



City Commission Work Session Minutes

December 15, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

City Hall, Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue | Winter Park, Florida

Present

Mayor Phil Anderson, Commissioners Marty Sullivan, Sheila DeCiccio, Kris Cruzada, and Todd Weaver; City Manager Randy Knight; City Attorney Kurt Ardaman and City Clerk Rene Cranis.

1) Call to Order

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2) Discussion Item(s)

a. Sustainability Action Plan

Director of Natural Resources and Sustainability Gloria Eby recognized the sustainability staff and KWPB/S board for their work. She noted that the SAP contained eight chapters (discussion below). She reviewed usage, indicators, changes and targets, and action items for each chapter along with Sustainability Manager Sara Miller and Sustainability Specialist Mia Brady.

- Climate Resilience

Commissioner Sullivan said it would be helpful if community gardens targeted low-income communities and suggested the tree farm as a location for a garden. Commissioner DeCiccio noted that is some interest in a non-profit spearheading a community garden effort. Commissioner Weaver suggested a work session to discuss potential locations and parameters to prepare an RFP for non-profits or alternatively allow for individual use. Ms. Eby expressed the importance of diversifying and making equitable, any city land being used and spoke on the RFP the City of Orlando uses for their community grants. Mayor Anderson supported a work session. Commissioner Cruzada noted the executive director of The Plymouth is interested in converting the residents' shuffleboard space into a community garden.

In response to questions, Ms. Eby said the department is familiar with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and added that the city's approach is a community grant process driven by a demonstrable budget, plan, and approval.

- Energy Chapter

Mayor Anderson would like to ensure that when talking about the 80% energy efficiency goal, that it is either a net zero carbon goal or a renewable energy goal depending on the feasibility study. Discussion followed on the terminology of “net zero”, the definition of efficiency goals, and the city rebate program availability to city residents versus all utility customers.

- Water Chapter

Commissioner Sullivan asked about the amount of water and electricity used for solar arrays. Mr. Zusi explained the city’s water treatment and oxidation process which uses a large amount of electricity and responded to questions regarding expanding the solar array to drive the treatment process. In addition, he said the consumptive use permit is due to be renewed in 2025 and anticipates the St. Johns Water Management District will keep the city’s rate the same.

Mayor Anderson asked if there are plans to create a non-irrigated garden strategy. Ms.

Eby said there are Florida-friendly landscaping classes available through the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Mayor Anderson asked if the city has any licensing or certifications for arborists and/or landscape contractors. Ms. del Valle noted that the Tree Preservation Board is updating the city code and is considering a provision ensuring vendors are registered and licensed before working in the city. Discussion was held on standards and certification and licensing requirements for arborists and lawn maintenance companies. After discussion, consensus was to consider green certification for landscaping/lawn maintenance vendors.

- Community Engagement and Green Economy Chapter - No comments
- Local Government Operations -

Mayor Anderson asked if there is an off-peak possibility for lower-cost power. Mr. Zusi said staff has researched the issue and explained staff's efforts to better manage its systems during low and peak electric usage.

In response to questions, Mr. Knight said staff is considering for 4-day work week. Mayor Anderson suggested the 4-day work week as a potential topic for an upcoming work session.

- Natural Resources

Ms. Eby responded to questions on impervious coverage/parking lots. She said the city encourages pervious parking lots and discussion was held on heat index as it relates to parking lot surfaces. She added that the feasibility study will address use of solar arrays for parking areas.

- Transportation and Urban Form

Commissioner Cruzada asked if there is a metric the Department of Motor Vehicles can provide on the number of electric vehicles in the city to understand the power demand. Police Chief Tim Volkerson said it can be requested by model but would be an extensive public records request. Discussion ensued on electric vehicle charging requirements.

Commissioner Sullivan feels the Natural Resources department should be involved in transportation planning due to the potential for greenways.

Mayor Anderson asked about ride-sharing. Ms. Eby explained the shared-ride (Free Bee) process and noted several cities use this model and strictly use EV vehicles.

- Waste Management Chapter

Ms. Eby responded to questions about landfill capacity and zero-waste initiatives and read the 2023 project list for addressing waste reduction. Commissioner Weaver spoke about a lecture he gave on recycling and reviewed data and statistics on aluminum, plastic and paper.

Commissioner Sullivan noted the Waste Pro contract renewal would be coming up soon and suggested staff look at providers that may focus more on sustainability.

Mayor Anderson asked about waste pickup on Center Street. Mr. Knight provided information on an underground refuse bin system being evaluated for Center Street and other areas downtown. The system could be added to an RFP for waste management. Ms. del Valle said staff is working on other solutions for the general cleanup of Center Street as well.

Mayor Anderson commended staff on the plan and asked for next steps. Ms. Eby stated the next step would be to present to the Commission for approval.

Mayor Anderson stated the language needs to be clarified for renewable energy or net zero. Commissioner Weaver supports using the term “renewable” and discussion followed. Mayor Anderson expressed concern that the request from the commission regarding terminology for zero carbon was overlooked. Ms. Eby confirmed that is part of the feasibility study.

3) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Mayor Phillip M. Anderson

Work Session of the City Commission
December 15, 2022
Page 4 of 4

ATTEST:

City Clerk Rene Cranis