

**City of Boiling Spring Lakes  
Minutes  
Board of Commissioners Retreat  
February 26, 2011  
City Hall - 9:00 a.m.**

- 1. Call to Order** – Mayor White called the retreat workshop to order at 9:00 a.m.
- 2. Attendance:** In attendance were Mayor White, Commissioners Caster, Kinney, Troscianiec and Carroll, City Manager David Lewis, City Clerk Linda Merry and all Department Heads.
- 3. Funding Requests for 2011-2012**

**Jim Nicholas - Building Inspections/Animal Control/Code Enforcement**

Jim Nicholas asked for Board consideration of implementation of a leash law. This would require changes to Sec. 3-55 of the Code of Ordinances.

He also recommended changes to Sec. 3-56 regarding cleaning up pet waste, where violation of the ordinance would result in a misdemeanor charge rather than a civil penalty.

He requested funding in the amount of \$ 9,500 to update the animal holding pen to meet state standards. The City has received a warning from the state about the condition of the pen.

He also requested funding in the amount of \$ 7,500 to update the wire cage on the animal control vehicle. This is needed for the safety of the animals, as well as the safety of animal control staff.

Mr. Nicholas also suggested asking property owners of rental properties to register with the city, so we will have a contact telephone number when there are code violation issues.

**Larry Modlin, Ernie Siriani - Mosquito Control and Alligator Weed Spraying**

There are new regulations under the Federal Clean Water Act that could potentially double the city's cost to provide mosquito and alligator weed control. There are new permitting and water sampling requirements. If the new law is not followed, there could be substantial fines and penalties, including imprisonment for the person who does the spraying.

The city normally receives a 50% reimbursement from the state, but the state may cut their funding completely. The Board should plan on these increased costs for the 2011-2012 budget.

**Larry Modlin - Sign Retro Reflectivity**

New federal laws will require the city to replace all stop signs and speed limits signs by January 2015, and all street signs by January 2018, with new signs that are brighter and easier for motorists to see. Mr. Modlin estimates a cost to the city of approximately \$ 40,000 prior to January 2015.

### **Larry Modlin - Road Resurfacing**

Mr. Modlin presented a list of seventeen roads that need immediate attention: Eden, Filmore, Crestview, High Point, Woodcrest, Pine, North Shore (1st loop), North Shore (second loop), Nassau, Cedar, Crystal, North Hills, Ash, Elm, Sycamore, Charlestown and Winston Salem. The estimated cost to resurface is \$ 110,000 per mile for 18' wide roads and \$ 125,000 per mile for 20' wide roads.

Mr. Modlin also presented a list of fifteen rock roads that would qualify for paving under the greater than 30% built out rule. The estimated cost to pave these roads is \$ 425,000.

He suggested selling some of the land the city owns to pay for street improvements.

### **Police Department - Chief Emmett Ballree** **Narcotics Task Force**

Chief Ballree reported that there is a new County Narcotics Task Force. All local law enforcement agencies have been invited to join. The City would be expected to provide one full time officer, paying full salary and benefits, and one unmarked car to the task force if we decide to join. Any revenues generated from task force activities would be divided equally among member organizations.

Joining the task force would provide great advantages to the city, as there would be more officers focusing on local drug activity.

### **New Radio System**

Chief Ballree reported that Brunswick County has decided to purchase a new emergency radio system, proposed to be online by July. The city will need to purchase new radios, estimated cost \$ 45,000, in order to be able to communicate with County Emergency Services.

The Mayor suggested that Chief Ballree join with the other local police chiefs and insist that the county pay for the radios.

### **Chief Chris Grace - Volunteer Fire Department**

#### **Hydrant Testing**

Chief Grace explained that in order to keep the ISO4 rating, the fire hydrants must be tested every three years. The last time testing was completed was 2006, so they were due again in 2009. The fire department does not have the manpower or funds needed to complete the testing. He suggested that the city hire a contractor for approximately \$ 4,800 to complete the testing. The testing is behind, so we would need to test now and then again in 2012. If the ISO4 rating is lost due to a failed inspection, homeowners' insurance rates could increase 50%.

#### **Cardiac Monitor**

The Fire Department also asked for funding assistance to purchase a \$ 30,000 cardiac monitor. The monitor would be used by their newly established first responder program. With the loss of full time EMS coverage in our area, this monitor could save lives.

### **Mary Green - Parks and Recreation**

Parks and Recreation Director Mary Green reported that her department is busier than ever. The bad economy contributes to people staying closer to home and seeking out free or low cost recreational opportunities.

She asked for Board consideration of the following items:

- 1) Replacement of flooring in the fitness room with new rubberized floor, cost \$ 5,800
- 2) Addition of a playground structure for the Community Center, cost \$ 39,000
- 3) Purchase of used 14 passenger bus with wheel chair lift, approximate cost \$ 27,800 to \$ 34,900 over three years. This would help with adult transportation needs.

### **Mayor White**

Mayor White reported that he had received funding requests from Communities in Schools and from Brunswick Family Assistance. He is not in favor of the Board using taxpayer funds for donations.

## **4. Current and Historical Financial Information**

The City Manager presented historical financial data for each department for 2007-2010 and also current financial data with line by line explanations. All departments have worked very hard to reduce expenses as sales tax revenues have fallen. Parks and Recreation expenses have increased, but this is in direct relation to increased program revenues.

## **5. Adjourn -** The retreat adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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Linda Merry, CMC, City Clerk

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Richard White, Mayor