



City of Belle Isle

City Council Regular Session Minutes

Date/Time: March 5, 2013 / 5:30p.m.

Jay Nagle District 1	Keith VanDyke District 2	Karl Shuck District 3	Larry Ady District 4	Mayor William G. Brooks	Keith Severns City Manager	Harv Readey District 5	Lydia Pisano Vice-Mayor District 6	Eric Spaulding District 7
Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Present

The Belle Isle City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 5:30p.m. in the Belle Isle City Hall Council Chambers. Also present were, Chief Thomas Jackson and City Clerk Yolanda Quiceno. Absent was Commissioner Readey – District 5.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m. City Clerk confirmed quorum and Vice Mayor Pisano gave the invocation and led the ledge to the flag.

Mayor Brooks said that he will move several of the quick items on the agenda to the front to move forward with the citizen's comments for those who are present for the Fire Department issue.

Mayor Brooks read and presented the Sexual Assault Awareness Proclamation to a representative of the Victim Service Center of Central Florida.

OFFICER RECOGNITION

Chief Jackson recognized Officer Ron Hulbert for Officer of the Year. He said due to shift work he was not able to be in attendance. Ron Hulbert's recognition was based on his continued performance throughout the year, his endeavors in traffic safety and his mentoring of new officers.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of January 16, 2013 CC Special Called Session Minutes.
2. Approval of January 30, 2013 CC Regular Workshop Session Minutes.
3. Approval of February 5, 2013 CC Regular Session Minutes.
4. Proclamation: Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Commissioner Spaulding motioned to approve the consent agenda items.
Vice Mayor Pisano second the motion which passed unanimously.

5. ORDINANCE NO. 13-04 – SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 52 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, ADDING DEFINITIONS AND REGULATIONS FOR WINDOW SIGNS, SIDEWALK SIGNS AND SIGN SPINNERS; AMENDING PROVISIONS FOR MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SURFACE AREA OF PERMANENT SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Brooks opened for public comment there being none he closed public comment for Council discussion.

Vice Mayor Pisano motioned to adopt Ordinance 13-04.

Commissioner Van Dyke seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon roll call.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 13-05 – SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE II, ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT CLINICS, AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Brooks opened for public comment there being none he closed public comment for Council discussion.

Commissioner Spaulding motioned to adopt Ordinance 13-05.

Commissioner Shuck seconded the motion which passed unanimously upon roll call.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 13-06 – FIRST READING AND CONSIDERATION

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA, CREATING ARTICLE II REGULATING SPECIAL EVENTS AND PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR SAME PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Brooks opened for public comment there being none he closed public comment for Council discussion.

Commissioner Ady motioned to advance to second reading on Ordinance 13-06.

Commissioner Nagle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Mayor Brooks opened the Citizen's Comments section and the City Clerk addressed the public hearing process.

Patrice Guy residing at 1809 Wind Willow Road said she is concerned about the funding source of the future Fire Department. In the media there are many Cities across the nation going in the red and a good portion is based off of future pensions, equipment repairs and facilities services. She is concerned that it will impact their future and they will not be able to afford the increased taxes this is going to force them to pay. She is also concerned about the services or reduced services; how is it going to be better; where the facility is going to be located; what is the response time and can we run a fire truck across the bridge on the lake. She did not find any answers to her concerns on the website to educate her to understand why the City is looking and dealing with this. She hopes that in the near future answers can be provided. In the future, she and her husband will be looking differently on how they vote in the future on the commission.

Mayor Brooks recognized the City Manager Keith Severns to provide a brief presentation to answer some of the details and reasons why. Mayor Brooks said as we have done at previous meetings with the Police Department, budgets and the Charter School, everything that is done by the City Council for advancement is done with the best interest of the City at heart and the results have proven that. Council will only move forward if there is no reduction of service and it is determined to be the most effective way to delivery these services. It will be done right or not done at all.

Keith Severns provided an outline of the process that has been initiated, where we are and where we are going. Mr. Severns spoke on the current inter local agreement with Orange County and on the increased MSTU tax associated with the agreement. He said that he continues his communication with other entities, including Commissioner Clarke and County Administrator on inter local agreements, mutual aide and dispatch services. He acknowledged the lack of communication to the citizens to keep everyone up to date with the process. He said that it will not happen again and will do things differently moving forward. He further noted if we do not move forward with a Fire Department he will initiate a 5-year plan and build in the expiration of the contracted discounts, and property value increases. He further noted that he believes the City will pay an additional \$1 million to Orange County for services and if we do not do anything our property taxes will increase. Mr. Severns continued and spoke of community programs through the Fire Department specifically an eldercare program.

Butch Stanley spoke on the ISO rating as we move forward with the process. He said the City will start with a 4-rating and strive for a 3-rating. He has been in communication with many insurance providers and said that there are many variables in identifying what the insurance protection will amount to. There is a very little savings from a Class 1 to a Class 6. Once you are passed a Class 6 the fees start to escalate.

He spoke on transport charges and said that Rural Metro assured that they will charge the residents no more than what is currently being charged by Orange County Fire Rescue.

He spoke on licensing for Rural Metro and said that they work under the same Medical Director as Orange County and other agencies and meet the same level of medical training. They follow the same set of protocols as the other agencies and are certified through the State as EMT/Paramedics.

Darlene DeShane residing at 1615 Wind Harbor Rd asked why the residents were not informed of this decision; she said the residents have the right to an explanation. She asked how many fire engines does Orange County have in the city limits; how much would we pay for health care or pension? I think there will be a problem with having one fire truck driving from the east side to where she is on a timely manner; how many people on each truck; how much for the insurance, and she did not see any liability cost on a cost basis on what was provided in the feasibility. She concluded, and asked how much we are currently paying Orange County to allow a comparison.

Sue Wazniak residing at 5400 Ming Drive said she has a friend running for city council in Maitland and is running based upon the amount of trouble there are experiencing due to unfunded liabilities. We have no control over healthcare and pension costs; do we want to travel the same path. Do we want small government or do we want bigger government. We are annexing Commercial property towards Taft to fund this, is what I have heard. We should look at other cities like Maitland to learn their lessons before we step into this.

Patrick Busbee residing at 3513 Edlingham Court said that the presentation is very weak in the levels projecting the future costs. In the study 80% of the cost is for EMS service and 10% for everything else. We ought to be in the ambulance business not the fire truck business. I think that we should be taking that into consideration. We should be looking into the EMS service instead of fire service. He would like to see feasibility on the EMS transport service only and the alternatives we might have using someone else's fire truck. He would like to see a motion to have Council look at EMS service more than a fire truck it would be appreciated.

Austin Bechtold residing at 1703 Windrift Rd spoke on a personal event which happened on Labor Day. He said that it took Orange County 3 minutes with two trucks to arrive and 6 minutes to arrive at ORMC. It took 1 hour between the 911 call and rolling of the table to surgery. If it ain't broken don't fix it. Do we put safety of the men, women, children and the community at risks to save a few dollars? Taxes are going to go up it is a fact of life. To have an outside service taking care of transporting people he may not be alive today. In closing, as a result of the way this was publicly let known, Council has done a good service in letting the people's voice be heard and encourages citizens to attend future meetings.

Faye Evans residing at 1614 Overlook Road a resident of Belle Isle for 49 years said her resources are from Orange County Fire Rescue Department and OC Government. She said the city manager and Council have decided we were paying too much money for Orange County Fire at 1.2 million. We have 4 fire departments in a 5 mile radius. She proceeded to provide a breakdown of proposed equipment costs totaling 52,000 a year. She said that when she spoke with the city manager he said he was able to purchase a 15 year old fire engine for 100,000 and did not comment on the ambulance truck. She further added that he said the Fire chief will be paid 80,000 a year, Rural Metro contract will be paid 580,000 and a starting salary of 36,000 for fireman. This is not including workman's comp, vacation, overtime, 401k and property. She said most of the residents do not want this to move forward it is too costly. She said the city manager is trying to negotiate with Orange County to lower the fees, she prays for him to do that. Why in the world would we hire a fire chief if we do not know if we are going to have a fire department? Do not pass this proposal.

Bill Altice residing at 1309 K Wallace Street waived his time.

Denmer Dix Baxter residing at 1740 Wind Harbor Road spoke on events when he and his wife have needed Fire Rescue Service. He urges Council to look careful on the time response for services. He would not want to see a budget issue be put in front of their lives. He is concerned about the depth of the study. He suggested not have this move so quickly but to be placed on hold and make a slow transition to our own services. He also added the proposed salaries are too low.

James Flovin residing at 5262 Oak Island Road said his comments echo previous speakers on the long term liability. He noted that we have seen other communities go into dire financial streaks because of these liabilities. He is concerned of some of the long term unfunded liabilities and going from 4 stations to 1 station. He urges Council to continue the relationship with Orange County.

Andrew Thompson residing at 4058 Isle Vista Avenue resident and President of the Belle Vista HOA on Conway Road. He is here because he is confused that the study presented is unsigned by Crown Consulting. There are holes so big on this study you can drive a fire truck through it. The big "ifs" in this study that indicate the comparison is difficult and take new form that brings concern. He would rather have his taxes go up to maintain and guarantee the same level of service than go away from the service they currently have. He is concerned that we already hired a fire chief. He urges Council to have Crowne Consulting do a study as to why we should not do this.

Rita Lucey residing at 1707 Wind Willow Road said she would like to make a statement for the record, it is my belief that the feasibility study on which this project is based is fallible. Perhaps not by intent, but maybe because the scope of the question was limited. There is no allowance for unemployment taxes, compensation nor workman compensation insurance which is high for fire fighters. The proposed 401k seems to be under stated. I believe what I have mentions will add an additional 30-35% to everyone's wages in the fire department. She added and take issue that not everyone has a computer to check on the agenda, the 5:30 meetings are difficult for working families and open forum publicized by a simple post card will certainly make for a transparent government which they all desire. She also feels that elected officials have a duty to notify their constituents before it reaches this point. Lastly, it recently came to her attention that the Rural Metro transport charge is around \$1,100. I think that it is quite expensive compared to \$400 from Orange County. She feels the fire department is a decision the residents should be working as committees to determine what's best for the community.

Dee Ann Daniels residing at 7225 Conway Circle a resident of Belle Isle spoke of a similar fire department proposal in Indiana. She noted that it created a heck of a mess. She said insurance rates sky rocketed, there were problems with equipment, facilities, and coverage and state regulations. Bottom line is that she is going to pay for it whether in taxes or insurance. Quite frankly she prefers to pay for it on taxes.

Andre Perez residing at 1332 Nela Avenue, President of the OC Fire Fighters (OC). He addressed the Board and cleared the air on some inaccuracies. He said OC was labeled as the big bad union. They are professionals active in community events. They were asked by some of their members, residents of Belle Isle, to educate the citizens as to the intentions to start a fire department. This came into light when the City publicly announced and hired a Fire Chief. It was apparent that everyone they came in contact with did not know what was being proposed. The main reason for their participation is that the City said they can provide an equal service at a lower cost, which is false. The adjusted study provides for a single engine provided by a company not dedicated to Belle Isle. OC currently has a number of 5 stations, 3 engines, 2 rescues, a fire boat and a rehab unit to cover Belle Isle. The fact that through council and HOA meetings it has bought the City to adjust the study two times thus far which should be a great concern to citizens. The numbers of the study has been adjusted however the bottom line surprisingly always seems falls below what the County charges. He also added 17,820 for a building is not even in the ball park. If the City was to get a building for free it still does not cover the costs for the infrastructure. He said he is a proud employee of OC. Today they were informed that they have also obtained accreditation by the Commission. He said that the City can start a fire engine but they will not have equal service or coverage. What the City will be providing is a disservice to the citizens of Belle Isle.

Christopher Bass residing at 5206 Chiswick Circle spoke on an incident that happens with his father. He said that the quick intervention and the response unit arriving with special equipment is the reason why his father is alive today. He said if the unit was to arrive five minutes later he would have been dead. He said he knows that Council has the best interest at heart however Council should step back, take their time and be a little more transparent. He believes they are a bit short sighted in terms with the feasibility study and what Council wants to actually provide for the residents.

John Harvey residing at 5429 Pasadena Drive waived his time.

Bob Kenney residing at 6909 Barby Lane said that he would like to ask, (1) how one fire truck with an EMT is better for an entire City and (2) we were not advised. If you wanted the residents to know about the proposal it would have been done. As others have said he would pay more taxes than to put his life at risk. This will influence their vote in the future. He would like to request to put a stop to this immediately or give the residents for their vote after receiving all the information.

Fran Beckner residing at 5114 St Germaine Avenue said to establish a fire department strictly for Belle Isle speaks of a great lack of fore sight and also hiring a fire chief speaks of small government, going to large government and control. We are looking at current prices and costs but no one has looked at future costs. She is asking Council to think about one fire department and outlining areas. It will take longer to respond. It is not a good idea at all.

Charlene Kennedy residing at 2624 Homewood deferred to the next speaker.

Ruth Bernstein residing at 2520 Homewood Drive waived her time.

Stuart Bernstein residing at 2520 Homewood Drive said as he sits here he sees a big disconnect. He says that with a heavy heart. He asked, Mayor Brooks what prevented you from notifying the citizens of Belle Isle of the Nov 12 filing period for the office of Mayor via email, only on the website is not sufficient. Not answering his question is very self serving.

Dr. Annette Nielsen residing at 2625 Nela Avenue spoke on an event she experienced this year. She said her 69 year old mother had an accident at her home and after calling 911, OC arrived one minute and 23 seconds later. The response time saved her life. Dr. Nielsen continued to speak of a different experience with Rural Metro in 2002. She said that a 12 year old girl died while waiting 28 minutes for Rural Metro who arrived with an EMT. She couldn't do anything and watched her die because of the inadequate method transport capabilities. Look at the age of the community, you are elected, they hired you, act like it, and be responsible.

Tony Renta residing at 4311 Kezar Court spoke on the feasibility study conducted and said that it did not match up with the current Orange County services. If you are attempting to start a service you must closely identify the current services you are receiving. First, how did a feasibility company completely miss the requirements to staff a fire truck with 4 personnel and a certified paramedic. Secondly, upon hiring the fire chief how is it that he did not rectify this in his own accord. The decrease in service was only questioned and was raised by the concerned residents. This has not become alarming to the elected officials. Over the past weeks there have been numerous meetings and questions still have not been answered. It was stated by the fire chief that the medical direction has been selected and confirmed. However as a concerned citizen I contacted the medical director and they cannot confirm a meeting with Chief Staley. Also to follow the Orange County protocol book, the City cannot deviate to cheaper items they must meet the requirements and it has not been addressed. He further spoke on budget item including online medical control and a cardiac monitor which has not been determined or addressed. It has been stated by the Chief that we will rely on inter local agreement, joint response and mutual aid. These are contractual documents which have not been received. We have nothing in writing; however what we do receive is 1,000 certified fire fighters at your disposal.

Rick Broccolo residing at 5108 Louvre Avenue was not present to speak.

Glen Janocho residing at 6605 Citrus Valley Drive said he is a retired Orange County fire fighter. He briefly noted the failure of Eatonville to start a fire Department. He spoke on the staffing required to man a fire truck and provide service. He asked why the County would give an inter local agreement for free. He said you get what you pay for.

Theresa O'Donnell residing at 4409 Hoffner Avenue said she asked who is Crowne Consulting, what is their reputation and expertise. She asked perhaps Council would consider a citizen's workshop to empower the people that place them in their position and scrutinize the pros and cons on moving forward with a fire department and ask Orange County for an extension on the current contract.

James Yoachim residing at 6401 Gibson Drive said he would like to echo most of what was presented today. He said the feasibility said it will require an increase level of mutual aid for a big event. He finds it difficult to believe that Orange County would want an increase in mutual aid when you stop paying the 1.2 million and cut their budget. His other concern is that we are surrounded by fire stations. If we have one, east or west, in either event they will have to cross Hoffner and Nela which has speed humps every hundred feet. His vote is to have the station on his side of the lake.

Jerry Davies residing at 2615 Trentwood Blvd said what it all comes down to is quality, cost and information. We received a lack of information and we deserve better than that. Enough has been said that there should be a panel to come out this that involves us all with the next step

Barbara Ball residing at Lake Conway East waived her time.

Taylor DeMarches residing at 4529 Cove Drive was not present to speak.

Kathleen Moore residing at 1803 Wind Drift Road said when I think about what has happen tonight I cannot help assess the feelings that have been stated. There is a lot of frustration on the process and lack of information received. I hear fear and anxiety in the voices on creating a fire department in our City. It is a large risk if you decrease our services. Finally, I too had access to Orange County Fire Services and waited no more than one minute and a half with 4-5 people and transport. She would like to know how we can we top what we have perfect with the Orange County Fire Department.

Kanoe Kaneakua residing at 1759 Pam Circle said she is in agreement with the feelings with the audience. She has had services from Orange County services and feel they are the very best. If the City is changing to go with something less than perfect the residents should have a say.

Ray Heurtin residing at 3701 Quando Circle said what we heard tonight is how he feels. The bottom line is that the citizens feel left out. He is reminded of the challenges in hiring the city manager and feeling that they did what they wanted to do at the end. It seems the residents do not have a voice. He respects that Council has a job to do and with no pay. However you need to look back and have the residents become a partner in the community.

Jose Rodriguez residing at 1028 E Buchanan Avenue said he is not a resident of Belle Isle however, his concern is that being a surrounding resident he feels this will impact the care and the quality of service he currently receives.

David Provau residing at 2025 Grand Brook Circle waived his time to speak.

John Sitnile residing at 397 Lake Amberleigh Drive said he is not a resident of Belle Isle, he is here to express the opinions of the EMT's and the paramedic's that service the community. He sees his family in the audience and shared his concern on the staffing of one fire truck and hiring of a retired fire fighter to start the process. He believes Council has not been educated and communicated to properly through the study. Bottom line is this comes to standard care and putting a price tag on people's health.

Chuck Drake residing at 1425 Conway Isle waived his time to speak.

Paul Johnson a resident of Belle Isle started and said that he appreciates what Council has done for the City. He believes they were spot on with the Charter School and the Police Department. He came in undecided, but listening to the residents he noticed that there is no way that the City can provide the same level of service with one fire truck. He is concerned and embarrassed with the rudeness of his neighbors and that they are not appreciated in the good times enough to make up for how they are getting treated tonight. He prays for guidance and that the decision not to move forward.

James Kelly residing at 430 Courtlea Oaks Blvd was not present to speak.

Christopher Black residing at 4728 Old Winter Garden Road introduced himself and said he is the division general manager with Rural Metro representing 325 paramedics, EMTs and support staff that work and live in the community. We have been operating in Orange County for about 30 years with employees that are happy where they are working. They are part of the OC EMS system. They currently have contracts in Orlando, Orange County, Windermere and Eatonville.

Flo Sena residing at 5429 Chiswick Circle spoke on a previous home owner's association meeting. She said the resident stated back when Windsor Place was annexed into Belle Isle, he was for the annexation because with a small town form of government, he felt his voice would be heard and he could provide input into big decisions like the creation of a fire department. Instead, City of Belle Isle is telling us and acting like they know best. This is a scary thing because as it relates just to the discussion of starting a fire department, although they have a feasibility study paid for by citizen tax dollars, it is residents that have had to bring to their attention several critical elements: (1) Residents of Belle Isle had to bring to their attention that there is a difference between Paramedics and EMTs. (2) Residents of Belle Isle had to inform them of OSHA requirements of "2 in, 2 out" for the safety of our firefighters. Up went the budget. (3) City Manager Severns was not aware that all medical insurance plans do not pay for ambulance transport services, and for those that do pay, they do not pay until deductibles are met. Residents had to inform him of this. (4) City Manager Severns said that if a resident could not pay for ambulance service Rural Metro would not collect. After residents put doubt in his mind by reminding him that Rural Metro is a for-profit company, he talked to Rural Metro, and now we are informed that Rural Metro has agreed not to charge anymore than Orange County does. Isn't that nice? However, we still don't know if it will be the same service Orange County provides. (5) Residents had to inform them of the budgeting oversight in putting all moneys into salary instead of allocating to FICA, benefits, etc. Another change to the budget page of the feasibility study. So, does City of Belle Isle know best? It doesn't look like it. In this case, "small town" doesn't mean good things. The City needs to remember it should be a collective effort when gathering information and making decisions. We don't expect the City to know everything, but it should certainly seek input from residents. She also noted that residents had to inform them of standard document versioning practices- that changing a previously published document should result in a renamed document with the new version number. The feasibility study has been changed at least 2 times since it was first placed on the City's web site.

Malcolm Wertz residing at 5254 Chiswick Circle is a 15 year resident and paramedic with Orange County. He said he spoke with Council on this issue on two occasions. He previously provided scenarios on EMT, ALS and BLS and Orange County responses. It was evident that council and staff did not understand the levels of service. He noted that the feasibility study was completed by an HR company who is staffed by past Ocoee employees and the fire Chief hired is also from Ocoee. In the study 80% of the calls are EMS in nature. Yet, the chief does not have EMS service experience in that realm. He noted that it is hard to maintain standards in a small city and department which create a high turnover and lower level of service. Furthermore this has been confirmed by Commissioner Pisano on Facebook that we are thinking of annexing commercial properties in Taft. Why would he want to be part of a city that is going to annex industrial properties? There is no good reason for us to annex commercial property.

Richard Weinsier residing at 6824 Seminole Drive is in agreement with what has been said by others and passes on speaking.

Sara Goodwin residing at 4324 Kandra Court said we are such a small city to take on this huge responsibility and put lives at stake. We are taking a big risk and liability in your hands and will end up paying.

Clive Dunne residing at 1511 Nela Avenue said he has been here for 20 years. In speaking with others and the City of Tavares they all said don't do it. He would like to give his time allotted to Faye Evans to continue what she was saying. He believes she is dead on in quoting numbers that was received. Faye Evans continued and said she is sorry that Council does not have their names posted. She would like all to remember everyone and asked if they are going to work for the residents or do their own thing. This is not good government. We need to be the wheel that squeaks, we need to attend meetings and most of the things that is happening is because we haven't. I assure you if this passes I will think about who is sitting in those seats on the next election.

Kathy and Frank Fabrizio residing at 2906 Nela Avenue said she is in amazement that this can even go this far. She said if a 15 year old truck is not good enough for Longwood why it would be good for Belle Isle. She is also concerned with who they are going to hire and have a 4% retirement and a salary that cannot match Orange County and Orlando. They will go to the higher pay. She called her State farm Insurance and they said it is not within a 2 mile the rates will go up. She spoke briefly on elder care and said that it can be done without a fire department. She urges Council to consider their vote and think of who they really work for and do the right thing.

Commissioner Pete Clarke of Orange County District 3 and property owner of 2607 Overlake Avenue spoke and said that he knows with the sunshine laws the commissioners cannot speak to each other. However, under the sunshine law I can talk to you. He said that he was talking with his county staff and will host a community meeting and invite the citizens, Mayor, City Manager and Commissioners for a two way dialogue, here at the school or at the county, to discuss and let them know what stakes Orange County has in this. The other thing is that we had two meetings. One with OC Staff, Fire Chief/Deputy, Administrator, Finance, Keith Severns and Chief Stanley and discussed the dollar amount \$1.080 with a 20,000 delta. March 31 is the date for a decision to continue the contract. He spoke with the County Administrator to execute a change to extend the contract to allow the city time to allow more input and deliberation. We need to put on the table the discussion at the last meeting with the County Administrator. They did say they would not base increases on the ad-valorem taxation and entertain the notion to build in an escalation of a percentage or CPI not attached to the ad-valorem taxes to keep the predictability overtime as to where this thing is going. If you are 20,000 off right now you are getting a good deal from Orange County Fire Rescue. If we can negotiate a methodology and not tie this to ad-valorem tax it will be a better position to start a discussion and long term arrangement and would welcome the opportunity for a discussion. We really do want to make the best deal for Belle Isle to continue to serve Belle Isle. Orange County used Rural Metro for many years. He said Rural Metro paid OC to provided transport service. We have gone away from a dual response system which is what you want to create. It is a thing of the past. You may want to look at that. So these are the main items he wanted to address. We can extend the contract, and re-negotiate an agreement on a non-advalorem increase over time, have a methodology on the increases and tie in the annexation that may occur tied back into the MSTU would put us in a good position to renegotiate. He added if we create a fire department and there is a major structural fire, OC Fire Rescue will be there. We will never, ever turn our back on anyone or a major fire. We will respond. We will be there for you. Mutual Agreements for the EMS side of it, I don't know if we would entertain those because it will take up those services. If you would like to get in touch with him to set up a meeting he would be very beneficial to set up a question and answer setting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Yolanda Quiceno
City Clerk