

JULY 16, 2007
CITY OF SENOIA
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
6:00 PM

VISITORS: Cameron Kerr, Rich Greuel, Roger Alley, Sarah Campbell and Lee Coleman

COUNCIL PRESENT: Belisle, Graham, Grover and Owens

COUNCIL ABSENT: Harrison

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME VISITORS

Mayor Belisle called the work session to order and welcomed all.

2. PURPOSE OF WORK SESSION

- Discussion of storm water requirements and the storm water utility

3. Mr. Cameron Kerr and Rich Greuel of Integrated Science and Engineering presented Council with a presentation for storm water management requirements regarding State permitting. * **Let the record reflect that C. Harrison has arrived.** Storm water management requirements for natural, residential and urban development were reviewed, along with district components. Mr. Kerr continued to state that any changes in the above categories would change runoff amounts. Minimal control measures were reviewed which included drainage and maintenance, a maintenance plan, capital and public education. New permits will be issued in 2008 to carry through 2013. Mr. Kerr stated that the whole program must be fully implemented by December. Mr. Whalen stated that this would all tie in with the new subdivisions and drainage. C. Owens asked if we renew in 2008 will the City be under phase 2 & was told that this will be the 1st phase. C. Graham asked if we will be included in phase 2 and was told eventually yes. Mr. Ferry asked if the whole County has been mapped by fly over & was told parts of this mapping should be ready by October. Non-compliance will result in administrative fines and may hurt public relations. Regarding funding Council will have the option of storm water utility fees (user fee), operate out of the general fund and raise taxes, loans, revenue bonds, impact fees and/or developer fees, SPLOST and GEFA to name a few. C. Owens asked with predominately impervious surface and user fees, could we charge others more than for subdivisions & was told yes. Regarding the district regulations, Mr. Ferry asked if there were firms who would conduct the studies & was told yes. Mr. Whalen suggested contracting with the County. Mayor Belisle stated that this would result in the City paying twice as we already pay taxes. C. Graham asked why the NMPDS doesn't conduct this themselves & was told by Mr. Whalen that they are a planning committee only. C. Harrison asked if Senoia has been assessed yet for cost & was told no, that this is the first step. C. Harrison then asked what is the cut off date for the permit & was told January 2008. Mr. Greuel informed Council that they had already begun compliance with the adoption of the

Ordinances in place. Mr. Greuel stated that a utility fee is different than a tax, where the City would collect a fee based on a program with dollars being dedicated to a revenue/enterprise fund. C. Harrison then asked how would you explain to residents that they are being charged \$5.00 each & was told that the utility fee would not be charged per person, but figured by property and based on runoff which is very fair and equitable. Mr. Whalen suggested designing a program that will drive the fee structure. The City of Griffin was reviewed as they have 2 different for residential and non-residential. The charge is \$3.90 per 2,200 square feet of impervious surface. Mr. Whalen added that the public is ecological minded and do realize that water is a precious resource. This will be a four-step process with the feasibility study. Mr. Ferry will compile information so that the City can begin.

4. **ADJOURN**

Mayor Belisle made motion to adjourn the July 16, 2007 Work Session & was 2nd by C. Owens. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert K. Belisle, Mayor

Debra J. Volk, City Clerk