



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY
NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA
October 2, 2018
5:00 PM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 Call to Order - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Marlowe at 5:00 pm. Those in attendance were Councilman Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy. Deputy Mayor Jeff Starkey was excused. Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Public Works Director Robert Rivera and Library Director Andi Figart.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2 Review of Library Needs Assessment and Space Planning Study: Findings and Recommendations Report - Page 2

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this work session was to review the Library Needs Assessment and Space Planning Study. She then introduced Andrew Dogan from Williams Architecture, LLC who made the presentation to Council.

Mr. Dogan began his presentation by stating they have gathered points of data from inside and outside the community. In June some of the preliminary findings were presented. Initial concepts and timeline have been developed since that time. There were two community forums in May and stakeholder meetings. Community survey was conducted in July. Space utilization key findings included the main meeting room is well utilized, Avery room and study rooms are highest utilized spaces and high demand for seating and computers at peak times. The more flexible the spaces are the better the utilization.

Community survey key findings included 115 responses, sixty percent use library once a week or more. Top desired features included a dedicated children's program room, maker/crafting space, more lounge seating, café/vending area, parent/child computers, new quiet reading room on lower level, more quiet study rooms and larger children't early literacy/play area.

Mr. Dogan then highlighted some items that were recommended for replacement. There are

many furnishings and carpet that have met their life span. He also recommended conversion to LED lights. Right sizing the circulation desk will help improve sightlines throughout the building. Look at addressing sound transmission between floors.

Mr. Dogan then presented proposed design concepts. Councilman Davis inquired about the number of computers. Library Director Figart stated that the new design includes the same amount as they currently have but will be used differently. Mr. Dogan then presented slides which showed current conditions versus proposed improvements.

Mr. Dogan then discussed the costs associated with the improvements. Preliminary cost estimate was calculated at \$1,823,164 and with optional items \$1,996,663. Potential timeline was two months to engage firm, two months for design, three months for construction documents, two months for bidding process and four to six months for construction.

Mayor Marlowe stated we could move some services to the Incubator during construction. Mr. Dogan replied this would help to cut down the construction time.

Councilman Altman stated there was a concern over the limited footprint. Time is well passed for renovations in the library. He has had a number of people ask him about a maker/crafting space. He suggested the possibility of moving the children's area over to the Incubator and become an annex. He does not want to hold back on long needed improvements but was not sure on how to finance this project. Library and recreation are the two cultural outreaches.

Councilman Murphy stated he liked the modern flair. He concurred with Councilman Altman that we need to have the proper space for the programs we want.

Mayor Marlowe stated if the fire station gets relocated that would be a great space for an industrial maker space.

Councilman Davis stated programs could be utilized at Peace Hall, the rec center and City Hall. Think of it as a mesh. We need to be more open minded. Youth programs in Sims Park are begging to happen.

Joan Nelson Hook came forward to congratulate Mr. Dogan and his firm for their work done on this project. She stated a library is a library and cannot imagine children running from the splash pad to Peace Hall for programming. There are basic guts of the library that need to be updated and ADA compliant.

3 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Approved: _____ (date)

_____ (signed)

Initialed: _____

Judy Meyers, City Clerk