

MINUTES
CITY OF KEY COLONY BEACH CITY COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING WITH UTILITY BOARD – SEWER REPAIRS ON 11TH STREET
Friday, April 30, 2010 9:40 a.m. City Hall Auditorium

The Joint Meeting of the Key Colony Beach City Commission and Utility Board was called to order at 9:43 a.m. by Mayor Sutton. *Present were:* Mayor Ron Sutton, Commissioner Jeff Vorick, Commissioner John DeNeale and Commissioner Mary Schmidt. *Excused:* Vice-Mayor Geraldine Zahn. *Utility Board Present:* Chair Steve Flood, Glenda Keach, Joe Schmidt, Tom Moore, Eric Larsson, John Grimes; and Sewer Plant Operator David Evans. *Also Present:* Utility Board Clerk Pat Britske and City Clerk Vickie Bollinger. Public: 0

Mayor Sutton stated the joint workshop meeting of the City Commission and Utility Board was called to discuss the sewer repair on 11th Street and the bill for services from George's Plumbing. He gave a brief history: An emergency repair was completed on 11th Street in February. A bill for over \$8,500 was received. The Utility Board felt the charges were excessive and repeated inquiries were made to George's Plumbing asking for more information. When no response was received, the Board voted to send a check for \$3,500 as payment with a letter. The letter stated that if no response was received, this check was accepted as payment in full. The city received a revised invoice for \$8,421.88 including more detail about the charges.

Commissioners and Utility Board commented and discussed:

- The sewer break occurred on a holiday and involved 4 residences. The Building Official was called by the plumber who said that the problem was on the city's property.
- The repair was completed over a two day period and was supervised by the Mayor and Building Official. Sewer Plant Operator Dave Evans, who normally would have been involved, was out of the city on these dates.
- The repair took longer and involved more of the contractor's employees and equipment than many thought necessary. Plumbers are expensive and this repair included lots of overtime hours. The cost details were discussed.
- The Mayor and Building Official acknowledged that in hindsight they should have been more attentive to number of people, equipment used, and cost of the repair. The main focus was to get sewer service restored to the four residences involved.
- Contractor was not responsive to repeated requests for information.
- Contractor should be paid for services rendered, but a letter should also be sent so that the contractor understands the city's position – the cost was too high and information was not provided in a timely manner.
- This was an emergency repair and the city was responsive, as they should be. However in the future we also need to be proactive and do our best to minimize the cost.
- Competitive bids on per hour costs should be gotten for use for any future emergency repairs.

Mayor Sutton asked for a recommendation from the Utility Board.

Utility Board Motion – Moved by Glenda Keach, seconded by Eric Larsson, to pay the balance due on the revised invoice from George's Plumbing Of The Keys, Inc. A letter is to be included stating the City Commission and Utility Board have a responsibility to the citizens to minimize costs of all services and that the city is not happy with the cost of this repair. Roll Call Vote: Yes – 5; No – 1; Motion passed.

Discussion continued that the commission at a previous meeting agreed to put plumbing services out to bid. The Utility Board asked to review the bid packet at their next meeting. The commission thanked the members of the Utility Board for their volunteer service to the city.

Motion – Moved by Mayor Sutton, seconded by Commissioner Vorick, to adopt the recommendation of the Utility Board and to pay the balance due on the revised invoice from George's Plumbing Of The Keys, Inc. A letter is to be included stating the City Commission and Utility Board have a responsibility to the citizens to minimize costs of all services; and that the city is not happy with the cost of this repair and the lack of responsiveness to requests for information. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Vickie L. Bollinger, City Clerk

Note: A mechanical recording has been made of the meeting of which these minutes are a part, and a copy is on file in the office of the City Clerk, as a public record.