

**WORKSHOP MINUTES  
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL  
February 9, 2021**

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The Workshop of the Seminole City Council was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, 9199 - 113th Street North, Seminole, Florida.

Mayor Waters called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Leslie Waters, Vice Mayor Tom Barnhorn, Councilor Chris Burke, Councilor Tom Christy, Councilor Roger Edelman, Councilor Jim Olliver, Councilor Trish Springer, City Manager Ann Toney-Deal, City Attorney Jay Daigneault and City Clerk Ann Marie Mancuso.

**1. HISTORY OF SEMINOLE YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION COMPLEX (SYAA)  
(TIM SCHULER PRESENTER – ATTORNEY FOR THE GREATER SEMINOLE  
AREA SPECIAL RECREATION DISTRICT)**

City Manager Toney-Deal introduced Tim Schuler, and he gave a PowerPoint presentation of the history of the Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District.

Mr. Schuler stated that the District was created in 1980 as an independent government entity and the issue the District is facing today is that it has perpetual existence, however, no income source. Mr. Schuler stated that the basic area that the District covers is Walsingham Road on the North, Fifty-fourth (54<sup>th</sup>) Avenue on the South, the Intercoastal Waterway on the West and Lake Seminole on the East.

The reason for the creation of the District is that the field that the Seminole Youth Athletic Association (SYAA) played upon was owned by the Pinellas County School Board. In the late 1970's, the School Board decided it no longer needed the property and declared the property as surplus. Due to law, the School Board was not able to give the property to SYAA and the SYAA could not afford to purchase it, so several members of the community came up with the idea of creating a Special District. The District currently has a seven (7) member board with five (5) members appointed by the County Commission and two (2) appointed by the City of Seminole. The Special District currently has a management contract with SYAA, which expires in 2050.

The options for the Special District are to continue as is, have a referendum for more funding, or dissolve and transfer to Pinellas County or the City of Seminole. Pinellas County is currently considering its options. If the City is interested, the Special District would need to know as soon as possible, as the Special District would have to have special legislation to dissolve the Special District.

Councilor Edelman inquired whether the property was restricted to whom it can be given or sold to. Mr. Schuler stated that the Special District can sell the property to whomever they wish, even to Developers. Councilor Edelman also inquired as to whether the property would be given to the City or sold to the City. Mr. Schuler stated that once a special legislation to dissolve the District's Board took place, then the Special District would transfer all assets to the City. Councilor Edelman also inquired as to once the property was transferred to the City and plans for it did not work out, would the City have the authority to sell the property. Mr. Schuler stated that if the Special Legislation did not include a stipulation when the assets are transferred, then the City would be free to sell it. Councilor Edelman inquired if the City did acquire this property, would it become part of the City. City Manager Toney-Deal stated that it would not be annexed into the City unless it became contiguous. Councilor Edelman inquired as to the costs to maintain the property. Mr. Max Perez, current President of SYAA stated that lawn maintenance is currently \$21,600 yearly and electric and sanitation costs are between \$5,000-\$6,000 monthly. He stated that all other maintenance is completed in-house by the SYAA board to keep costs down.

Vice Mayor Barnhorn stated that in his opinion, if the City were to acquire this property, it would have to be owned and managed by the City. City Manager Toney-Deal reiterated what Vice Mayor Barnhorn stated; staff would only recommend acquiring it if the City would own and operate/manage in addition to other considerations.

Councilor Olliver stated that we would have to review this to see if the needs of the City are congruent with the needs of SYAA.

Councilor Burke inquired about information, such as the number of groups using the fields, the age groups, etc. Councilor Burke stated that he is in support of the project of acquiring this property. Mr. Schuler stated that the City would have to have a conversation with SYAA to obtain that information and see if it would be feasible to acquire the property.

Councilor Springer stated that she is concerned about vandalism, the electric bills, maintenance, and the management agreement with SYAA, however, she would like to see interest from the City rather than have another developer acquire that property.

## **2. PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL GOALS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE ANNUAL WORKSHOP.**

City Manager Toney-Deal stated that, at the request of Council, each Councilor submit ideas for goals to be presented at the Annual Workshop/Retreat, so that staff can prepare back back up material/information for each goal presented.

Councilor Olliver suggested that at this retreat, short summary reports be given for major projects that are in process. He suggested that the vast majority of the time spent should be on the subject of big ideas and big issues.

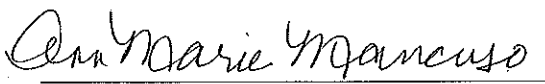
The City Council goals presented were as follows:


1. City Motto
2. Recreation and Leisure Services. (Repetto Property, Recreation Building, SYAA)
3. Revenue Enhancement (All Areas)
4. Economic Redevelopment (ie. Sears Building, Partnership with Pinellas County Economic Development Council)
5. Strategic Plan (Next Year)
6. Fire Station #5 (Details)
7. Infrastructure (Drainage and Roadways)
8. COVID Impacts (Personnel, Budget)
9. Law Enforcement Services
10. Annexation Plan (Accentuate the Positives)
11. Beach Trolley
12. Communication to Communities (How many HOA's)

**3. CONSIDER A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Waters adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Date Approved: February 23, 2021

  
Minutes prepared by City Clerk  
Ann Marie Mancuso

  
Leslie Waters, Mayor