

TOWN OF WINDERMERE

Lake Street Parks Public Input Workshop

July 13, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

Present were Council Members Bill Martini, Mandy David, Tony Davit, and Molly Rose. Town Manager Robert Smith, Police Chief Dave Ogden, Town Clerk Dorothy Burkhalter, and Public Works Director Tonya Elliott-Moore were also present. Mayor Jim O'Brien and Council Member Andy Williams were absent.

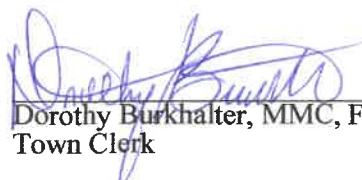
Manager Smith began the workshop at 6:00pm

1. DISCUSSION:

Manager Smith stated that the purpose of this public information workshop. He then stated that the Parks and Recreation Committee would also discuss this item on July 14th at 5:00pm in the Town Hall. Manager Smith also stated that the Town Council would workshop this item on Tuesday, July 26th at 6:00pm via Zoom. He then gave a review of the past workshop regarding Lake Street Park, comments/complaints, unruly behavior, large groups of people, and illegal activities. Manager Smith stated that the Town has increased signage, cameras, patrols, added split rail fencing, continues to work with Orange County EPD, BLAC, FWC and OCSO for establishing additional No Wake or Motorized Watercraft Exclusion areas, and has passed strict ordinances. He then commented on the FRDAP Grant, repayment, and making the park residents-only. Manager Smith stated that the next steps are: the Parks and Recreation workshop will be held July 14th, the Town Council Workshop will be held on July 26th, and a Town Council meeting will be held August 9th if any action should be needed. Manager Smith opened the floor for public comments. Member Martini questioned the time frame of the 130 service calls to the Police Department. Chief Ogden stated approximately one year which would include routine security checks. Member Martini stated that these calls accounts for at least 10% of the calls for one year. Mr. David Pieronowski of 510 Lake Street introduced himself. He then commented on concerns with noise, traffic, and crowds of people at the park. Mr. Pieronowski suggested having a few visitors parking spots at Central Park with the remaining marked for residents only. Manager Smith commented on logistical issues with public parking. Member Martini suggested no parking signs on Lake Street near the curve. Mr. Tom Stroup introduced himself. Mr. Stroup questioned if the Parks and Recreation recommendations determine what Town Council does. Manager Smith stated that no, they make a recommendation. He then stated that the recommendation is then considered by the Town Council. Ms. Denise Tormey of 326 E 5th Avenue also commented on keeping the park for the residents. She commented on recent negative activities and agreed with buying back the park. Ms. Amy Dubois of 336 E 5th Avenue also commented on issues at the park. She then stated that she agrees with privatizing the park to residents. Member Martini commented on health issues as well as the fact that there are no facilities/restrooms at the park. Ms. Leah Hazley of 520 Lake Street stated she is in favor of residents-only. She stated that she has three young girls who cannot utilize the park. Manager Smith stated that all comments will be forwarded to the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Town Council. He thanked everyone for their comments and concerns.

2. ADJOURN:

Manager Smith adjourned the workshop at 6:45pm


Dorothy Burkhalter, MMC, FCRM
Town Clerk


Jim O'Brien, Mayor

00:37:02 Tom Stroup: What time is the Parks and Rec meeting tomorrow?
00:37:24 Nora Brophy: 5:00 at Town Hall.
00:37:32 Tonya Elliott Moore: 5 pm
00:41:38 Tom Stroup: my hand is rased. sort of.
00:46:06 Mike Tormey: Breaking laws and creating chaos and not feeling safe in our own neighborhood is not acceptable. Not only kids but entire groups of people from other towns that set up shop. Grills coolers. Loud music and no respect for others. They litter and leave their trash in the park. All the way back to their cars and in the water. Frustrating and not what Windermere is all about. We want our park to be for our residents. Please let's move forward on buying back the grant.
00:56:18 Mike Tormey: My house also,
00:57:33 Mike Tormey: They have no cares or skin in the game so they don't care about our precious lake street park
01:01:24 Dave Ogden: WPD non emergency 321-299-2414
01:02:12 Mike Tormey: Thank you for all that you are doing to help us correct the lake street park situation! Thank you