

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA
INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY AND OVERSIGHT BOARD
MEETING 2023-11

Held on Monday, the 27th day of November 2023, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Public Works Department located at 1050 Malabar Road, SW, Palm Bay, Florida. The minutes are not a verbatim transcript, but a brief summary of the discussions and actions taken at the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson David Jones at 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL:

CHAIRPERSON:	Rebecca Thibert	Absent
VICE CHAIRPERSON:	David Jones	Present
MEMBER:	Ann-Marie Fraser	Absent
MEMBER:	Paul Edwards	Present
MEMBER:	Thomas Gaume	Present
MEMBER:	Terry Muller	Absent
MEMBER:	Logan Luse	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Frank Watanabe, City Engineer; Christeen Sullivan, Assistant Public Works Director; John McCall, Project Manager.

ADOPTON OF MINUTUES:

1. Meeting 2023-09; September 25, 2023

Motion by Vice Chairperson Jones, seconded by Mr. Luse to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Meeting 2023-10; October 10, 2023

Motion by Vice Chairperson Jones, seconded by Mr. Luse to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Non-agenda items only)

There were no public comments.

BUSINESS:

1. St. Johns Heritage Parkway/Emerson Drive turn lane updates – Frank Watanabe, City Engineer.

Mr. Watanabe updated the Board on the intersection improvements at St. Johns Heritage Parkway (SJHP) and Emerson Drive. He explained the need for the improvements, including the numerous residential developments occurring in the area.

Mr. Gaume noticed that most of this development for Everlands West was classified as “active adult” and questioned if it was a 55 plus community. Mr. Watanabe was unsure if it was all restricted.

Mr. Watanabe said the intersection warranted a traffic signal based on traffic studies. The consultant was designing the intersection improvements with a southbound left turn lane and traffic signal. The design plans also included lighting at the intersection.

The City had received state funding in the amount of \$1.5 million for the widening of SJHP to four (4) lanes. The City would have to add another \$1.8 million.

Mr. Gaume asked about the curb cutout for Norfolk Parkway and if it was going to be on the City side or Brevard County side. He also asked if the City could receive additional funding from the City of West Melbourne to tie them into the parkway. Mr. Watanabe stated he had no knowledge of this project.

2. Fred Poppe new entrance and road updates – Frank Watanabe, City Engineer.

Mr. Watanabe said that City Council had agreed with a bridge connection from SJHP to Fred Poppe Regional Park. Due to higher cost of constructing a recreation vehicle (RV) park, it was decided to not move forward with that project. As the current entrance to the park was deficient and there was only one way in and out of the park, the plan was to add another entrance from SJHP. A consultant had been hired to design the bridge structure. The new entrance from SJHP would align with the new entrance to the St. Johns Preserve development. The bridge would provide access for traffic, pedestrians, and bicycles for that area. Mr. Watanabe said the City was also reviewing the realignment of the existing entrance on Malabar Road.

3. Tree removal along Forest Knoll Dr. – Frank Watanabe, City Engineer.

Forest Knoll from Dawin Street to Tree Ridge Lane in the Country Club Unit. Forest Knoll is classified as a local street with median island and trees. 18 Pine Trees that's causing a rooting problem and causing problems with the pavement. Additionally, the standards say you must have a Clear Zone for Public Safety. This was presented at this public meeting to make the citizens and the Board aware that these trees will be removed prior to paving the Country Club Units 1-10. The Pine trees on Forest Knoll and the three palm trees on Tree Ridge will be removed by Public Works Operation staff prior to Road Construction and will not be charged to the Road Program.

Public Comments from Susan Connolly. General question to Mr. Watanabe, as things are being designed and changed and we could bring in new. Is there a look at pervious or concrete that's included in the plans? Mr. Watanabe stated that we are following Natalie's Footsteps. We are trying to observe low impact development to help improve water quality early on, make it self-contained in their own development.

Mr. Bill Battin took to the podium regarding the increase cost of the tree removal or what that is going to run? Mr. Watanabe stated he was not sure. Christeen Sullivan stated we're doing it in house. So, it's not a part of the bid. The tree removal will be done by our operations staff in house.

Mr. Thomas Gaume asked to make a motion to recommend the tree removal along Forest Knoll Drive in accordance with the plans put before us. Seconded by Mr. Luse. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Agenda requests for future meetings

Ms. Sullivan stated she had been notified by Terese Jones, City Clerk, that the Board was due to sunset at the end of December, unless reinstated by the City Council. The ordinance amendment to reinstate the Board was scheduled for the December 7th, regular Council meeting.

Mr. Gaume requested that the impact fee balances for each one of the nexuses be included in the agenda each month, so the Board had an idea of the funding available for each part of the city. The Board concurred to receive the report on a quarterly basis.

Motion by Mr. Gaume, seconded by Mr. Luse, to cancel the December 25th meeting due to the holiday. Motion carried unanimously.

If reinstated by City Council, the next Board meeting would be held on January 22, 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Rebecca Thibert, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Carrie Dwyer, Recorder