presentation of Vulnerability Assessment – Garrett introduced Greg Corning with Wood Engineering/WSP explaining he participated in the cleanup of the Canals after Hurricane Irma.

Corning provided a PowerPoint presentation and explained this was the first of three presentations, and informed everyone the purpose of the steering committee members is to help guide and provide feedback on the vulnerability assessment process to prepare, protect, and prioritize the City's infrastructure and assets from impacts due to rainfall and tidal flooding. Corning informed everyone of the general elements of vulnerability assessments, such as sea level rise and tidal flood, stormwater flooding and surge, risks, and consequences as well as adaptation strategies. Corning also explained FS 380.093 dictates that we need to do a vulnerability assessment and the required components of vulnerability assessments for Florida. By doing a vulnerability assessment, we would qualify for capital project funding and after 2024, applicants for grants will not be eligible to apply for projects if they are not identified in our vulnerability assessment. Corning also provided a timeline to provide the final report and all deliverables to DEP. Corning also provided a QR code for additional input from the public.

The Mayor called for speakers, hearing none, closed public comments.

Skate Park Location Discussion – Garrett provided a PowerPoint presentation with options for location; three locations at the Community Park and one at Oceanfront Park.

Mayor Still called for speakers.

Christina Belotti – spoke for the skate park being in the Community Park and explained that since 1999 we have raised funds and fought for the skate park, but we have had continuous adversity.

Tina Belotti – spoke for the skate park Community Park location.

Brad Hager – explained the design had lots of green space and the design could be changed. Hager explained that there were no eyes on the park behind City Hall and sometimes there is one kid skating. It would be dangerous.

John Shinnars – commented he agreed with the previous speakers that the skatepark should stay in Community Park. Shinnars explained he lives on 99th Street and the neighborhood was concerned about lighting and noise at Oceanfront Park.

Matt Sexton – explained he wanted the skatepark for his children and wants it at community park, but not next to the wastewater plant. Sexton informed everyone he does not want to take anything away from the soccer field, events, or festivals.

Bettye Chaplin explained the skate park is so important and behind city hall would be a terrible location.

Diane Scott – commented that the skate park should be put back and put a pool there too, the kids want a pool.

Holli Harrington – spoke on behalf of the youth club and explained that they are one hundred percent for the skate park, the baseball and soccer fields are already crowded and does not want to impact the fields.

Matlock suggested adding twenty feet on each side and moving the entry on US1 would save green space and parking, and have it remain where it is.

Gonzalez commented that he wanted it to be located at Community Park.

Landry commented that we all want the skate park, we can make it work at Community Park.

Smith commented that he hoped we could move forward and coexist at the Community Park for safety and utilize the existing pavement to keep the costs down and move forward quickly.

Still commented that before the meeting, she was for the City Hall location, now she is for the Community Park location as long as we don't take anything away from other sports. There is a lot of dead space at Community Park.

Garrett commented that how the road aligns, we will try to move the skate park North.

Special Call Meeting – Williams explained that we have a permit that was untimely, we have boat races this weekend and there are signs that 33rd Street will be closed for the event on April 26, which needs Council approval, so we need a special call meeting on Friday and asked for a time.

Gonzalez commented that school could not be closed and there is a middle school prom on Saturday night.

Dianne Culver commented that the prom is at the school from 7 – 10 pm and the rec center has activities scheduled on Saturday.

Bettye Chaplin suggested using the property next to Sunset Grill, where there is plenty of room and 33rd Street is so busy, and suggested using the Quay.

Smith commented he liked the idea, but not sure if it was a zoning issue, but Garrett could make an exception.

Matlock commented he would hate to penalize the families and drivers that are looking forward to this event.

Still commented that the applicant has put is in a very hard position and we need to hold them accountable, and they need to have representation here at 8:00 am for our special call meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Still adjourned the meeting at 6:38 pm by unanimous consent.

I certify the above represents an accurate summary of the City Council workshop of April 23, 2024.

Diane Clavier
Diane Clavier City Clerk

May 15, 2024
Date