

9. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- d. **RESOLUTION 11-005 RESOLUTION 11-005 OF THE CITY OF SANIBEL SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF A 160 ACRE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF SANIBEL COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE WOODRING POINT PROPERTY BY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR INCLUSION IN THE J.N. "DING" DARLING NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE; SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS FOR FUNDING OF SUCH ACQUISITION BY THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LANDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

CITY OF SANIBEL

RESOLUTION 11-005

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SANIBEL SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF A 160 ACRE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF SANIBEL COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE WOODRING POINT PROPERTY BY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR INCLUSION IN THE J.N. "DING" DARLING NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE; SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS FOR FUNDING OF SUCH ACQUISITION BY THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LANDS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Trust for Public Lands, a national non-profit trust, is assisting the Woodring Family with their efforts to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the acquisition funding for a 160 acre tract of land located within the City of Sanibel commonly known as the Woodring Point Property; and

WHEREAS, the subject parcel of land is environmentally distinctive with diverse ecosystems (mangrove, bay beach, and uplands). It is located on a narrow peninsula of land that is bound by open bay with deep-water access to the west and the back bay and mangrove forest to the east; and

WHEREAS, the parcel of land harbors a unique and remarkable wildlife population that includes bobcats, gopher tortoises, marsh rabbits, snakes, pileated and red-headed woodpeckers, and an array of shorebirds, occasional Florida mallards, otters and mangrove cuckoos; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of the Woodring Point Property by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is instrumental in the continued ecological health and economic benefit of the City of Sanibel; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Sanibel, Florida, that:

SECTION 1. The Sanibel City Council hereby expresses its support of the acquisition of the 160 acre Woodring Point Property tract of land by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be included as part of the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

SECTION 2. The City Council further expresses its support of the Trust for Public Lands assistance for funding of this land acquisition.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Honorable Connie Mack, U.S. House of Representatives, the Honorable Marco Rubio, U.S. Senate and the Honorable William Nelson, U.S. Senate.

SECTION 4. Effective date.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DULY PASSED AND ENACTED by Council of the City of Sanibel, Florida,
this 3rd day of May, 2011.

AUTHENTICATION:

Kevin Ruane, Mayor

Pamela Smith, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: *Kenneth B. Cuyler*
Kenneth B. Cuyler, City Attorney

4/27/11
Date

Vote of Council Members:

Ruane _____
Denham _____
Congress _____
Harrity _____
Jennings _____

Date filed with City Clerk: _____

DRAFT

April 27, 2011

Honorable Connie Mack
Congressional District 14
115 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mack:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Sanibel, we wish to add our support for the 160-acre tract on Sanibel known as the Woodring Point which was homesteaded by Samuel and Anna Woodring in 1891. We are requesting your assistance in protecting this known historical and natural resource asset.

The property is environmentally distinctive with diverse ecosystems (mangrove, bay beach and uplands). It is located on a narrow peninsula of land that is bound by open bay with deep water access to the west and the back bay and mangrove forest to the east. It has a remarkable wildlife population that includes gopher tortoises, bobcats, pileated and red-headed woodpeckers, marsh rabbits, snakes and an array of shorebirds. One can also occasionally see Florida mallards, otters and mangrove cuckoos. The historical and natural resources of this tract would be a tremendous asset to the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

The Trust for Public Lands, a national non-profit land trust, is assisting the Woodring family with efforts to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in hopes that acquisition funding for the property will be included in the FY 2013 Land Acquisition Priority System, which drives the request for Land and Water Conservation fund dollars.

The Sanibel City Council strongly supports this request. We recognize and appreciate the difficulties facing you with future budgets, but we also recognize that successfully conserving this historical and natural resource as part of J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge would be a piece of wildlife paradise that future generations could enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration of our letter of support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Ruane
Mayor

Mick Denham
Vice Mayor

Doug Congress
Councilmember

Marty Harrity
Councilmember

Jim Jennings
Councilmember

DRAFT

April 27, 2011

Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Sanibel, we wish to add our support for the 160-acre tract on Sanibel known as the Woodring Point which was homesteaded by Samuel and Anna Woodring in 1891. We are requesting your assistance in protecting this known historical and natural resource asset.

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Thank you for your consideration of our letter of support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Ruane
Mayor

Mick Denham
Vice Mayor

Doug Congress
Councilmember

Marty Harrity
Councilmember

Jim Jennings
Councilmember

DRAFT

April 27, 2011

Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
Hart Senate Office Building, Room 716
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

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Thank you for your consideration of our letter of support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Ruane
Mayor

Mick Denham
Vice Mayor

Doug Congress
Councilmember

Marty Harrity
Councilmember

Jim Jennings
Councilmember



Dear Kevin Ruane,

April 8, 2011

On behalf of the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society, I am writing to thank you and our city council members for their willingness to write a letter of support to our national elected officials and to the Fish and Wildlife Service to include the Woodring property as a part of the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

At the point of entry into Tarpon Bay and the refuge, this property is very unique and would be a significant and important addition to the land currently managed by the “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge. Having worked with Doug Hattaway of the Trust for Public Land, along with Ralph and Jean Woodring, I am more convinced than ever that this property needs to be protected, maintaining the integrity of what Sanibel stands for in the area of conservation and wildlife protection.

It is our hope that with the support of the city of Sanibel, along with other local and national organizations and private citizens that Congress and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will place this property on the top of the priority list for funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund in fiscal year 2013.

The support of our Council members will certainly help get the attention of our elected officials, and we thank everyone for their consideration and support of this effort.

Sincerely,

John McCabe

Vice President

CC. Judith Zimomra

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CITY OF SANIBEL
ADMIN./LEGIS.