

CITY OF APOPKA

Minutes of the City Council Workshop/Sandpiper Community Meeting held on June 1, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., in the City of Apopka Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Mayor Joe Kilsheimer
Commissioner Diane Velazquez
Commissioner Kyle Becker
Commissioner Doug Bankson
Visiting City Attorney Dan Langley (Fishback Law Firm)

ABSENT: Commissioner Billie Dean

PRESS PRESENT: Teresa Sargeant – The Apopka Chief
WFTV – Channel 9

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Kilsheimer led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Kilsheimer announced this is a workshop meeting and established ground rules. He stated normally at a workshop there would not be public comment, however this is also a community meeting therefore, we will accept public comment. Those wishing to speak must complete a green speaker card and hand it to the Clerk. He also stated that the Sandpiper project is on the City Council agenda for June 7, 2017. Mayor Kilsheimer cautioned City Council members to err on the side of caution when making comments.

Acting City Attorney, Dan Langley, reiterated what Mayor Kilsheimer said in his comments and cautioned the commissioners to respond cautiously.

PRESENTATION BY BEEZER HOMES:

Mr. Goldberg introduced himself and his team and said he is the owner of the project and appreciates everyone coming to listen. He stated that the Final Development Plan has been submitted and the FDP will be on the upcoming City Council Agenda for June 7, 2017. He further stated that the basis of the meeting was to communicate information to the public and to answer any questions. He then introduced, Fred Miller who represents the builder of the project, Beazer Homes.

Fred Miller introduced himself as the Director of Building for Beazer Homes and provided a brief overview and a presentation. He stated that Beazer Homes is based in Atlanta and currently markets in 13 States and currently has seven active communities in the area. He stated that they look for projects in areas that are growing and indicated that the City of Apopka meets this criteria.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ellen O'Conner expressed concerns over the removal of so many trees. She stated that the previous requirement was to reduce the amount of lots in order to save more trees.

David Stokes from Madden Engineering spoke to the topography of the property and stated that the existing grade is the reason why they must remove all the trees at once. This is a general rule of thumb and allows for proper infrastructure and safety as well as avoids the improper drainage and allows the drainage to go to the ponds. All this is due to ordinance dictating the sewer.

Jack Cooper asked whether an evening meeting would be possible so that the residents would be able to attend. Mayor Kilsheimer stated that the applicant previously moved this meeting and it cannot be changed.

Mr. Stokes addressed the wetland issue regarding the line and swale for drainage. Mr. Cooper advised that there are other developments that are on city sewer and felt that there should be a way that the developer can design this to minimize impact. He further stated that changing the infrastructure design will not have any bearing on the amount of trees being removed. The topography as well as the elevations have been taken into account for will need to be considered for safety reasons.

Alex Shamraevsky introduced himself as a new resident and stated that traffic is already bad and asked what will be done to help get the traffic reduced.

David Stokes stated that a traffic report was prepared and analyzed showing that the levels of service are sufficient for this project.

Mayor Kilsheimer reiterated that the level of service for this area would not be adversely affected by traffic under our code.

John Cloran stated that the streets and the drainage ditches in the area are maintained by the County and expressed concerns that since the City does not control the traffic there, this stretch of road will likely become a race track from Ustler Road to Sandpiper Road. He asked for clarification as to where the City's jurisdiction ends.

Jay Davoll stated that the area from Ustler to Thompson is currently under the jurisdiction of Orange County however, in the near future, this will be maintained by the City. He further stated that he will check into the drainage issue at Ustler Road and thought that it may be coming from Buchan Pond.

Jill Cooper questioned why there are trees being cut down where there's no sewer line. She further stated that it appears to be a clear line being cut and asked if there was a way to change the design of the houses in order to minimize the clearing of trees.

David Moon stated that at the time the Final Development Plan was submitted, the developer provided staff with an analysis which outlined the grading on a lot by lot basis. At that time the landscape architect presented a detailed plan which identified what trees would be removed.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

_____/s/_____
Joseph E. Kilsheimer, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____/s/_____
Linda F. Goff, City Clerk