

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 21, 2014

Volunteer Appreciation Week April 21 - 27, 2014

Presentation of proclamation declaring Volunteer Week and honoring our citizens that volunteer their valuable time and make a difference in the City of Brooksville.

Mayor Hohn read the proclamation in its entirety and presented volunteers with Certificates of Appreciation, recognizing those having 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service.

Also recognized were Dennis Wilfong and Michael Heard for over 3,000 hours of volunteer service, on which City Manager Norman-Vacha elaborated. Members of the Brooksville Vision Foundation spoke of their purpose.

Mayor Hohn presented Cliff Manuel with the 2014 Brooksville Spirit Award, and the 2014 Volunteer of the Year Award to George Rodriguez.

Council Member Bradburn noted many things could be said of any of the volunteers and elaborated on Mr. George Rodriguez's service.

Council Member Johnston also reiterated that this is a small token of our appreciation for their volunteerism, and if it weren't for volunteer hours we would not be able to run the City of Brooksville in this manner.

Vice-Mayor Burnett expressed appreciation for his father and brother who have also spent countless hours volunteering at the Cemetery Board.

Council Member Bernardini expressed his appreciation to all volunteers.

Arbor Day Proclamation

Presentation of proclamation supporting Arbor Day in our community, which will be recognized at a Beautification Board event, to be held on April 25, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in Russell Street Park.

Council Member Bradburn read the proclamation in its entirety and presented it to the Beautification Board Chairman, Scott Renz. Mr. Renz went over the event that will be held in Russell Street Park.

Council Member Johnston noted that Mr. Morton, who started Arbor Day, was also the founder of Morton Salt.

Property Assessment/Values Update

Presentation of an update on property assessment/values from the Hernando County Property Appraiser's Office.

Hernando County Property Appraiser, John Emerson, advised he will be sending weekly electronic reports on the 2014 taxable value for the city, which reflects a 1.5% increase. He mentioned that Hernando County purchased the old juice property for approximately \$300,000 which will be coming off the City's tax roll. Overall he predicts a 4% increase countywide. The City of Brooksville currently has a taxable value of approximately \$320,000,000. There has been a \$4.6 million taxable value increase so far, which includes new construction and a reduction in county property.

Mayor Hohn confirmed that current construction is not on the books until the C.O. has been issued. Mr. Emerson discussed the comparisons of a Certificate of Occupancy and Final Building Permit.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 21, 2014

Update on Crescent Resources Bankruptcy - City of Brooksville as Creditor

City Attorney Taylor reviewed the Crescent Resources Bankruptcy regarding the Southern Hills Property, owned by Hampton Ridge, LLC. He advised this is a result of a lot of effort between the law firm and City staff.

Attorney Tom Hogan emphasized the Law firm worked as a team and recognized those who worked on the project. He thanked Council for pursuing their rights under the bankruptcy claim, and presented them with a check in the amount of \$3,537,938.23 as settlement.

Council Member Bradburn, regarding their choice in law firms, recognized that Tom Hogan and his staff had a vested interest in this community and would do what is best for our city. She stated that this Council has been one to take operational, financial, and legal risks, and it paid great dividends with the Hogan Law Firm. She also expressed appreciation to the City Manager for her work.

Mayor Hohn thanked the Hogan Law Firm, and expressed appreciation to the previous Council for their decisions.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Hohn called for citizen input.

Shirley Miketinac spoke about the petitions, research, and stories collected regarding the removal of the red light cameras.

Pat Miketinac corrected his comment about the yellow light times at the last meeting, and spoke about the traffic hearings he attended.

Hamilton Hansen spoke against the red light cameras and discussed homestead exemption.

George Rubis does not believe the red light cameras are morale.

Jimmy Lodato praised Council for the work done by the Beautification program, and spoke of future settlement at Brooksville.

Kojack Burnett gave kudos to staff, Council, and the Hogan Law Firm for their work.

CONSENT AGENDA

Pavement Management Program - Brick Work

Consideration to piggyback on the City of Tampa's contract with Jnandlal Maintenance Service of Brandon for repair of the brick streets for an amount not to exceed \$22,940.

Council Member Johnston pointed out that Earl Street, listed on the work order, should be Early Street. He asked if a plan has been put together. He asked when Council would be receiving a plan showing what is actually going to be done.

City Manager Norman-Vacha advised Council approved the road projects. This is the brick street portion.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 21, 2014

Council Member Johnston agreed but thought staff was going to try to figure out a design for around the tree and the street and bring that back to Council before a decision was made.

Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works, advised this will just be the brickwork. He envisioned doing the westerly 200 feet with #57 rock, and take up the bricks around the tree to be relayed to the east of the tree all the way to Main Street. He is not prepared to give a recommendation on what should go around the tree until everything is undone and to see what is there. He advised they do not want to damage the tree in the process.

Council Member Johnston said the plan was to use the bricks elsewhere and reinstall a different type of ground, either pave or use gravel, to the east of the tree.

Director Radacky advised there were two parts to that project. From the tree West to the CSX railroad, that's the part to take up the bricks.

Council Member Johnston advised all the bricks were going to be removed and some bricks were going to be reinstalled around the tree. Removing only the bricks in the back was not the plan. The bricks were going to be used on the other side of Russell Street.

Council Member Bradburn advised the previous discussion included taking up the brick from the Main Street entrance. The residents were assured that the rest of bricks would be utilized elsewhere, unless they were incorporated into the tree design.

Mayor Hohn mentioned the discussion about outreach to the neighborhood.

Director Radacky stated that they met with the owners of Homeland Title, and also Kathy with Great Stuff, who are in agreement with the plan of putting 57 rock from the tree west and that we would pick up the brick from the east of the tree and put down crushed concrete and put those brick back down. He was not ever planning on taking brick to the east of the tree.

Council Member Bradburn advised she had questions from residents about designs, which she couldn't answer because they haven't seen it yet. She agreed with Council Member Johnston that the direction given by Council was to take up the brick to be used elsewhere in the city.

Council Member Johnston advised that the original plan was to replace the brick from Main Street back to the tree then take the bricks out from behind the tree to be used for reconstruction on Russell Street next to the Good Neighbor Trail and the Museum. Depending on what was found, some could be used on other streets that may need assistance because Early Street is a street to nowhere. It was also agreed to use some of the bricks around the tree to make it a decorative type of thing but that has not been presented to Council.

Director Radacky advised Daniel Street was the other street the bricks were going to be removed from. Council Member Johnston agreed, these two streets were going to be redone in a different manner. Discussion continued that Council direction is not being carried out.

Mayor Hohn asked that this be brought back to Council at the next meeting. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised staff will be back at the May 5th meeting with more information and design work.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bradburn to table until May 5th on the regular agenda.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 21, 2014

Council Member Bradburn expressed appreciation for the City of Tampa's assistance on this matter.

Mayor Hohn expressed concern about the budgeted project expense in relation to the tree design. Council briefly discussed. He instructed Director Radacky to submit a quote for the asphalt and completion of the job.

Motion carried 5-0.

ITEMS BY COUNCIL

Joseph E. Johnston, III, Council Member

Blueberry Festival

Council Member Johnston thanked everyone who was involved in the Blueberry Festival.

Regional Planning Council Meeting

He mentioned there were five action items on the agenda, with three from Hernando County.

Lara Bradburn, Council Member

The Common

Council Member Bradburn advised May 1st is the National Day of Prayer and the dedication of The Common will be at 10:45 a.m.

Legislation

A DRI oversight bill is moving rapidly through the Legislature and it would eliminate input from local municipalities on a development's regional impact. She believes this would have a devastating effect on our state and region.

Mosquito Control

Council Member Bradburn asked for an update on Mosquito Control since it has been widely publicized. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated they continue to work with the County and on other alternatives to bring to the Board. She advised that the County did not include any issues when they responded that they were not going to enter into an agreement.

Blueberry Festival

Council Member Bradburn would like to make a motion that the Mayor send a letter to Mrs. Heard, thanking her for all of her efforts on behalf of our community in relation to the Blueberry Festival. Council gave consensus.

Joe Bernardini, Council Member

Council Member Bernardini wished all a Happy Easter.

Bankruptcy

He would like it to be a learning experience for new Council people, and he thanked the Hogan Law Firm and Council for not giving up.

Street Assessment Plan

He requested a copy of the final priority list. City Manager Norman-Vacha will include it in the item next week.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 21, 2014

Frankie Burnett, Vice-Mayor

Hogan Law Firm

Vice-Mayor Burnett stated he feels proud that he was on Council when they decided to hire another City Attorney, that he was able to convince other Council members that they need a firm, not an individual, and that he was part of the selection of the Hogan Law Firm.

He expressed appreciation to the City Manager and staff for working diligently and to Council for working as a team.

He gave special recognition to the Fire Chief, Tim Mossgrove, who accomplished so much with his writings.

Kevin Hohn, Mayor

Blueberry Festival

Mayor Hohn thought it was a glorious weekend and he never heard a complaint. He spoke to people from around the country that were visiting the festival and complimenting our community. He commented on the work done by Michael Heard and Director Mike Walker. He mentioned a discussion with the President of the Blueberry Growers Association regarding a red light camera ticket.

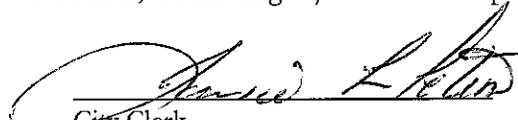
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Attest:



Mayor



City Clerk