

MINUTES

**MINUTES
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING
CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA**

JUNE 14, 2005

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Mayor Roland Via called the meeting to order in the Commission Chambers, 1065 Ridgewood Avenue at approximately 6:30 p.m. Attending with Vice-Mayor Via were Commissioners Arthur Byrnes, Gilles Blais, and Lou Schmitt. Also attending were the following staff members: City Manager Joe Forte, City Attorney Butch Simpson, Community Development Director Stuart Buchanan, Building Official Tim Harbuck, Public Works Director Milton Hallman, Public Safety Director Don Shinnamon, Finance Director Brenda Gubernator, Community Redevelopment Coordinator Marsha Radulovich, and City Clerk Valerie Manning.

Absent: Mayor William D. Arthur at the Annual Conference of Mayors in Chicago.

2. RIDGEWOOD AVENUE WATER MAIN UPGRADE

Mr. Forte stated as part of the loan that they took out for the redevelopment area, they included an item for relocating the waterlines on U.S. 1 from underneath the street to the sidewalk areas because of the aging waterline. Staff has some estimates from Quentin L. Hampton Associates, Inc., to do that work. Staff budgeted \$1.7 million but it looks like the estimates from Quentin Hampton is going to be more like \$3.3 million. Staff is asking for the Commission to approve Task 1, 2, 3 and 5. Task 1 has no cost; Task 2 and 3 is \$206,540 and that is for design and permitting and the bidding phase and Task 5 includes \$24,950 for the utility mapping phase. Once that is done staff will come back to the Commission for the administration, inspection and actual construction of the waterlines. That's where the bulk of the cost will come in and based on what the rest of this design phase comes out to, they'll know exactly how much footage they can actually do. Staff is anticipating with the construction of the Marina Grande facility, new dollars will be coming into the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) and they will be able to use those funds to continue the waterline that will be on the West side. This will be an 8 inch water main that will run the entire distance of the City and feed the existing businesses as well as new development that they anticipate.

*Commissioner Schmitt moved **APPROVAL** of the Ridgewood Avenue water main upgrade, seconded by Commissioner Blais.*

The motion **CARRIED** 4-0 on roll call: Schmitt – Yes, Blais – Yes, Byrnes – Yes, Vice-Mayor Via – Yes.

3. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT GRANT – UPDATE

Mr. Forte stated one of the things that the Agency and the Advisory Boards had talked about was providing...we capped off the amount of money that any property can have to \$10,000 but it was split up to \$5,000 in a year. There were some people that were doing rather large renovations to their property and it was very difficult for them to stop a project to wait for October to come and go so that they could reapply for the grant. So staff created a matching program that graduated with the work that was being done. For example, if a property owner was doing \$10,000 worth of improvements, we would match him \$5,000 to their \$5,000. If they were doing between \$10,000 and \$15,000, we would match them \$5,000 to \$7,500 which is a 2-1 ratio and if they were doing \$22,000 to \$30,000, we would match them 3-1 ratio, they would get \$10,000 worth of grant money. This is a way for the property owner to maximize the amount of grant dollars that they can get on a single project where they can get it all done at one shot. In addition to that staff eliminated language that talked about fireproof awnings and there really is no such thing as “fireproof” so that language is coming out as well.

*Commissioner Schmitt moved **APPROVAL** of the Commercial Property Improvement Grant Update, seconded by Commissioner Byrnes.*

Commissioner Byrnes asked if this would affect the resident grants that they have approved?

Mr. Forte stated the resident grants are at \$2,500. There have been approximately a dozen inquiries and approximately six applicants have been picked up but have not been returned yet.

The motion **CARRIED** 4-0 on roll call: Schmitt – Yes, Byrnes – Yes, Blais – Yes, Vice-Mayor Via – Yes.

4. COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENT GRANT – UPDATE

Mr. Forte stated there was some cleaning up of the language on letter “H”.

*Commissioner Schmitt moved **APPROVAL** of the Commercial Landscape Improvement Grant Update, seconded by Commissioner Blais.*

The motion **CARRIED** 4-0 on roll call: Schmitt – Yes, Blais – Yes, Byrnes – Yes, Vice-Mayor Via – Yes.

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5. PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT – UPDATE

Mr. Forte stated the only change they have here is staff is adding an item under the grant funds that will be reimbursed to the applicant which is installation of paved, brick or textured driveways would be approved.

*Commissioner Byrnes moved **APPROVAL** of the Private Residential Improvement Grant Update, seconded by Commissioner Blais.*

Commissioner Schmitt asked if this includes rental properties?

Mr. Forte stated he knows that the Advisory Board felt that rental properties should be included.

Mr. Buchanan stated currently the grant says that the applicant must be the owner of a single-family residential property and the Commission did have staff strike that part which means it would apply to whether it was homesteaded, not homesteaded or rented. The Commission did change that. Commissioner Schmitt did mention that he didn't just want to have homesteaded because some people are Canadians and they come here for part of the year or they live up North and a couple of the other Commissioners brought up that they should just do every body so rental properties are included in the grant. Staff made it so that it didn't exclude rental properties.

Mr. Forte stated but the *owner* has to make the application.

Mr. Buchanan stated, correct.

The motion **CARRIED** 4-0 on roll call: Byrnes – Yes, Blais – Yes, Schmitt – Yes, Vice-Mayor Via – Yes.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting officially adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Attest:

City of Holly Hill, Florida

Valerie Manning
City Clerk

Roland Via
Vice-Mayor