



TOWN OF GOLDEN BEACH

One Golden Beach Drive
Golden Beach, FL 33160

**Official Minutes for the March 31, 2008
Special Town Council Meeting called for 7:00 P.M. &
Capital Improvement Plan Workshop**

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

B. ROLL CALL

The Town Clerk called the roll.

Council Members Present: Mayor Singer, Vice Mayor Rojas, Councilmember Bernstein, Councilmember Einstein, Councilmember Lusskin

Staff Present: Town Manager – Alexander Diaz, Police Chief – James Skinner, Finance Director – Maria Camacho, Town Clerk – Elizabeth Sewell.

C. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Einstein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

ADDITIONS/ DELETIONS/ REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM CONSENT
AGENDA/ AND CHANGES TO AGENDA

None

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP

Mayor Singer explained that this was the final Capital Improvement Program Workshop. The workshop that was held a few weeks ago by the Town laid out the options regarding what was going to be done for the sidewalks. This Program was already approved by the voters, and it included the undergrounding of utilities, the completion of the stormwater project, installation of sidewalks on Golden Beach Drive, and streetscaping on Golden Beach Drive and Ocean Boulevard. He stated that this workshop meeting would be open to the public for comments after a presentation by Ramon Castella, Vice President of C3TS. He

stated that Ramon from C3TS and Steve Smith of Craig A. Smith and Associates assisted the Town Administration in putting this project together.

Mr. Ramon Castella of C3TS are the program managers for the Town's Capital Improvement Project. At the last Regular Town Council Meeting, they made a presentation of a typical section of the road on Golden Beach Drive, including the width of the sidewalk, and staff settled on a seven foot wide (7') sidewalk in order to accommodate a stroller passing and someone walking or someone on a bicycle. In regards to the strip of land between the sidewalk and the edge of the road, five feet (5') was decided upon for the width of the buffer. The width of the existing roadway varies, and in some places, there is barely nineteen feet (19') of pavement in both lanes on Golden Beach Drive. In some areas, there is twenty-four feet (24') but by and large, the dimension is twenty-one feet (21'). The proposed dimension is to make the lanes ten foot (10') wide lanes. C3TS would work with Florida Power and Light to do the relocation of the power lines to under the sidewalk to cut down the impact of the trenching, and to provide a little more support and stability to the sidewalk. C3TS have been in contact with Teco People's Gas and they are doing certain improvements where there have been problems in the gas lines. Other components of the Capital Improvement Program is the installation of the new water main, the stormwater pump line that would be installed on Golden Beach Drive, the existing sewer and the existing water main. In regards to the streetscaping on Golden Beach Drive there is added curbing on each side providing the ability to park on swales. In addition, there would be some overflow parking along the front of North and South Parks next to the sidewalk. There will be installation of speed humps and splinter islands that are used as traffic calming devices. C3TS is recommending widening the pavement to allow for the easier turning of cars, garbage trucks and other vehicles at the intersections. The proposed color for the sidewalk is a golden sand color, and pavers to match the color at the Strand. Coconut Palms will be the predominant street tree on both sides of Golden Beach Drive.

The A-1-A streetscaping project will be done along side the FDOT sidewalk project. The streetscaping for A-1-A corridor will be the landscaping and uplighting of the median. For aesthetic purposes, C3TS is recommending that the colors of the sidewalk on A-1-A match the colors of the sidewalk on Golden Beach Drive and the colors of the existing curbs on A-1-A. On the approach to the Strand from the south and north at the intersection, C3TS is proposing paver crosswalks with thin concrete dividers. The landscaping plan will include the existing Medjools Palms at the north and south entrances to the Town and reinforcing them with additional Medjool Palm trees with intermittent clusters of Sable and Coconut Palm trees.

On the islands, the plan is to underground the utilities, install new water lines, and new drainage and to resurface the roads. He stated that if there is money leftover in the budget items that the Town may want to look at could be decorative lighting on Golden Beach Drive as oppose to existing lighting, valley gutters along the edges of the roads on the islands and standardize mailboxes.

Mayor Singer opened the discussion to the public.

Peter Manors – 198 Ocean Boulevard, asked if sidewalks would be installed on the east side of Ocean Boulevard?

Jack Hallwell – 487 Center Island Drive, spoke in regards to the phasing of the undergrounding of the utilities project on Golden Beach Drive from North Parkway to the Strand.

Ramon Castella answered that phase one of the project is north of the Strand, phase two is south of the Strand and phase three is the islands.

Gilbert Drozow – 590 Golden Beach Drive, asked if there were restrictions on the amount of construction work that is required to be completed before moving on to the next phase.

Ramon Castella answered that before moving to the next phase certain elements in the work would have to be done before moving on.

Alice Meltzer – 122 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in reference to the parking spaces at the Parkway on Golden Beach Drive.

Al Paruas – 645 Golden Beach Drive, asked what the impact would be on the Capital Improvement Project budget by adding four additional feet of asphalt the length of Golden beach Drive.

Ramon Castella answered that an additional one hundred and fifty thousand dollars would be the cost. However, the Capital Improvement Project Team feels very strongly that this can be accomplished within the budget. The plan is to widen Golden Beach Drive by 9.5' equally on both sides of Golden Beach Drive from the existing edge of road.

Julian Kheel – 407 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in reference to the salt water flooding her property.

Steven Smith answered that once the Stormwater Management System is completed the salt water flooding would be resolved. The outfall pipes will be sealed so that water cannot infiltrate into the system.

Russell Malina – 499 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in reference to the future maintenance of the sidewalks in the event of it sinking.

Ramon Castella explained that sidewalks will be 6" thick and the installation of wire lath will help to strengthen and hold the concrete in place. He stated that every measure is being implemented to lessen the maintenance required.

June Krogoll – 422 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in reference to the placement of the sidewalk on Golden Beach Drive.

Ramon Castella stated that the reason for deciding to place the sidewalk on the west side of Golden Beach Drive as opposed to the east side was because of the number of driveways on the west side due to the parkways was much less than the number of driveways on the east side that would cross the sidewalk.

Alene Fishbein – 256 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in favor of the installation of the sidewalk on the west side of Golden Beach Drive.

Kathy Einstein – 555 Golden Beach Drive, spoke in reference to ensuring that the Town's green spaces are protected. She asked if the additional 9.5 feet on both sides of Golden Beach Drive was already decided.

Ramon Castella stated that a decision has not been finalized.

Mayor Singer asked Ramon Castella if the street on the east side could be decreased by 2 feet.

Robert Smoley – 390 Golden Beach Drive, stated that at the last workshop meeting it was decided that whatever encroachment was done on the west side it would be the same encroachment on the east side of Golden Beach Drive. He also stated that the possibility of making a smaller sidewalk was discussed at the last meeting. He recommended making the sidewalk 6 feet wide, a 4' landscape buffer on the west side and decreasing the road size providing an overall reduction of 4'. He reiterated that in order for the encroachment to be fair, the same amount of footage would have to be taken from both sides of Golden Beach Drive.

Jack Halliwell – 495 Center Island Drive, asked if stormwater system would be tied into the system in North Parkway.

Fred Chouinard – 407 Ocean Boulevard, spoke in reference to the width of the street on Golden Beach Drive.

Councilmember Lusskin – stated that the undergrounding of the utilities would be converted on Golden Beach Drive before the undergrounding of the utilities on the west side of Ocean Boulevard.

Vice Mayor Rojas asked if the stormwater system would be installed on both side of the street on Golden Beach Drive.

Ramon Castella answered that there would be catch basins on both sides of the street, but the main collection pipe connecting the system together will be on the west side of Golden Beach Drive.

Vice Mayor Rojas stated that she was in agreement with not making Golden Beach Drive wider but she also did not want to make the existing street any narrower. She was in agreement with taking 7.5 feet of property from each side

of Golden Beach Drive. She was also in agreement with making the sidewalk 6 feet, the landscape buffer 4 feet and the gutters 3 feet.

Councilmember Bernstein stated that he thinks that the 7 feet sidewalks are needed on Golden Beach Drive. He was in favor of decreasing the proposed width of the street. He stated that he empathized with the residents on the east side of Golden Beach Drive, and agreed with the Mayor in reducing the encroachment on the east side to 7.5 feet.

Councilmember Einstein stated that the installation of a 7 feet sidewalk and 5 feet buffer puts the residents on the west side of Golden Beach Drive another 10 feet away from the street, but the road would be moved closer to the properties on the east side. He also expressed his concerns regarding the restoration of the residents' properties during the Capital Improvement Project.

Ramon Castella stated that C3TS is developing very detail restoration plans for the residents' properties. He stated that they are documenting what is in existence in reference to the landscaping, trees, mailbox, rockwork, driveways and whether there are pavers or concrete. There will be a property-by-property restoration plan in reference to what needs to be done.

Councilmember Einstein asked about the number of Date Palm trees to be replaced on Ocean Boulevard.

Ramon Castella answered that twenty-five to thirty palm trees were budgeted to be added on Ocean Boulevard.

Councilmember Einstein stated that he is favor of the sidewalks on Golden Beach Drive and the landscape buffer. However, the encroachment should be equitable to all the parties concerned.

A Motion was made by Mayor Singer to approve a 7 foot sidewalk, a 5 foot landscape buffer and a 2 foot gutter on the west side of Golden Beach Drive and a 2 foot buffer on the east side of Golden Beach Drive with two 10 foot travel lanes, taking 8.5 feet on the west side and 6.5 feet on the east side of Golden Beach Drive, seconded by Councilmember Lusskin.

Roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Singer – Aye, Vice Mayor Rojas – Aye, Councilmember Bernstein – Aye, Councilmember Einstein – Aye, Councilmember Lusskin – Aye.

The motion carried.

F. DIRECTION TO STAFF PERTAINING TO CIP

None

G. DISCUSSION & DIRECTION TO TOWN MANAGER

Mayor Glenn Singer:
None Requested

Vice Mayor Amy Rojas:
None Requested

Councilmember Ken Bernstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Ben Einstein:
None Requested

Councilmember Judy Lusskin:
None Requested

Town Manager Alexander Diaz:
*Miami-Dade Day in Tallahassee

The Town Manager announced that members of the Council will be traveling to Tallahassee April 9 and returning on April 10, 2008 to attend the Miami-Dade Days in Tallahassee.

The Town Manager requested that the Regular Town Council Meeting for April 15, 2009 be moved to April 29, 2008 due to the renovation of the Council Chambers. A Motion was made by Councilmember Lusskin to move the Regular Town Council Meeting from April 15, to April 29, 2008 at 7:30 PM, seconded by Councilmember Bernstein. The Consensus vote was 5 Ayes 0 Nays. The Motion carried.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn the Special Town Council Meeting and Capital Improvement Plan Workshop by Mayor Singer, seconded by Councilmember Einstein. Consensus vote 5 Ayes 0 Nays.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.