

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
1000 CITY CENTER CIRCLE
JUNE 18, 2009

THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING of the City of Port Orange was called to order by Mayor Allen Green at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Invocation

Roll Call: Present: Councilman George Steindorfer
Councilman Dennis Kennedy
Vice Mayor Mary Martin
Mayor Allen Green

Absent: Councilman Bob Pohlmann (excused)

Also Present: Kenneth W. Parker, City Manager
Margaret T. Roberts, City Attorney
Glenda Leftwich, Recording Secretary

DISCUSSION/ACTION

4. Issues Relating to Flooding

Mr. Parker, City Manager, pointed out the maps on the floor show the primary areas where the City saw street flooding and potential flooding in homes. Also shown are the addresses where the City had actual reports of where water was in some part of the home. There may be homes that the City has not heard from. Staff is continuing to refine the map. There is some updated information on the podiums on the outside of Council Chambers. The City is trying to keep residents informed of a variety of items as has the newspaper relating to what is happening with FEMA and things the City is trying to do to help people.

Mayor Green said if you look at the accumulation of what has occurred and trying to address preventative measures in the future, in some cases it will take major reconstruction. Dunlawton Avenue is a major issue. One of the things that did occur when you make assumptions that the water will peak and go to the west, which is Madeline, and the remainder go south. Instead of that it was further up. When South Daytona pumped their lakes down they put it into the drainage canal and it came to the south, which multiplied Port Orange's problems. Mayor Green explained about pumps the City has and the amount of water they pumped per minute. When the City was able to pump, depending on the tide and wind, it could be drawn down fairly quick. There were still problems. He spoke of some things that happened on Spruce Creek Road and those will have to be

addressed. Some people in the County filled in the ditch and that drainage system did not work. The City is currently trying to work with Mosquito Control to gather data with the County because it is in the County. Some of the areas seen was a result of when Halifax backs up. The City has moved forward to enter into a contract with an engineering firm to think forward so that the City can address within reason to balance the problem. Going back many years, basically where you see the majority of the drainage canals are in all the low areas and what you see for the roads are nothing but spoils that came out of those canals. The issues have been addressed with the State and at the Federal level to assist the City in overcoming some of the deficiencies. When you look at the three major outfalls you have very few that let the water get back to the river. If you get high tide and a lot of water, an easterly wind, there is no way to push the water. Dunlawton Avenue is a major means of evacuation and it is going to take major money to resolve that issue. Additional property needs to be acquired for additional storage. Mayor Green described the method of storage by stacking water. You could have gates and pump the water in vertically and as the water goes down you could allow it to come back out. Mayor Green said Council is here to listen to the citizens and their concerns and there are plans to address flooding issues. He complemented the City employees who were out during the rains and doing their best. Public Works did an outstanding job. Mayor Green asked that those who did not properly inform the City of flooding problems to do so. There has been discussion before that sometimes people are reluctant to report flooding. According to FEMA it is a benefit to the residents and to the City for flooding that is occurring to be reported.

Councilman Kennedy commented on the repetitive flood grants that were used extensively after the 2004 hurricanes to help some of those who had had problems. There were several in the Cambridge area that had flooded multiple times but never reported it. The City was unable to use those grant monies on their homes. As he understands it reporting flooding will not increase their flood insurance rates, assuming they can get it in those areas. Some places you cannot. He too spent a lot of time driving around the area. His District is 4, the Cambridge area that is one of the primary problems during 2004. He was relieved to see that when the rain would stop during the most recent event it did drain out fairly quickly. Improvements have been made in the past, and obviously there are areas that need more. If all the grant information can be submitted FEMA will assist. Vice Mayor Martin said she worked at Public Works during the recent rain event. She drove through many areas and did see what damage had been done. It was frustrating to not be able to help when the City wanted to because the water would not leave the areas and there was no place to put it. Councilman Steindorfer agrees with Council. His District is 1 and is an older section and does not have drainage as what is required now. He visited those

areas he could get to in his vehicle and the Public Works Director took him around to many areas he could not get to. There is no retention in many areas and that has to be addressed. The Halifax Canal only has three outfalls and needs another. Seabird Island did not flood nor did Ridgewood Avenue, however, Halifax Drive did because the wind pushed the river over it. There may be been another problem there too. It was not so much of a flooding problem as a drainage problem. There was capacity to the river but no way of getting the water to it.

Mayor Green spoke regarding how when you build to certain elevations and design one of the criteria's looked at is water in the street. It is, in fact, in an event a storage facility.

The following residents spoke regarding flooding problems they had either in their homes, garages, or on their property. Some offered what they consider may be solutions.

Joyce Buckavich – Willow Lake

This is her second time flooding. She had 4 inches of water in her house for 15 hours. She is single and has multiple sclerosis. She had a problem with the City not getting pumps in Willow Lake before an event. She reportedly was told by the City when she called in the early morning that her call would be handed over to the next shift. Ever since Nova Road was build there has been flooding. Mayor Green pointed out that Nova Road is not a Port Orange Road. In some cases when the City wanted to pump and found out that areas did not belong to Port Orange. In addition to that, you had no place to pump. If you did you would transfer it to somebody else. In her area, Sugar Forest is an example, that was build and predates almost anything the City can do. It is so low that you cannot get the water out. The City has, in some cases, attempted to work with property owners to purchase property to make a retention area. They would not work with the City. It has to be understood that there is going to be an event that it is impossible for the City to do anything.

Sharon Childress – Willow Lake

Ms. Childress asked if the retention pond in her neighborhood could be made deeper? Mayor Green said no, but the City is researching going vertical. Ms. Childress mentioned property across Madeline that may could be purchased to do something. Mayor Green said that has been considered. The property has an ammonia plume and environmental issues that would have to be resolved.

Tyler Parks – Biro Drive

Mr. Parks spoke regarding the need for barricades to shut down his road during flooding. This would prevent vehicles from driving through flooded streets and causing flooding by sending wakes of water into their homes. There were six houses damaged. They were able to get small barricades but needed larger ones. He also asked for signs saying streets are closed except to local residents. Mr. Parks discussed the use of sand bags and need for placing dirt at different locations throughout the City. He pointed out the difficulty the elderly have in lifting them. Mayor Green said the City needs to come up with a better method. Mr. Parks voiced concern with the smell once the water starts going down and bugs. Mayor Green said the City will look into this.

Heidi Goldbach – Moonstone Court

Ms. Goldbach related problems she had reportedly encountered when she called the City for sandbags and none were available. Mr. Parker, City Manager, said he will make certain in the future that accurate information is made available to the public. Ms. Goldbach spoke about other areas that had pumps and they had none. Boat and barricades would be good. Mayor Green said Public Works addressed issues as soon as possible. He reiterated there were some areas in the City that they had no place to pump the water to. Vice Mayor Martin said she is aware of one neighborhood that flooded and 2-3 blocks away people hired someone else to pump it.

Oby Walker – 5335 Dubois Avenue

Has lived behind Marco's. The City has fixed the problem at times and then it has gotten worse at times. He believes the major problem is there is a commercial/residential problem and the owner put three feet of fill in. Each time you get a storm surge it use to go to his property. A retention pond was put in at the other end of the canal and now it stops up because it has not been maintained the last 5-6 years. There are only two properties on the street and it seems like it is not a big issue to anyone but those that live there. He has had this problem for several years. Although the City has worked on the problem it has never got the proper fix. The storm surge does not now come in and there is no real flow on the canal. Everything comes from above him and rainwater comes down through the canal. With it not being dredged and maintained it is hard to get any type of flow of water through it. It is a mosquito infested smelly nightmare. There use to be about an acre of the other property that gave them a buffer. Now that the individual has filled it in it is a bottleneck. Mayor Green said the City will follow-up on that.

Margaret Preston – 501 Palmetto

Ms. Preston suggested a retention pond be added at the location of nearby vacant property (Norman Street). She did not have water in her house, but had to walk her dogs through water to Catherine Street for three days.

Audrey Pinson

Ms. Pinson said she was here three years ago. She has flood insurance. She asked about maintenance of mosquito control ditches that serve as stormwater drainage. Mayor Green explained that the City is waiting for a report from Volusia County regarding this. Mr. Parker will follow-up on the report. There was at least one ditch not in the City's jurisdiction that was filled in that is causing problems. Ms. Pinson spoke about calling for sandbags and was told by the City they were not yet available. If she had had them earlier she may have been able to prevent flooding in her garage. Ms. Pinson said she has the same issue that no barricades were made available. She feels the City needs to be better prepared. Mayor Green said maybe the City should mark their maps where there is repetitive flooding and it is known that barricades may be needed.

Tanya ? – Off Herbert Street (105 Judges Lane)

Lives next to the kennel. They have a three-acre lot. She asked how much property the City needs. Mayor Green said the City can take a look at it. The resident said next door to her there is one acre and a nearby 2-acre parcel. She related problems they had in the storms of 2004 and replacement of their floor. Now she is having drainage problems again. FEMA did not assist because when they were there she had already cleaned up. She wanted to put a trailer in permanently but was told they were not allowed. Mosquitoes are bad. She has also had sewerage problems. Mayor Green said he will have someone meet with her.

James Guenard - 5621 Mary Drive - Briarwood Park

Resident said he lives in a 55 and older park. They did not get flooded out but there was enough water in the streets to be close to it. Because they live in a manufactured mobile home park and are private property nobody will help them. He spoke of water from Nova Road and into retention ponds behind their houses. There is a small river in the back where the water from the retention pond runs down to it. The river is so overgrown with trees, trash, etc., where it goes down and underneath the railroad it is a problem. The City has tried to help them but because it is private there is nothing they can do for them. Mr. Guenard asked

who can help them. Mayor Green said the City will have to check on that. It use to be that the City responded to anybody in the City and the State informed the City that they are not allowed to do that.

Mike Gardner – 618 Ruth Street

Mr. Gardner said when it quit raining the water went down faster. The reservoir sounds like a good idea.

Mr. Parker, City Manager, said that ultimately the City would like to get about 20 of the retention ponds incorporated into the reclaimed water system so that we can connect into the piping and ship the water to the west prior to a storm or during one when it can be stormed with the reservoir out west. That is part of a plan that the City is trying to put together. The City has received some preliminary indication that DEP and the Water Management District would allow that to happen. Mayor Green said the City has a 175-acre lake that it has been shipping to. If it can be raised again you could create a dam effect for storage and get the reservoir up. It was calculated by an engineer that 12 billion gallons of water fell on Port Orange during the recent event. Mayor Green said the City made an offer on property owned by Ms. Gagley in Mr. Gardner's area but it could not be worked out.

Mayor Green talked about the complexities of closing Dunlawton Avenue and getting it back open. The road cannot be raised. Doing that would multiply problems in some areas. Somehow the water has to be pumped out. Mr. Gardner asked if the problem with pumping out someplace like their neighborhood the fact that you have to go across the railroad tracks. Mayor Green said yes. Councilman Kennedy commented dealing with the railroad is very difficult. Mayor Green agreed. There are so many certifications and liability involved the railroad makes it very difficult. Mr. Parker led a discussion regarding the closing of Dunlawton. The individuals in the northeast quad because of the canal that would not drain was also the same one that was flooding Dunlawton. Dunlawton was closed for 3 straight days. The study and planning being done now to address the Dunlawton situation really has to address the Nova and Halifax Canals. There has to found a way to reduce the volume of water that is coming into that location. The State of Florida is now interested in looking at that situation. The types of things the City is asking the engineers to do is to look at the upper basin because that is where the water input is coming to. They are being asked to look at design to improve the conditions upstream. Until those things happen the Dunlawton situation will not be resolved. A scope of work has been submitted to FDOT that says here is how the study would go and to outline the solutions to that particular situation. The City is waiting on them to provide

feedback on that proposal. The reason the City took that course of action to save time. From the City's perspective it was best for the City to propose a scope of work and then allow FDOT to fund our engineers to do the study because we know the basin. Mr. Parker said Senator Lynn and Representative Hukill convened a meeting of the FDOT and Water Management District and the County to come together to try to define exactly how to address the issue. Mayor Green explained a process they feel could work, suck it out of the canal quicker and sheet it across some property, or move it west, store it, and use it properly. Mayor Green commented on the power of the pumps used in the Cambridge area.

Paul Rozar – 607 Power Avenue

Mr. Rozar has a house built in the 1950's. He did not have flooding. At the end of Ruth Street is a 7- 8 acre wooded area that is not inhabited. Mayor Green is familiar with the property and it is low. Unless you could use a stacking problem using it would be a problem. Mr. Rozar said he walked with his daughter down Powers and across Dunlawton in almost waist deep water where sandbagging was being done to the FP&L area to the left. As a canal it was flowing good going to Dunlawton. There is also a large area of land there. The canal itself is the problem. He believes there are large tracts of land that are not inhabited and maybe could be used to enhance the area.

Margaret Horvath – 546 Ruth Street

She had four inches of water in her house. Ms. Horvath has lived on the property for 40 years. She does have flood insurance. She sees the problem as coming from the retention ponds in her area, the Business Park and Spruce Creek Canal. Mayor Green said she is referring to the old business park. She feel that more retention area is needed. She mentioned property behind the City's sewage treatment plant. Mayor Green said if the issue with Dunlawton can be addressed that will probably address other areas. The City looked at the Jacobs' property but could work nothing out. The City could not get an acceptable appraisal within their price range.

Ms. Jones – Riverwood Plantation – 6224 Yellowstone Drive

Ms. Jones said Yellowstone floods every time there is a heavy rainstorm. Her garage floods. She had two inches of water in as well as others on Yellowstone. She understands the City has a proposal to merge a swell with the Riverwood swale, which eventually goes out into Spruce Creek. Mayor Green said that is part of the issue. Part of it is resolving an issue on the far end where ditches

were built in. That is in the County. The City researched this and found out those people filled all the ditches in. Mayor Green said the City did have hoses out and a pump to try and pump it out. City employees were being threatened. An unidentified male said one person did that. Mayor Green said the City has verified the existence and it was there. The City is going through the legal process now to try and find an alternative. Mr. Parker said the ditch directly behind her home runs down Spruce Creek Road. When it reaches the City limits sign that is where it began to be filled. Further south you can see the historic ditch is still there. The City is working with Volusia County to try to reestablish the use of the ditch, which will be a great help to her property. What occurs now is the water that is flowing in that ditch hits a dead-end and actually flows into River Oaks' retention area. When that is filled it begins to back up and then back into Riverwood. What is being discussed between the two HOA's and the City is to create an outfall for the outfall at River Oaks into the ditch that then runs directly into Spruce Creek. It will solve only a portion of the problem. The main issue to be addressed that she is talking about is reestablishing the ditch along Spruce Creek Road.

Ralph Geronimo – Gatewood Subdivision

Mr. Geronimo had 4 inches of water in his home two weeks ago. He complained about the retention pond in his neighborhood. There are two retention ponds including a small one behind his house that flooded about 8 houses. The retention pond has been an issue for a long time. He appreciates the City's response. The pond was built by the developer and he feels an ill conceived engineering idea. The water does not run out of it into the culvert. He showed the Mayor and Council photographs of the area. Mayor Green explained it has a weir and by the time it crest over the weir it is already in his house. The developer never turned the pond over to the City. Mr. Geronimo said his Attorney and the City's advised him that the City has been maintaining it for years and therefore inherited the problem. According to Mike Zaffuto, City Employee, it can be engineered to be fixed rather quickly and inexpensive. Another issue with the larger pond in the area is that things have not been pulled out of it. It runs into the FDOT pond and did not overrun and had plenty of capacity to take on more water. If the water could have been pumped out of the smaller pond it would not have hurt anything but he thinks it all overwhelmed the FDOT pond at the end.

Nancy Roberts – Hensel Road Re: 447 Lesley Drive in Spruce Creek Estates

Ms. Roberts said she was present representing her son who lives in Spruce Creek Estates. She said City representatives have been out and spoken to him a couple of times. He has a mobile home. She believes he was the only one with

water running down to the end and standing at the bottom of the home. He has had no air conditioning since this happened. If he gets another air conditioner will it be ruined again? Mayor Green is not familiar with that situation. Ms. Roberts asked if there are plans for this area? Mayor Green said the City will follow up tomorrow.

Newton White – 510 Renner Road

Mr. White said the City's phones were not working right during the storm. Mr. White said he tried three different numbers and was unable to get anything but a switchboard/recording. He then emailed Warren Pike, Public Work Director, who contacted him. It was reassuring to hear from him, and he is aware that the crews were working and were doing everything that they had the resources and ability to do. Mr. White asked if sand bags can be made available now so that residents who think they may get flooded can have them ready to go. Mr. Parker said that is a good recommendation. The flooding problem has evolved over time in this section of the City but has to be dealt with. Mayor Green said Mr. Pike has always wanted the City to have location with a container of dirt throughout the City. The problem with the recent flooding was that you could not get to Oak Street to get the sand bags. Regarding trying to pump water into the Halifax Canal. There is about a 30 foot opening at the railroad trestle near Rose Bay where water can flow through. That is where the Cambridge pumps. There is a choke point there that the water is going to have to get out of. That needs to be considered. Mr. White said he did not previously know there was a problem south of him. The drainage from his place and nearby area the water comes down to the corner at his house and property. It has to then go through a 24-inch oval pipe to get south to get to Riverwood to get out. It backs up there. It has almost flooded his home three times and his entire property. The drainage system, from his understanding, is very intricate to the south of him. It goes from him into Sun Lake into Golden Pond, underneath Spruce Creek Road, and somehow into and through Riverwood into the other subdivision and finally into Spruce Creek. He understands that there is six inches of drop between him and the water and Spruce Creek over 1 ½ miles of travel, and is not going to move fast. The last flood he was standing on top of Renner Road on top of the 24-inch pipe, he is two feet above the pipe, and water is flowing freely across his feet and going somewhere away. He feels if the City had addressed that pipe and cleaned it that it would have been okay. Mr. White referenced a letter he had sent to the City regarding issues. Mayor Green said a lot of people are just not willing to go out and clean a drain. Mr. White's problem can be addressed.

Albert Scott – 544 Ruth Street

Mr. Scott spoke regarding the elderly and new technology with sand bags. Mayor Green said the City needs technology to address those people. Mr. Smith does not feel the issue of mosquitoes is being addressed quickly enough. Mayor Green explained what Mosquito Control is doing to handle this including outsourcing and bringing in additional helicopters for spraying.

Tammy Dresser – 236 North Brighton and Her Neighbor at 238 Brighton

They are at the higher end of their neighborhood. She commented the City on the work they have done. They did get pumps on their own to pump out their back yard. During the night the water came back up on their porch and the next day they got a second pump to pump water out of their back yard and down the street. Others bought pumps and if they not had them going they would have all flooded. Some had waters up to their back doors. She does not understand why they are having such a problem. There is a retention pond on Devon. She feels they are getting overflow from somewhere. Councilman Kennedy said there must be a low basin right in that area. He was out there during the heaviest part of the storm on Wednesday and Thursday. There was water gathering in several areas but coming back 30 minutes after the rain stopped or let up the areas were clearing out. Mayor Green asked the number of houses in that area took water. Mr. Parker can provide the information. Mayor Green asked why the lots that the City purchased is there still high dirt? Commissioner Kennedy suggested there may need to be some regarding done in the area to get the water to flow back out to the street. Ms. Dresser understands that when house were built behind them drainage was not addressed in between Devon and North Brighton. It all sits there now. Mayor Green said over time he has seen people who have swales and people level their yards. Ms. Dresser said swales would be okay in between houses to get the water out to the street. Mr. Parker spoke of those areas were built pre storm water retention. A retention pond was built and a storm drain to try and address this out of the 2004 period. Mr. Dresser said that did help a lot. It may be that now that when the water overwhelms the situation it is going to seek this particular area. Maybe the City should look at how to get the drainage swales in between the homes reestablished. Whether there are drainage easements in between the properties will need to be researched.

Gil Lesco – 357 Hearthstone Terrace

Mr. Lesco had water throughout the interior of his home. He thanked the City for their assistance. Ms. Lesco said they have been living on a concrete floor. She too appreciates the Mayor coming out to see them. She has flood insurance but

saw a large increase in rates. Mayor Green understands their problem. The City has to find a way to overcome engineering that predates current regulations.

Sally Richards – 846 Pine Forrest Trail – Countryside

Her home was not flooded but there was flooding on her patio. It appears her house is lower than other homes. She asked if the City will help with the costs of the swales previously discussed? Mayor Green said they will look into that. The City has to be careful about private property improvements.

Glen McKenney – 5635 Knox Drive

Mr. McKenney asked when will work proposed by the City begin and how long will it take? Mayor Green does not have an answer at this time. There has to be an action plan and it will need to be approved. Mr. Parker said some things will be addressed immediately. There were major issues with the Cambridge Basin in 2004 and that project was just completed this last year. Mayor Green said it is a long process to get such projects completed. Mr. McKenney asked what the \$99 charged on tax bills is for? Mayor Green said drainage. Mayor Green and Mr. Parker explained that work on a drainage pipe that broke should begin on Monday.

Councilman Steindorfer commented that drainage is a problem, not the flooding. The City should figure out a way to move the water west. It is costly and the City does not have the money. Dunlawton Avenue cannot be closed. That is something the State will have to address. Vice Mayor Martin said she appreciates the public coming out. There will be further discussion regarding problems encountered with the phone system and sand bags. Councilman Kennedy thanked those who attended this meeting and voiced their concerns. The City will work toward doing something to make it easier to get sand bags.

Mr. Parker discussed letter updates and how staff will communicate back to residents if it is useful to continue that. He said that mold testing is still available and FEMA has additional services.

May Faulds – Old Sugar Mill

Ms. Faulds said her interior and exterior were affected during the rain event. She described efforts to get assistance with paper work and believes she finally

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succeeded. Mr. Parker gave her the information she needed to contact one of the Attorney's who has offered their service at no cost.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 P.M.

Mayor Allen Green

Attest:

Kenneth W. Parker, City Manager

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Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Invocation

Roll Call: Present: Councilman George Steindorfer
Councilman Dennis Kennedy
Councilman Bob Pohlmann
Vice Mayor Mary Martin
Mayor Allen Green

Also Present: Kenneth W. Parker, City Manager
Margaret T. Roberts, City Attorney
Shirley M. Kelly, Deputy City Clerk
Glenda Leftwich, Recording Secretary

Mayor Green said the purpose of the meeting is to discuss response vehicles to emergency medical calls.

Kenneth W. Parker, City Manager, said about three months ago Council discussed what type of vehicle was really appropriate to respond to emergency medical calls. A few years ago the then Fire Chief approached Council when the old transport unit was expiring. There was discussion then about what was the appropriate type of vehicle to respond. At that time the Council did not want to add other types of vehicles into the mix. Discussion then was to use a response pumper as a part of the discussion. There were reasons why that decision was made and was probably appropriate at that time. As the City has moved forward the City had just gone through a discussion with Volusia County the first time about being a transport service. The County turned the City down. In the 1990's the City went back through that process, both Port Orange and the City of Deltona, and were turned down again. Council's decision not to have that type of capacity within the fleet was based on why would you have that type of unit if you could not use it other than just responding to emergency medical calls. Mr. Parker reviewed some history of response for emergencies. The County went through the process of developing what is now called the two-tiered system. Mr. Parker said it is more of a parallel system. In reading the materials you find that the first tier was to be the first responders. The total responsibility of the first responder was to come on the scene, stabilize the patient, prepare them for transport. The emergency ambulance system, which was the second tier, would come in and transport. Over a period of years, etc., what you are seeing is that

both units respond to the scene. EVAC and our Department show up on the scene. You are now seeing a discussion with the Medical Director about could there be implemented in the Emergency Medical Dispatch System a methodology that would allow us to more effectively go back to the tiered system. The County Council discussed that last week. They made some decisions that stated something to the effect that they would be reducing the number of fire fighters in some of their station units from 3 to 2. There are two of the stations that they will be going from 3 to 2 that are in the City's first response area. Those are on the south beach in New Smyrna and Turnbull. Station 12, located on Taylor Road, will continue to be staffed with 3 people. Also to be determined is when will fire and rescue respond to what types of calls. It appears they are headed in the direction that all of their non-emergency calls EVAC would handle. They would only respond to either first response trauma to car and vehicle accidents, cardiac, strokes, etc. They are beginning to decrease the "pie" on types of calls that they would respond to. Mr. Parker said he and Mayor Green spoke to Mike Mellon, EVAC, about this last week. Mr. Mellon's comment generally was that would not adversely impact EVAC and their ability to respond. Council may want to have a discussion about this. It may impact the discussion on the type of equipment that they may want to have to do those types of responses. It has become the expectation within the community today that the top-flight medical service will be on the scene. That may be something that cities other than just Port Orange will want to discuss because of the impact on other people. To implement a change in the response system whereby the right type of unit would be responding will require some additional training of the EMT's or Emergency Medical Dispatchers. At RCC there is a fully operated EMD System. The protocol would have to be changed to fully implement that. An EVAC unit or Port Orange Fire/Rescue would be sent, or a combination be sent. That would be up to the Medical Director. Mr. Parker said his understanding is that he fully supports changing that protocol. Chris Weir has said the question has been raised to question the expectations of whether EVAC could actually do it. The number of calls may be more if all the Cities implement the same protocol that the County is talking about. Councilman Kennedy asked if EVAC would still do all of the transportation? Mr. Parker said yes. He talked about some of the other models that have been proposed. One model is to let each City take over the actual transport. The County has consistently said no to that. They believe it would fragment the system. Another model is similar to the Edgewater model and probably others. That is to look at the response times where ambulance service is really needed and at the lowest and put those into the fixed base fire services. A variation of that is where the Cities would by ordinance provide the ambulance service but they would through their Certificate of Public Necessity and Convenience be locked together to run cross Countywide, just like EVAC does. It is time now to look at a different response model for fire, rescue, ambulance,

etc. The City has been working on regional models and others that would provide effective service at a lower cost to residents. Mr. Parker said it seems sometimes that the City Managers are alone in this endeavor. It appears that Councils are not ready to move in that direction. Mr. Parker referenced other studies done that showed they were cost effective to organize regional fire departments as early as 1988 and no one was willing to participate. The fire/rescue people have done a good job trying to find some alternative models that will work in the real world. There is a reluctance to look at any new models.

Mayor Green commented he thought the County was going to get out of the fire service business. He assumed the City will end up with the one on Beville Road but that is not correct. Mr. Parker said that is not correct. What the County has said is they will contract with the City if they can do it at lower costs than they are. The City's calls are lower than theirs but not substantially so. If the City took over the station operation itself it does not eliminate the County's overhead. Russ Rafferty, Division Chief, EMS, said there was an option of not taking over their station but running 74 into that zone with 75 coming on line and not have to man the station. Their District 12 that they want to give up is almost surround by Port Orange now.

Mr. Rafferty and Chris Weir, Fire Marshall, gave an overhead presentation regarding transport capable units and response vehicle options. Some of the discussion included unit prices, unit purchases, specifications, replacement cycles, the existing Pierce engine's brake system, safety issues, and upgrading the braking system and repairs to the engine to allow it to remain operable, statistical information regarding EMS/Fire calls for 2008, rescue calls for service by hour, and EVAC 08 response/transport stats.

Mr. Rafferty described the response options available, benefits of each, base vehicle cost and equipment cost. Response options included an EMS Cargo Van,(Option 1), EMS Fly Car (Option 2), (SUV), EMS Utility Rescue Unit (Squad) (Option 3), and EMS Transport Unit (Ambulance) (Option 4).

Mr. Rafferty and Mr. Weir responded to individual points and/or questions raised by Council Members. Discussion included fuel and other unforeseen costs, where patients go depending on their emergency, how rescue versus fire calls are accounted for, number of people required on different types of calls, and the need for more man power as opposed to number of pumpers. Councilman Pohlmann asked could the request be in lieu of the second truck requested previously. Mr. Rafferty said this does not mean they do not need the second truck requested. They do have the availability of a certified fire mechanic. The City is now allowed to transport under a "contingency transport" rule if it is a

critical situation and there is no ambulance on the scene. Councilman Kennedy commented the calls for 2008 for District 73 is the busiest. Over 70% were emergency calls. He asked out of the 2,000 plus calls how many could have been run without sending a pumper behind it? Mr. Rafferty said about 1,500 would be EMS.

Mayor Green commented everyone wants service but does not want to pay for it. It does not know if joining other cities will help. The City has to be creative. Personnel is a high cost. Unless the number of people can be reduced you cannot reduce costs. If the large truck does not have to roll you save money. Mayor Green said to him it has to be run like a business. Costs need to be controlled. He asked the number of pumps the City has? Mr. Rafferty said 6 that are operational and two of those are not in real good condition. Mayor Green asked what if they had two of the type of vehicles under discussion? Mr. Rafferty said they would not be able to meet fire demands. Chief Weir said you need to be able to carry altercation gear on the vehicle. A transport unit makes more sense from a customer service perspective, and it has excellent multi-uses. Mayor Green asked about using "Bubba" as a backup. Chief Weir said hose capacity is an issue, however, it can be used but not put on the front line. He spoke about foam capabilities. Discussion followed regarding the odds of needing all six units at one time. Councilman Kennedy asked if they went with one new transport unit this year could all the stations handle that physically? Mr. Rafferty said he can make it happen.

Wayne Wilcox, Port Orange, agrees with staff's recommendation. He asked if on Option #4 could you carry the jaws of life? Mr. Rafferty said space is an issue and contamination. You could not.

Bud Harden, Port Orange, spoke regarding chemical spills, etc. Mr. Rafferty said you would have to roll an engine now to have access to jaws of life or extrication equipment.

Consensus of Council was that they support adding a transport capable unit.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:50 P.M.

Mayor Allen Green

Attest:

Kenneth W. Parker, City Manager