

Special meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.

Josh gave history. He gotten several phone calls regarding beautification committee to clear facts that have been muddled. This is not going to have meeting where everyone can talk when they want. We will follow rules and honor who has the floor. We will follow the agenda. Please do not speak unless you are addressed.

In the spring we were closing out last fiscal year, we realized he had taken in extra money and were able to lower taxes 9%. Asked Dennis how much money we had. At the end of June we had general fund 23,209, pool 45,485, parks 33,092, and road 99,877. IN total about \$200,000. the Road fund comes from the state. It is allocated from state for roads projects. Corners, stop signs, front entry, fence. To maintain them. Looked at taxepayer over 12 years looking over accumulated surplus. If we have surplus what have my tax dollars gone for. As mayor, wants to do what is best for the person who has given you the money, to help out residents. Government writes stimulus checks we do not that. We really don't know who money came from. We felt there were areas that everyone can agree with, front island and corner. They are not uniform, items are missing. Doesn't match the Community Center and the park. Most real estate person will say that bringing people into the neighborhood helps sell houses, which increases property values.

HAD a number of residents who wanted to help out, but it is not part of the parks board. Created committee who came up with several ideas. Did a lot of work, and had 4 landscapers come out with different ideas. We are down to one because they have good ideas, and the others didn't seem interested.

He will not argue with the other letter come out because it has inconsistencies. You can't compare this spending to current spending because it is coming from the surplus.

Asked representative from Action because we have a number of questions. This is the fourth meeting and the second special meeting. If we were going to spend the money mentioned in the letter we would have already done it. This is an information meeting, and we are not committed to anything.

Action Landscaping. He started 25 years ago, has 35 employees. Grow own plants to supply Kyiana area. Does 200 mile radius and have done several neighborhoods. Wants to give back to the community. Invited to look at the entrances and wrote up a proposal and gave some budgets and drawing. Gave plan a – plan d with different prices and phases. Redoes several different areas of the medium. Budgets from \$13,800 down to about \$7,000. Wants to pull out dead plant and put in new ones. Will take care of any issues without arm wrestling us, even if it is over 1 year.

We grow things in containers so they do not go through transplant shock. Did lakes, irrigate all of their plants. Listed several businesses that they have done work for. Excited about our project, thinks that it enhances the real estate investment in our subdivision. A good design will look every year, by keeping things simple and not doing too much. Invited us to visit their website.

Gave us several proposals with different prices. The more expensive ones will look better sooner. He is on our team and will do what he can within the budget. Josh asked if anyone on the beautification committee. Member asked if we owe money if we do not use their services. He gave us 3 free proposals. If you want to go further we will have to charge fees for the drawing. Committee asked us to do drawings. The cost would be \$900 for the drawing if we do not use them. Asked about growth pattern of existing white oaks. They go slower may have to be converted over to something else. He said that it is good to plan ahead but he does not think that we need to worry about that. We are replace little tree that is dead with an oak tree that match the existing trees.

Salmon asked about proposal has only 1 tree mentioned. As you look at project you are looking about replacing areas that had trees. He is replacing them with 3 trees. Perennials come back 70% of the time, unless it gets really cold for a long period of time. Mosher asked if this is good prices. He said that he said it is a great value, between retail and wholesale. Mentioned garden blend mixed soil. We have already added a good top soil. Soil will perk and they will do well. Always use good shredded composte top soil. Mosher asked about labor and equipment charge includes removal of what is there. He is planning to dig everything up and set everything aside that has not been used. Keep some roses and hostas. Reuse a lot of plants. How compatible is the current sprinkler system? He said should work fine with his plantings. Mosher has concern about trees being where beds are supposed to be. Will there be an issue they are not done at the same time. Beds will work perfect with trees that are there now. He can make it work with our without the trees. Ramsey has a proposal to remove the two diseased trees plus the little tree that is dead. One close to 22 is in the best health. Boy Ray said that the trees are unhealthy(diseased). They had a scale that attacks that kind of tree and we sprayed them. Spencer is under the impression that they can not be cured. Tom Mack said that there were girdling roots and it helped the ability to get nutrients. Cindy Baker said we had paid Bob Ray one two occasions to try and save trees. Spencer said se stopped that when the first tree died. Tessa Ramsey said 233 by 13 feet for island. It has to be 2 or 4 beds because 3 will make it off center. We need to pull out the large tree to make the 2<sup>nd</sup> bed.

Salmon said that labor is about 40% of each proposal. He said that it is usually around 50%. They charge \$45 per man hour with equipment. Catherine Mack if current sprinkler system is compatible with plan or will there be an additional cost? He recommends changing to 12 inch heads. Charlie said it would be more complicated than you might think.

Bob Bale asked if the contractor has a signed contract for the \$900. Mosher said no. Mosher said that we got quotes from several vendors. Salmon and Mosher said that they have driven by some of the subdivisions that were on their reference list. They did not personally talk to any of his references. Said Jewish Hospital got first place in beautification.

Resident asked what we expect to accomplish by the end of the meeting. Mosher said that he wanted more info from vendor. We do not have to make a decision tonight. If we have problem with beds conflicting with existing trees, why not lease it open. Mosher said that this is a possibility. Due to existing sprinkler system maybe we should lower the beds. Resident asked if they work with vendors to rework irrigation. The price of this is not included in his quotes. Salmon asked beautification committee

if there is a plan to stay long term on the committee and continue to work on this process. Tessa said she would like to continue. She said that there are several purposes for the beautification committee, such as planting annuals at front of neighborhood each year. What we have was designed in 1995, and Salmon says that we should not do this unless we have committed residents to maintain this.

Spencer asked what is maintenance of what is proposed versus what is required now. He recommends maintenance of 2 to 4 times a year at \$900 to \$1,200 per visit plus material. Resident asked sprinkler system, said if we don't maintain will be wasting money. He said his plants are designed for low maintenance but we do need some irrigation.

Moss-Brown – The proposals submitted said that he is very specific about warranties, but verbally said that the warranty is very loose. He said that he has been working for free, and he needs to get paid. Sometimes he has trouble getting paid. Bale asked if he has to the upkeep for the warrantee to be good. He said no, but he needs to approve it. Moss-Brown – Wants gestimate at sprinkler system. He said he has no estimate. With his experience working with neighborhoods is he used to work with beautification committees. He said that he does not do that often.

Resident asked about criteria for deciding. Mosher said that we answer questions about funding, then if they do decide to procede they will choose a proposal and then vote on it.

Charlie had questions about funding. We have 90,000 now versus \$220,000 previously. Said we have figured out ways to do stuff for the city without doing roads. Takes \$140,000 to redo roads and we are \$50,000 Short. We get \$12,000 from state and we spend it year. If we spend \$20,000 on trees, sprinklers, and Action Committee, and \$5,000 on Path Project, we are down to \$65,000 in road fund. This is \$85,000 short of what we need. He thinks that this is irresponsible. He thinks we are spending money we don't have on a project we do not need.

Josh said that we can use all 4 accounts if we want. We do not need to use the Road Fund. Wants to invest in higher interest funds. He drove though old neighborhoods that have 20 year old roads. Resident said that he feels that the roads are sound. Charlie says that we need to look at the entire project and look at a plan. Josh said there are two phases not three. Mosher does not agree with that. Action Landscaping gave a proposal of \$15,000 for the corners and \$11,000 for highway 22. In fact there were three phases, but Salmon said that the highway 22 phase was not seriously considered. The plan does not include painting the fences.

Mosher said that we have tried doing it ourselves and it has not worked. Cindy Baker asked how much of the surplus are we going to spend before we say that we are going to stop. Other projects are mentioned like tennis courts, playgrounds. Mosher said will not be a budgeted item. Baker said that we need o ask the Auditor not the city attorney. Machintire said that a safe amount is one year's budget. Salmon said that we are being prudent. We hav looked at several projects and this one is the one that will benefit the residents the most. Have had several meetings, and we do not intend to spend all of the money.

Mosher says we need to ask the auditor if this is okay. We should agree on how much of the surplus we are going to spend. Resident asked about each fund and how much is actually surplus. Agreed that all of it is not surplus. There are trees down in the park. Should we spend on safety before beautification.

Mosher said that we can do both. You draw the line on how much of the surplus we are going to spend.

Shea said that he talked to 40 residents. They were concerned about spending money. The financial situation is concerning them more than flowers. They were concerned about maintenance, but were for some spending to make sure new stuff is going to thrive.

Mosher said that we have spent a lot of time on this, and this is the most in depth meeting we have ever had. He feels that the general consensus of the neighborhood that something needs to be done. Will also have a meeting about how much of the surplus is to be spent, and will check with auditor. HE thinks that we have enough information to move ahead. But it will have to be cleared with the auditor and the lawyer.

Ramsey likes the newest proposal the most. Ramsey talked with Jim Evans with trees. He will remove the tree closest to the city for \$1,000, and the one closer to 22, it would be \$1,200. He will do all three for \$2,000. Makes a motion to take out of road funds surplus 2,000 to take out three trees and stump buy Treez, contingent upon approval of city auditor and city attorney. Seconded by Shea. Passed unanimously.

Action Landscaping gave summary of 4 proposals.

Ramsey makes a motion authorizing the mayor to sign an agreement with Action Landscaping contingent upon an approval of city auditor and attorney not to exceed the amount of \$9,780 to come out of road fund surplus, to proceed on revision 4 landscape proposal for front entrance and median including filling and sodding tree cavities. Seconded by Moss-Brown. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn at 10:16.