

**CITY OF BELLEVIEW
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

**BELLEVIEW CITY HALL
COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

**February 22, 2005
5:30 PM**

Mayor STEVE BAIRSTOW
Seat 1 EMERY ABSHIER
Seat 2 KENNETH R. NADEAU
Seat 3 PAULA CHAFFIN
Seat 4 PAUL ANDERSON

PRESENT: MAYOR BAIRSTOW; COMMISSIONERS: ABSHIER, ANDERSON,
CHAFFIN; NADEAU; INFORMATION TECH. TOWNE; DEPUTY CITY
CLERK DeGENNARO

ABSENT: CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR McKAMEY

FOUNDERS DAY 2005 PLANS

Mayor Bairstow called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Commissioner Abshier. Commissioner Abshier stated that he agreed to serve on the Committee for Founders Day and this year the City celebrates its 120th Anniversary of being incorporated as a City.

The Committee this year wanted to do something different to renew interest in Founders Day. The Committee has contacted the Friends of the Library and received permission to sell the COB Afghans with the excess money would be designated for COB promotions for possibly the 125th year Anniversary.

Commissioner Abshier stated there would be tents selling the afghans and giving away hats and tee shirts to the residents. The Commissioner stated the committee was asked to come with some ideas one of the items the Commissioner suggested, was a possible fireworks display at the Sports Complex on the night before to kick start Founders' Day this year. The second idea, was one that Commissioner Anderson had suggested a few years ago, that being give away free pork dinners. The City could buy the pigs during the Ocala pig sale and have them slaughtered; one member of the Committee stated she could get donations of coleslaw and baked beans for the dinner.

Commissioner Abshier stated that he has spoken with someone who would donate one pig to the City so we would only have to purchase two additional pigs and we should be able to feed 500-600 people with the free meals for the 120th year celebration. This was the reason for the Special Meeting because if we decide to go with the pork sandwiches, we would have to purchase the pigs this week.

Commissioner Chaffin asked what would the cost be for the fireworks and Commissioner Abshier stated that the Committee has not been able to get any figures yet, but it would be considerable more than the free meals.

Commissioner Nadeau stated that CFCC recently had a wonderful firework display, but his concern was the location. Commissioner Abshier stated that was why we thought we would do it at the Sports Complex which could be seen at the landfill and in parts of the City.

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Commissioner Abshier stated that the traffic control would have to be shared by our Police Department and the Sheriff's Department because when he tried to go to the fireworks on Maricamp Road a few years ago, the traffic was totally stopped; the City would need the Sheriff's Department help.

Commissioner Chaffin stated the fireworks would give the City more bang for its buck, but we have no idea how much it would cost and Commissioner Abshier stated he felt it would go over well and all the Commissioners have been asked, why doesn't the City have fireworks, so the City could get some community support and support from business owners.

Commissioner Nadeau stated he was on the Board of the Chamber of Commerce and they would welcome anything that would draw more people to the event because in the last few years attendance has dropped steadily. It is really time to do something that would bring more people. Fireworks on Friday night with some concessions stands selling things could pump some life into Founders Day.

Commissioner Chaffin stated it would be a kick off for the next day, Founders Day. Commissioner Nadeau stated he would call the college and get the information because they had a 15 minute Alumnae firework show. Commissioner Abshier stated it would have to be a really good short display so that people would say "WOW, Belleview put on a great display."

Commissioner Chaffin asked how much money do we want to spend and where would it come from. Commissioner Abshier stated the pigs would cost approximately \$4,000 or less; the fireworks \$10,000 - 15,000. Commissioner Abshier stated that the Committee needs direction on which way to go: the pork dinners or the fireworks.

Commissioner Abshier stated that he spoke with Mr. French who stated he would donate one pig if the City purchased two pigs and from the three pigs would get 400 lbs of pork and at ¼ lb. per sandwich would result in 1600 sandwiches. Mayor Bairstow stated that the fireworks would be a lot less work, but more expensive.

Mayor Bairstow stated he liked the pork dinners, but serving 1600 meals would be a lot of work. The City would need volunteers to be lined up to serve those meals. The volunteers would have to endorse the project because serving that many meals is hard work. The City would have to line up teams and not four hour shifts, but only one hour shifts. The Mayor stated that the fireworks he likes also and they would be a lot less work, but a lot more money.

Commissioner Chaffin made a Motion to explore the cost of the fireworks display and Commissioner Abshier would bring it back before the Commission and Commissioner Abshier seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Anderson asked why give away hats and tee shirts and Commissioner Abshier stated it was good public relations. The Commissioner stated you cannot put on a show without money and within a time frame of 8-10 weeks; it never works. Commissioner Chaffin stated we have nothing to lose by trying. Commissioner Abshier stated if we can't do it, then we won't do it.

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Commissioner Anderson stated you cannot plan without knowing the numbers. The Commissioner stated he would rather have an 8 hour show and give away free food to the people. The cost would be less than half and you would have an 8 hour show and have change left over.

On roll call vote, YES: Chaffin, Nadeau, Anderson, Abshier, Bairstow
The Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Bairstow stated the Committee needs a tentative budget for the City's participation in Founders Day; xx number of dollars and then come back with a proposed plan based upon the tentative budget.

Commissioner Anderson stated to buy fireworks you need to know how many are going to go up in the air. They sell their shows by how much goes up and how high they go. Mayor Bairstow stated that the Committee could have a tentative plan and have some options on different ways to spend the xx number of dollars and then we can review those options and plans.

Commissioner Chaffin made a Motion to tentatively budget \$10,000 over and above what we have already budgeted for Founders Day and Commissioner Abshier seconded the Motion.

Commissioner Chaffin stated she would have to talk to the Clerk and look at the finances before she could say where the money would come from; since it is early in the year, it would probably come from fund balance.

Commissioner Anderson stated that water and sewer rates have gone up, taxes have gone up, telephone rates have gone up and now you want fireworks to go up in the air.

On roll call vote, YES: Chaffin , Abshier
NO: Nadeau, Anderson

Commissioner Nadeau stated he voted no because the City ran out of income for expenses and at the last budget he went out on a limb and supported the tax increase to balance the budget. The Commissioner was not excited to put money aside, when we could not balance the budget.

On roll call vote, NO: Bairstow
The Motion failed with a 2-3 vote.

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Commissioner Abshier made a Motion to sell the COB Afghans at a reduced price of \$40.00 during Founders Day and then after the celebration they would cost \$50.00 to purchase; that each employee/Commissioners would be able to buy one Afghan at cost and Commissioner Chaffin seconded the Motion.

On roll call vote, YES: Chaffin, Nadeau, Anderson, Abshier, Bairstow
The Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 P.M.

ATTEST:

Peggy DeGennaro, CMC, CPS
Deputy City Clerk