

CITY OF BROOKSVILLE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 HOWELL AVENUE
MINUTES

August 1, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Mayor Frankie Burnett, Vice Mayor Joseph E. Johnston, III, Council Members Joe Bernardini and Lara Bradburn present. Also present were Thomas S. Hogan, Jr., City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; Steve Baumgartner, Finance Director; Mike Walker, Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Richard Radacky, Interim Director of Public Works; George Turner, Police Chief and Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief. Members of the Hernando Today and Hernando Times were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Burnett, followed by an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Police Department Accreditation Recognition

Police Chief George Turner gave a brief review of the timeline of their accreditation and played a short film on the process. This starts a 3-year period for re-accreditation. He presented Council and the City Manager with certificates. Accreditation Manager Sergeant Robert Dixon then presented Chief Turner with a certificate of appreciation. Council Member Bradburn, who attended the accreditation ceremony, elaborated on the process as well. City Attorney Hogan indicated he attended the ceremony and thanked Chief Turner for the invitation. All of Council expressed appreciation and pride to Chief Turner and his staff for their accomplishment.

Police Department Phoenix Gun Range Proclamation

Police Chief George Turner advised the Phoenix Gun Range has allowed the Police Department to use their facility and he wanted to recognize them. Sergeant Jason Brough indicated they allow the Police Department use of the range two (2) days a week without charge. The proclamation will be presented to the Phoenix Gun Range.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Burnett asked for public input.

Code Enforcement Officer Mark Caskie commented on the proposed vacation policy accrual reduction and requested Council leave the policy as is.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

April 18, 2011 Regular Meeting
May 2, 2011 Regular Meeting

Vice Mayor Johnston referenced April 18th Minutes on Page 8 Items by Council and pointed out Emory Pierce, Vice Mayor needed to be changed to "Council Member" Pierce.

Council Member Bernardini asked that Item 5 be removed for discussion, which was moved to the first item on the regular agenda.

APPROVED BY BROOKSVILLE

CITY COUNCIL

ON 12/5/11 INITIALS 

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Energy Systems Group (ESG) Change Order No. 1

Consideration of reduction of the ESG Agreement in the amount of \$1,094,876 and authorize the Mayor to sign the change order.

CDBG - Neighborhood Revitalization Water Improvement Grant

Consideration of budget amendment for an estimated expenditure of up to \$50,000 of grant funds during the FY2010/11 Budget.

Dumpster Supply Purchase

Consideration of approval to purchase replacement dumpsters for commercial accounts via piggybacking on the City of Largo's bid award to Iron Container for an amount not-to-exceed the \$12,360 approved by Council in the FY2010/11 Budget.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Vice Mayor Johnston for approval of Consent Agenda Items 1-4 and the correction to the April 18th Minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Entry of Proof of Publication into the Record

Mayor Burnett called for proof of publication. City Clerk Peters indicated Items F1 and F2 were published on Friday, July 22, 2011, and Item F3 was published on Wednesday, July 27, 2011, in the Hernando Today legal section of the Tampa Tribune and there is a copy of the affidavits for the record.

Ordinance No. 819 - Sign Regulations Chapter 125 of the Code of Ordinances

Staff report and consideration of options relating to the Code of Ordinances Chapter 125 regarding signs.

[First Reading 7/18/11]

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Vice Mayor Johnston to postpone any action on this item until September 19th regular meeting of Council. Motion carried 4-0.

Ordinance No. 820 – Economic Development Incentive

Consideration of approval of an Ordinance setting forth guidelines and criteria to implement the tax exemption referendum included on the August 2010 Primary Election Ballot.

[First Reading 7/18/11]

Director of Community Development Bill Geiger briefly reviewed incentives reflected in the ordinance such as jobs creation, ad valorem tax exemption, building permitting and impact fees. All incentives would be tied to budgetary processes for allocated funding with Council review and approval. He further explained the City will enter into a contract with the entity for permitting and impact fees. The ad valorem tax exemption will be tied to the requirements established and any deviation would be brought to Council for consideration.

Council Member Bernardini pointed out those performance standards “must” be met to receive these incentives. Council Member Bradburn stated the last applicant was not at fault for not meeting the standards because of many other unperceived factors involved, including City actions and Council has since reduced the standards on a pro rata basis. She suggested Council use the criteria outlined in the Ordinance and Director Geiger confirmed that was one of the added provisions. Council concurred that criteria in the contract should be met.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval.

Mayor Burnett asked for public input; there was none.

City Clerk Peters read Ordinance No. 820 by title, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES; ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT REFERENDUM; CREATING INCENTIVES FOR TARGETED INDUSTRY JOB CREATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROWTH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, REPEAL, AND CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion carried 4-0 upon roll call vote, as follows:

Council Member Bernardini	Aye
Council Member Bradburn	Aye
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

Ordinance No. 822 – Encore Construction, Inc.

Consideration of contract amendment Encore Construction Inc., for water reuse storage and transmission at the Cobb Road Water Reclamation Facility.

City Attorney Jennifer Rey stated it was approved at the last Council meeting for staff to move forward with negotiations with Encore Construction Company, the existing construction company under contract with the bankrupt developer, Hampton Ridge Developers, for the wastewater treatment plant reuse facility. In order to move forward, based on that direction, it is necessary for the City to adopt the proposed ordinance, which sets timeline and history of this project and the basis with which the City is moving forward with Encore as the contractor for this project. This is a first reading and a final contract will be an amended and restated agreement with Encore will come back to Council at the next meeting upon approval for the not to exceed amount of \$3,285,000.

Council Member Bradburn advised it is important for continuity to support this item for purpose of planning and operations. The City is still negotiating financial items for the amended and restated agreement that will be back before Council at the next meeting. Public Works Director Radacky confirmed, adding staff will have it back before Council within the next two (2) scheduled meetings after an extensive change order review of the cost.

Vice Mayor Johnston referenced Page 4 of the Ordinance and stated there is no publication date indicated. City Clerk Peters confirmed this item was published on Wednesday, July 27, 2011 to give more notice and will be changed on Page 5 from July 29th on the second reading.

Council Member Bernardini questioned why this item was not done by the competitive bidding process and is not in favor of the procedure used here.

City Attorney Rey explained there is a statutory provision in public construction works projects that allows for Council to determine, under unique substantive criteria, to proceed with a contractor who is currently under contract to perform that work without competitive bidding. It applies under certain procedural requirements such as two (2) public meetings of an ordinance by this Council to proceed absent competitive bids. She assured this is following a statutorily prescribed process by

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

proceeding with a contractor under these types of circumstances. This process protects funding that the City is under contract to either receive or return in the event the project is not completed on time. Also there is a recommendation from the engineer of record to proceed with this contractor.

Mayor Burnett asked for public input.

John Grandoff, representing James and Paula Holliday, advised part of the wreckage left behind by Land Mar includes Phase 3-1-A of Southern Hills Plantation. In April 2008 his clients purchased two (2) lots in this phase and would like to build their homes with completion of Real Tree Lane. He requested this road project be priority. He then distributed a resolution to Council for their consideration. He indicated the proposal sets realistic parameters by which his client may have reassurance to build their home. He referenced City Ordinance which he believes indicates the road has to be built before a plat can be accepted or the contractor has to post a bond, which was done but went into default and \$2.6 million dollars was recovered. He indicated when a bond is recovered the City is obligated within twelve (12) months to proceed with the work and hold the owner of the bonding company jointly responsible for cost. He asked that the City confirm that construction to build Real Tree Lane will begin by September 1, 2011. He then asked that the City Manager be directed to give a report on the progress of construction by the next City Council Meeting on August 15, 2011. Next, he requested there be no disbursement of bond funds from the utility account without written consent from Mr. Holliday and his attorney's firm. Lastly, he requested that the City Manager provide updates to the City Council at its first meeting of every month until Real Tree Lane is complete.

Robert Buckner, owner of two (2) lots on Real Tree Lane in Southern Hills Plantation, concurred that it was his understanding that the road would be built and seeks resolution of the same.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Vice Mayor Johnston for approval of the first reading of the Encore Contract Amendment, Ordinance No. 822, and the scheduling of the second reading for August 15, 2011.

City Clerk Peters read Ordinance No. 822 by title, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT AWARD TO ENCORE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY WITHOUT COMPETITIVE SELECTION FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE WATER REUSE FACILITY; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, REPEAL, AND CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion carried 3-1 upon roll call vote, as follows:

Council Member Bradburn	Aye
Council Member Bernardini	Nay
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

City Attorney Hogan indicated a resolution had been adopted directed to the purposes of the bond recovered from the lawsuit be used for construction of the infrastructure at Southern Hills Plantation. He advised another resolution must be adopted to further restrict the funds.

Vice Mayor Johnston requested for the next meeting a copy of the adopted resolution regarding completion of the infrastructure along with a status report to address matters presented to Council tonight.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Council Member Bernardini also asked for all roads not complete be brought forward to Council before taking any action on this matter. City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed information requested will be included in the staff report for the August 15, 2011 meeting.

Attorney Grandoff indicated this bond was specifically posted for this phase. He asked for a copy of the resolution, which will be provided by the City Attorney's Office.

A second reading is scheduled for August 15, 2011.

REGULAR AGENDA

Personnel Policy Amendments

Consideration of updates to the Personnel Policy with amendments as directed by Council at their meeting of 7/18/11.

5.03 E-mail & Computer Usage

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval.

Council Member Bernardini asked if this policy applies to a personal computer used for work instead of the City computer. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised that City work done on personal computers of employees for City business would be subject to public record law. Council Member Bernardini felt no personal computers should be used for City business. Mayor Burnett pointed out computer, email and internet use policy references Public Records on Page 3 of 6 Item E. "Release of electronic records pursuant to a request for public information is governed by Chapter 119, Florida Statutes and should be referred to the City Clerk's office."

City Manager Norman-Vacha further explained conducting personal business on personal computers is addressed under the City's Code of Conduct policy.

Vice Mayor Johnston felt when computers are issued to personnel it should be explained that it is to be used for City business only and/or any personal computer used for City business would both be subject to public record.

City Attorney Hogan confirmed the information in the computer is subject to public records if it pertains to city business, whether it is a City computer or a personal computer, according to Florida Statute 119.

Council Member Bradburn stated it is similar to a court order for a journalist to turn over information no matter what it is documented on. She was hesitant to cause fear in employees that their personal belongings would be subject to search at any time and felt there has to be a compelling reason to need a specific piece of public documentation.

Motion carried 4-0.

7.01 Vacation Leave

Council Member Bernardini referenced there was a change in the chart previously discussed and his suggestion of unpaid leave was not supported as indicated on Page 2 of 5. Vice Mayor Johnston felt using all vacation time before unpaid leave during the year controls it to a minimum.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Council Member Bernardini referenced Page 3 of 5 C. 1. Scheduling Leave for vacation reads “chain of command” and he suggested sick leave verbiage be the same. City Manager Norman-Vacha indicated it would be changed accordingly per direction by Mayor Burnett.

Council Member Bernardini referenced Page 3 of 5 C.5. and asked that verbiage be added that the department director’s decision be made within a reasonable amount of time or a shortened time depending on the request. Mayor Burnett agreed to have it added in the verbiage.

City Manager Norman-Vacha suggested adding verbiage “The decision will be made known to the employee in a reasonable period of time” would best fit under Section C.5. Mayor Burnett felt “reasonable period of time” was not clear enough. Council Member Bradburn did not agree that five (5) days notice for employees to submit requests to the employer was a sufficient amount of time but agreed that a quick response to the request could be done. City Attorney Rey clarified five (5) days is the minimum standard but allows for more time. Vice Mayor Johnston felt five (5) days would probably be an emergency situation but most leave would be requested six (6) months to a year in advance.

City Manager Norman-Vacha advised against setting a number of days to a decision on requested leave and felt management has been very responsible in that regard. Council Member Bernardini felt being proactive now could avoid a problem in the future. He gave an example where an employee may book travel and would need to know a decision within a certain time period.

City Attorney Hogan felt “reasonable” is appropriate used in the context of this policy and would change according to how much time an employee had given notice of a request for leave. He suggested when employees request leave they should notate when they need to know a decision by.

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed Council request as follows: Section 5. Approval of Leave Requests is in the sole discretion of the Department Director or designee; notice of decision will be provided to the employee in a reasonable time.

City Manager Norman-Vacha clarified the current policy regarding personal leave.

Council Member Bernardini stated he was in favor of the staff recommended increased accrual rates from July 18, 2011 meeting due to employees taking a 3% pay cut due to the State changing the Florida Retirement System contribution, no pay raise in four (4) years and they have also been asked to do more with less. He pointed out this is a benefit that increases with years of service and an incentive for employees.

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed proposed rates for a four (4) tier system for a forty (40) hour work week employee; less than three (3) years of service - eighty (80) hours per year, three (3) up to but not including seven (7) - one hundred twenty (120) hours, seven (7) up to but not including fifteen (15) - one hundred sixty (160) hours and fifteen (15) or more - two hundred (200) hours. She pointed out there is a maximum hours cap so unfunded liability to the City would remain the same.

Mayor Burnett was in favor of long time employees with fifteen (15) or more years of service rewarded with an increase in vacation leave.

Vice Mayor Johnston was not in favor of three (3) weeks vacation after three (3) years of service and proposed rates for a four (4) tier system for a forty (40) hour work week employee; one (1) to four (4) years of service – eighty (80) hours per year, five (5) to eight (8) – one hundred twenty (120) hours, nine (9) to fourteen (14) – one hundred sixty (160) hours and fifteen (15) or more – two hundred (200) hours.

Council Member Bradburn also did not favor three (3) weeks vacation after three (3) years of service. She reminded Council that money had to be cut from the budget and staff had been

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

directed to review and lessen vacation accrual rates last year. She pointed out private sector employers have had layoffs, furloughs and reduction in benefits. She proposed rates for a four (4) tier system for a forty (40) hour work week employee; date of hire to end of fifth (5th) year – eighty (80) hours per year, from start of sixth (6th) year to end of seventh (7th) year – two (2) and a half (1/2) weeks, start of eighth (8th) year to end of tenth (10th) year – one hundred twenty (120) hours and eleven (11) plus years – one hundred sixty (160) hours.

Mayor Burnett proposed rates for a four (4) tier system for a forty (40) hour work week employee; one (1) to five (5) years of service – forty (40) hours per year, six (6) to ten (10) – eighty (80) hours, eleven (11) to fifteen (15) – one hundred twenty (120) hours and sixteen (16) plus – one hundred sixty (160) hours.

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed, for clarification, vacation accrual rates from July 18, 2011 with Council changes to proposed rates and then Council changes to those rates from tonight's meeting.

Council Member Bradburn felt five (5) years of service should be the first tier of an increase in vacation accrual. Mayor Burnett felt the same and referenced his recommendation which is in line with the private sector. Vice Mayor Johnston also agreed and pointed out his recommendation gives an increase on the fifth year.

Council Member Bradburn did not support five (5) weeks of vacation leave because it would impact shift coverage in police, fire and garbage collection and indirectly affects the budget.

Vice Mayor Johnston pointed out there are not many employees with fifteen (15) or more years of service and felt the greatest impact was accrual payout for retirement but is being addressed with maximum cap hours. He felt this was an alternative increase for time off to employees in lieu of pay increases. Mayor Burnett was in favor of Vice Mayor Johnston's recommendation.

Council Member Bradburn asked how many employees have fifteen (15) or more years of service. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated there are fourteen (14) employees in this status; including three (3) who are in the DROP Program.

Council Member Bernardini referenced page 5 of 5 Return to Work Following Approved Vacation Leave and page 3 of 7 Sick Leave and did not favor "failure to return to work as scheduled may be deemed a voluntary resignation" and recommended a time limit of three (3) days to give ample time for approval after a fitness for duty certification is issued by a doctor. Vice Mayor Johnston pointed out it was changed from "shall" to "may" and felt this gives more flexibility. He stated an employee would only need to call in and let their supervisor know they will not be in to work as scheduled.

City Manager Norman-Vacha explained the difference between employees out due to a personal illness or injury opposed to Worker's Compensation or new hires physical examinations. Council Member Bernardini was concerned that employees with a doctor's note to return to work would have to wait several days without pay awaiting response from management. City Manager Norman-Vacha explained typically a delay would be due to insufficient information on the doctor's note such as any work restrictions. She stated clarification is required to protect the City's liability. Council Member Bernardini recommended a standard fitness for duty form be issued with the required information for better communication in the future. City Manager Norman-Vacha indicated there is a prescribed federal medical certification form for employees on Family Medical Leave Act extended illness status. She felt any form not issued by a doctor is difficult to get them to complete.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of amended vacation to reflect 1-4 years 2 weeks, 5-8 years 3 weeks, 9-14 years 4 weeks, 15+ years 5 weeks and amended paragraphs C.1. and C.5. Motion carried 4-0.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed amendments; C.1. “Employees are to request vacation leave using the established leave procedure” and C.5. “Approval of leave requests in the sole discretion of department directors or designee; notice of decision will be provided to the employee in a reasonable time”.

7.02 Sick Leave

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval.

Council Member Bernardini felt the language was too harsh under sick and vacation leave that states “Employees failing to appropriately notify and report his or her absence to his or her Department Director or designee shall be considered to have voluntarily resigned from employment with the City”.

Motion carried 3-1 with Council Member Bernardini voting in opposition.

Ordinance No. 821 – Firearms Code Change

Consideration of approval of an Ordinance setting forth guidelines and criteria to implement the tax exemption referendum included on the August 2010 Primary Election Ballot.

City Attorney Jennifer Rey reviewed the changes to the code and resolution due to the legislature adopting amendments to Florida Statutes effective October 1, 2011 preempting the regulation of firearms.

Vice Mayor Johnston preferred the changes be effective October 1st to coincide with State regulations. Council concurred.

Council Member Bernardini asked what the penalty on government, elected officials and staff is. City Manager Norman-Vacha replied the fine attached to violations on enforcements is \$5,000.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval as amended.

Mayor Burnett asked for public input; there was none.

City Clerk Peters read Ordinance No. 821 by title, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, CHAPTER 22, “CIVIL EMERGENCIES,” AMENDING ARTICLE II SECTION 36; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, REPEALING, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion carried 4-0 upon roll call vote, as follows:

Council Member Bradburn	Aye
Council Member Bernardini	Aye
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Resolution No. 2011-02 – Parks & Recreation Rules

Consideration of approval of a Resolution amending the Parks & Recreation Rules regarding the usage of firearms in the City's parks.

City Attorney Jennifer Rey reviewed the changes to the code and resolution due to the legislature adopting amendments to Florida Statutes effective October 1, 2011 preempting the regulation of firearms.

Vice Mayor Johnston preferred the changes be effective October 1st to coincide with State regulations. Council concurred.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of Resolution No. 2011-02 as amended.

Mayor Burnett asked for public input; there was none.

City Clerk Peters read Resolution No. 2011-02 by title, as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE PARKS OR RECREATIONAL AREAS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion carried 4-0 upon roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Bernardini	Aye
Council Member Bradburn	Aye
Vice Mayor Johnston	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

Adoption of Current Year Proposed Millage rate for FY2011/12 Budget

Announcement of rolled-back rate of 7.1055 and establish the first budget hearing for Wednesday, September 14, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

Finance Director Steve Baumgartner stated the Property Appraiser has to be notified on Thursday of the tentative millage rate.

City Manager Norman-Vacha advised the tentative budget has a shortfall based on 6.37 mills and advised Council would need to adopt a millage rate of 7.465 mills for a balanced budget. She suggested 7.5 mills for the TRIM Notice.

Council Member Bernardini, Vice Mayor Johnston and Mayor Burnett were in favor of setting a tentative millage rate of 7.5 mills while Council Member Bradburn felt a lower tentative millage rate would give more incentive to make cuts to cover the \$405,000 budget shortfall. She reiterated ad valorem taxes had a 39% decrease in the last four (4) years with another 11% anticipated decrease in revenue for the next year. She pointed out the current millage rate is 20% less than it was four (4) years ago and there has been an elimination of thirty-one (31) positions through attrition and consolidation of services. She felt there is nowhere else to cut and the only choices are elimination of services or less favored increase in taxes. She felt the public would panic at a 7.5 tentative millage rate and would favor setting a lower rate of 7.4 mills.

Vice Mayor Johnston explained he is in favor of 7.5 mills for the TRIM Notice only and there would have to be extraordinary circumstances for him to approve the final budget at that rate.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

Council Member Bernardini felt there was no room to cut from the budget with several necessities recently discussed such as deteriorating roads and asked what is being asked of him to cover the budget shortfall.

Mayor Burnett stated he would like staff to make recommendations to City Council based on discussions during the budget workshops or Council could make their own recommendations during budget hearings.

Motion:

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of announcing a 7.5 proposed millage and set the second Budget Hearing for Wednesday, September 14, 2011. Motion carried 3-1 with Council Member Bernardini voting in opposition.

Filling Council Vacancy Seat Group 4 Discussion

Council consensus was to advertise for letters of interest with resumes for seven (7) days. Council Member Bradburn informed the candidates should be ready to serve the night of selection for the August 15th meeting.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn to set deadline for applications/resumes for Monday, August 8, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

City Manager Norman-Vacha asked for Council direction on the appointment to the vacancy. Council concurred to allow each candidate to speak for three (3) minutes maximum and Council will use ballots to pick top three (3).

CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Burnett asked for public input.

Christina Marie Tucci owner of Christina's Hotdogs since 1994 felt she has had poor locations due to Code Enforcement setback regulations resulting in a negative impact to her income. Vice Mayor Johnston asked for information on the City's code on food vendors to address Ms. Tucci's situation and allow more visibility. City Manager Norman-Vacha will gather the information with copies for all of Council.

Jay Thompson felt that as a tax payer he does not have a problem seeing an increase in the millage rate since it is necessary to improve the public safety of the City and indicated it would actually be a decrease in his tax bill due to decreased property appraisal.

Jason Sager of 915 Hammock Road wanted to submit his name for consideration to fill Seat Number 4 on City Council and asked where to obtain the application. City Manager Norman-Vacha explained the process is to submit a letter of interest with a resume to the City Clerk.

ITEMS BY COUNCIL

Jennifer C. Rey, City Attorney

Executive Session on August 15th

City Attorney Rey requested an Executive Session on August 15th at 6:00 p.m. for approximately thirty (30) minutes. Council concurred.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager

Meeting Reminders

August 9th at 6:00 p.m. - Budget Workshop on All Other Funds

August 23rd at 6:00 p.m. - Second Budget Workshop on General Fund

Joe Bernardini, Council Member

Grievance Policy

Council Member Bernardini felt an impartial board would be well served in the grievance procedure that would make their recommendation to the City Manager who would then have the final decision on the matter.

Vehicle Take-Home Policy

He requested a review to address out-of-county employees. Council concurred to be addressed at the budget workshop on August 23rd.

Lara Bradburn, Council Member

Water Quality Testing

Council Member Bradburn asked for information at the next budget workshop on how much it costs for annual water quality testing along with Council action on fluoridation.

Firefighters' Schedules

She clarified a proposal for changes to firefighters' schedules did not include elimination of positions.

Downtown Post Office Proposed Closing

She requested a Resolution be considered at the next meeting to the U.S. Postal Service and to Congress to protect the downtown post office that serves the County seat. Council concurred.

Historic Designation for Broad Street Bridge

She stated the Florida Department of Transportation's engineer stated there has been attempts made to designate the Broad Street Bridge for historic designation and she requested a resolution be considered at the next meeting to save it from destruction and to protect historic nature of downtown. Council concurred.

Joe Johnston, Vice Mayor

Main Street Traffic Lights

Vice Mayor Johnston announced the street lights are back in sync and thanked Public Works Director Radacky for his efforts. He reminded him of installing a countdown light on Broad and Jefferson. City Manager Norman-Vacha assured the County is working on it.

Red Light Runner

He announced there was one red light runner at the hilltop on Jefferson Street.

Frankie Burnett, Mayor

Police Department Accreditation

Mayor Burnett announced his appreciation and pride to the police department for accreditation along with the rest of city staff, department directors and the City Manager.

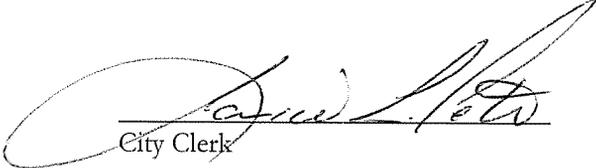
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 1, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Attest:

Mayor



City Clerk

