

**MANDEVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 29, 2014
BUDGET WORK SESSION ON
CAPITAL PROJECTS**

The budget work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Danielson at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Rick Danielson, Clay Madden, David Ellis, Carla Buchholz, Ernest Burguières

ABSENT:

ALSO: Mayor Villere, Frank Oliveri, Louisette Kidd; David deGeneres

CAPITAL BUDGET – GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr. Burguières recommended removing the \$150,000 budgeted for the restoration of the beach by the harbor playground. There was debate on whether the area should remain a sandy beach or return to its natural grassy state. There were concerns regarding the cost of maintenance and sand replacement after each storm event. The Administration holds that the enhancement would be an asset to the City. There was consensus to revise the budgeted item to \$75,000 and forward to FY2016.

Mr. Danielson asked how can our citizens be reassured that the permanent bathroom, planned for the east end of the lakefront, will go in the right spot. He suggested that the approval of the budgeted amount be contingent upon public discussions and recommendations from the Park and Parkways Committee and Yacht Club members (the primary stakeholders). There was further discussion and debate over the location of the bathroom. Mayor Villere stated that he would prefer the location to be along the bayou, next to the boat launch. The other location considered was next to the oak tree, across the street from PYC on Jackson Avenue. The PYC would prefer not to have the bathroom next to the oak tree. The Administration agreed to supply a map or illustration of the area to highlight potential locations for the bathroom.

The plan for the structure at 433 Lamarque is to move and raise the structure, refurbish the building for restrooms and a dressing area, possibly orphan another historic building on the site and convert green space into additional parking.

There was discussion on the priority of general government wants vs. needs and the topic of including a public park on the west side of the City. Mrs. Kidd stated that the Neighborwoods Park was located on the west side and certain subdivisions such as Woodstone, The Sanctuary, and Fontainebleau all contain private green space dedicated to their own subdivisions because they did not want the general public playing on their equipment. So, the west side has private parks, owned by their own subdivisions, based on dedication requirements set by the City.

Mr. Madden asked to clarify that the \$400,000 budgeted for land purchases be identified for purchases of land at the Trailhead, separate from land purchases on the west side of town for a public playground. The Administration stated that there were no potential sites on the west side at this time.

The addition of more funds into one budgeted capital item or combining two capital categories will not expedite the start of a capital project. Public bid laws and State grant application procedures delay the process, creating carryover items from year to year. There was further discussion on budgeting for and purchasing green space on the west side.

Mr. Danielson recommended adding \$500,000 for shoreline surge protection in the next FY budget, under general government, in addition to the funds budgeted this year for flapper valves, which are drainage related and funded out of the streets budget. Mr. Burguières suggested extending the GEC contract to expand the scope of work to include the shoreline from Galvez to the Causeway. There was consensus to add \$100,000 for this additional study.

CAPITAL BUDGET – STREET CONSTRUCTION

The budgeted funds for the West Approach bike path are for design and site development, the City will pursue an enhancement grant for the construction to take place in 2017.

Heavens Drive funding is a carryover item for overlay work and traffic calming features. The traffic calming features might be a challenge due to the number of driveways.

The Girod Street intersection improvements will not necessarily include decorative pavers. The bid will include a basic overlay and drainage repair of intersections and the pavers will be included as an alternate bid. Depending how the bids come in, the alternates do not have to be accepted. The estimated cost of parking spaces for the 500-600 block of Girod are approximately \$10,000 per spot. However, some land owners have opposed the new parking spots. Mr. Burguières requested the parking plan and Girod Street intersections improvement plan.

Mr. Danielson recommended a comprehensive traffic study vs. budgeting just for Florida Street. Mayor Villere stated that he was already in discussions with the Parish and Causeway Commission on a collaborative effort. Our share would be approximately \$100,000. The Florida Street study would be a separate study (and engineering) to move traffic east and west across North Causeway. The purpose of the engineering study was to determine how to make the two-way road fit on the current highway and right-of-way, not to measure traffic. Currently that portion is one-way only. Mr. Danielson suggested doing the project over a two year period, with the comprehensive study first and the engineering and design work to follow. There was consensus to add \$150,000 for a comprehensive traffic study.

There is a module in the Road Soft program that will identify and prioritize the city wide culvert replacement project. There was consensus among the Council to budget the East Mandeville Bypass Road over a two year period, \$1,000,000 in FY 2015 and \$1,500,000 in FY 2016. The construction phase will not begin until late 2015. Mayor Villere stated that he would prefer to cap the City's contribution at \$2,000,000. Mr. Danielson stated that the total estimated cost of the project went from \$6 million (2010) to \$11 million (2014) and our contribution only increased from \$2 million to \$2.5 million.

Mr. Burguières recommended removing lines 72-74 for drainage projects at Galvez, Mariners Village, and Lafayette until the GEC shoreline study is extended (to the causeway) and completed. Mayor Villere disagreed and said the shoreline flood protection study and the drainage (outfall) projects were two different things. The drainage projects will divert rain water that collects on Monroe Street. GEC studied shoreline protection and the surge from the lake. Mr. Burguières commented that we should not look at these two things (rainfall and storm surge) independently. Mr. deGeneres stated

that the Mariners Village project, to address an erosion problem, has already been approved by the Council. The Galvez project has nothing to do with the pre-stress property; it will solve another erosion problem. Mr. Danielson suggested moving both \$1,000,000 drainage studies to FY2016. Mrs. Buchholz disagreed. She agreed with the Administration that there was an immediate need. Mr. deGeneres stated that if he had to prioritize, the Galvez project was the most important and urgent. Mr. Burguieres asked for data on flooding events, for the past two years, in the Massena to Barbara area of the proposed drainage project. Mr. deGeneres stated that the runoff has been on average 2" to 6" on Monroe Street. He agreed to provide data. Mr. Danielson offered to keep the Galvez project in FY2015 and move Massena to FY2016. There was further discussion on obtaining a comprehensive drainage plan for the City. Mr. deGeneres stated that the last plan was completed in 2000 by Meyer Engineering.

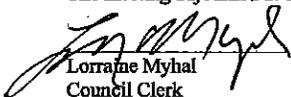
Public Comment

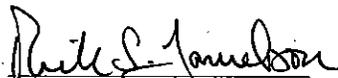
Mr. Glen Runyon asked for clarification about a \$600,000 revenue figure in the general fund. Mr. Oliveri stated that \$400,000 was a grant for land at the Trailhead and \$200,000 was a grant for cameras for the police department. The police cameras have been approved and might be purchased in the current fiscal year.

Mr. Burguieres asked for a list of all litigation (parties, case numbers, city exposure, has risk management been notified) that the City was involved in for the next budget work session. He added that he made the original request on July 23, 2014 to Mr. Deano.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.


Lorraine Myhal
Council Clerk


Rick S. Danielson
Mayor Pro Tem