

MEETING MINUTES
GULF COVE STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 6, 2007
9:30 a.m.

Attendees: Les Weyant, Chuck Crafton, Richard Van Acker, Ron Wozniak
County – Tara Musselman, Kim Raymond

Minutes: No minutes were submitted for approval.

Business:

- The Committee unanimously elected Mr. Crafton to serve as Chairman and Mr. Weyant as Vice-Chairman.
- Ms. Musselman discussed the MSBU review, advising that the consultants are proposing three MSBU's (South County, Mid-County and West County). Each MSBU will be responsible for maintaining the minimum level of standards. Additional work over and beyond the minimum level will have a separate MSBU and assessment.
- Ms. Musselman explained that the Committee is responsible for making street and drainage recommendations to Public Works.
- Mr. Crafton asked Ms. Musselman to attend the next Homeowners' Association meeting in January and to bring the color-coded road map showing the condition of the roads. He stated that residents need an explanation of where the money is going. Ms. Musselman requested that he send an e-mail to Mr. O'Kane asking permission for her to attend the meeting, as it is outside her normal work hours.
- The Committee reviewed the 2007/08 budget. Ms. Musselman explained that the money in contingency reserve is to cover any work during October and November, since taxes are not due until November.
- Mr. Van Acker inquired about the mowing cycles and stated they have only received four cycles this year. Ms. Musselman will submit a copy of the mowing contract.
- Mr. Wozniak said the roads are a big issue, but the residents need to be educated and informed. Ms. Musselman stated that Public Works can determine the cost for a paving program, so the Committee can see what is left in the budget and the estimated assessment rate. She added that paving would be done in phases over a three-year period. The roads were last paved in 1990, and the life cycle is about 20 years. Ms. Musselman explained that, if paving is put off, reconstruction will be needed, which will increase the cost. Mr. Crafton inquired how long they can get by fixing potholes. Ms. Musselman responded that it depends on the road.

- Mr. Van Acker inquired about paving roads abutting vacant lots. Ms. Musselman said the property owners are paying the same tax assessment and will receive the same benefits as an occupied lot.
- It was stated that residents need to have all the hard facts, such as interest, assessment rates, and the borrowing structure.
- Mr. Van Acker said the Charlotte County School Board owns a lot of land and asked if they pay a tax assessment. Ms. Musselman advised that County property does not pay any assessment.
- Paving costs are approximately \$150,000 per mile of road; however, many roads may need to be reconstructed, which represents a higher cost.

Open Floor:

- Mr. Al Benedetti said the roads should have been paved years ago, and the cost would have been cheaper. He added that some roads need done right now, but others can wait. He noted that the drainage is done, except for the swales. The swales fill up, water travels under the roads, and, when a car drives over, the road is compromised. Mr. Benedetti also stated that, if the Committee goes for the whole tax increase amount, the residents will be against it.
- Ms. Musselman explained that, to avoid additional mobilization costs, the County will not allow picking and choosing roads for paving.
- The Committee discussed the wording of the ordinance pertaining to Committee members residing in Gulf Cove. Even though a property owner might not reside in Gulf Cove, he/she pays taxes. Mr. Wozniak questioned someone's level of interest if they do not reside in Gulf Cove. This topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara L. Musselman
Municipal Services District Representative

TLM:srb

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