

**CITY OF BROOKSVILLE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
201 HOWELL AVENUE  
BROOKSVILLE, FL 34601**

**MINUTES**

**October 20, 2014**

**7:00 P.M.**

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Mayor Kevin Hohn; Frankie Burnett, Vice-Mayor; Council Members Joe Bernardini, Lara Bradburn and Joseph E. Johnston, III, in attendance. Also present were Clifford Taylor, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Mike Walker, Director of Parks, Facilities & Recreation; Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works; Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief and George Turner, Police Chief.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hohn followed by an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COUNCIL MEMBER RECOGNITION**

**Proclamation - 20 Years of Service**

Ken Small with the Florida League of Cities was in attendance to present Council Member Johnston a proclamation in honor of 20 years of service to the City of Brooksville. He presented him with the John Land Years of Service Award.

Council Member Johnston thanked Mr. Small and said a few words regarding his years on City Council.

Council took a 20 minute recess for a Council member recognition reception.

All of Council expressed appreciation for his service and offered antidotes and remembrances.

**PRESENTATION & REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS**

**Tom Varn Park Fee Waiver Request - Communities in Schools of Hernando County Harvest Festival**

Consideration of request for fee waivers in the amount of \$275 for their 2nd Annual Harvest Festival at Tom Varn Park on October 25, 2014.

Council consensus was to table the item until after Council votes on amending the Fee Waiver Policy.

**CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**“Florida City Government Week” Proclamation**

Consideration of Proclamation declaring the week of October 19-25, 2014, as “Florida City Government Week” in conjunction with the Florida League of Cities’ sponsored annual statewide celebration of municipal government and its contributions to the quality of life of Floridians.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Mayor Hohn and presented to Ken Small of the Florida League of Cities.

### **“Weatherization Day” Proclamation**

Consideration of Proclamation declaring October 30, 2014, as “Weatherization Day” sponsored by Mid-Florida Community Services.

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Mayor Hohn and presented to Vice-Mayor Burnett on behalf of Mid-Florida Community Services.

### **Enterprise Zone Proclamation**

Consideration of Proclamation in support of the continuance of the laws providing for the Enterprise Zone Program.

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Mayor Hohn and presented to Bill Geiger, Director of Community Development.

Council Member Bradburn spoke on the issue and advised she will be meeting with Senator Simpson regarding the Enterprise Zone. She encouraged all to support the issue when speaking with law maker and shared that there are forthcoming changes to the program that will make it more applicable to our local businesses.

## **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mayor Hohn called for public input.

Pat Miketinac commented on attachments to the upcoming red light camera workshop.

Vi Coogler asked Council to consider moving the red light camera workshop from this Wednesday night because it conflicts with another event happening in the city.

Shirley Miketinac spoke on the red light cameras issue.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Minutes**

May 19, 2014 Regular Meeting

June 2, 2014 Regular Meeting

June 10, 2014 Special Meeting

### **Utility Billing Services Bid No. FI2014-06 Award**

Consideration of award for Utility Billing Services to MCCa for the not-to-exceed annual amount of \$12,960 plus an initial programming and set-up cost of \$500.

Council Member Johnston asked for the name of the current vendor. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised Southwest Direct.

### **Department of Public Works Vehicle Purchase**

Consideration to purchase a single-stream recycling truck for the not-to-exceed amount of \$84,280.50.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

Council Member Bradburn asked the difference in this one and the current one. Director Radacky advised the new vehicle will be able to compact whereas the current one does not. Also, it carries three times more waste. It is staff recommendation to send the current truck to auction with a minimum bid. Director Radacky advised over 1/3 of residents are recycling. Council Member Johnston asked staff to look into recycling Styrofoam.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the age of the current truck. Director Radacky advised it is 4 years old.

### **Police Department Radio Upgrades**

Consideration of purchase of Motorola radio upgrade(s) \$39,980.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### **Fee Waiver Policy 3-2012**

Consideration of amendment to the Fee Waiver Policy.

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed the policy amendment to address the supermajority vote.

Council Member Bernardini stated it was his intention to wean organizations off dependence on Council to waive their fees and to be fairer.

Council Member Johnston agreed with the 50% but he thought it was Council's desire to be able to waive above the 50% if they choose. He asked that the supermajority be used judiciously.

Council Member Bradburn advised she suggested this amendment in the rare occasion that something comes before Council that would require a different consideration.

Vice-Mayor Burnett advised that there are some events he will always support 100% if they are a benefit to the city and families.

Mayor Hohn felt the 50% is needed in most cases but he would be in favor of supporting events that serve others and the City above that amount.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of the amended Fee Waiver Policy. Motion carried 4-1, with Council Member Bernardini voting in opposition for reasons stated above and the fact that it is taxpayers' money.

### **Kiwanis Club's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Brooksville Christmas Parade**

#### **Kiwanis Club of Brooksville – Annual Christmas Parade Fee Waiver**

Consideration of request to partially waive fees in the amount of \$3,308.29, with a commitment from Kiwanis to pay \$1,000 to offset costs to hold the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

Parade on Saturday, December 13, 2014.

Larry Fluty of the Kiwanis Club of Brooksville reviewed the event and other events the Kiwanis Club works on throughout the year which gives back to the community.

Council Member Bradburn advised she supports this event as it has a proven economic impact to our community.

Council Member Bernardini commented concerning the lack of communication with event organizers regarding policy changes and other organizations that can be used to reduce costs.

City Manager Norman-Vacha advised the Kiwanis application was just received on October 8<sup>th</sup> and it was necessary to push forward because of DOT requirements. Referring to the size of the Christmas Parade, she advised there are a lot of volunteers throughout the total parade route. She stressed the need for a certain level of police participation.

Mayor Hohn suggested agreeing to half of whatever the final cost will be with a maximum.

Council Member Bradburn advised she would support 100% waiver of the fees, as did Vice-Mayor Burnett, because of their support to the community in other ways throughout the year.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for waiver of 100% of the balance of fees for this event in the amount of \$2,308.29. Motion was denied with 2-3 vote.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for waiver of 50% of final fees with maximum amount of \$1,654.15. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Tom Varn Park Fee Waiver Request - Communities in Schools of Hernando County Harvest Festival**

Consideration of request for fee waivers in the amount of \$275 for their 2nd Annual Harvest Festival at Tom Varn Park on October 25, 2014.

Mark Johnson, Chairman of Communities in Schools, reviewed the organization and the upcoming event.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for waiver of 100% of fees for this event.

Council Member Bernardini agreed with waivers for park fees versus fees for staff time.

Motion failed 2-3.

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for waiver of 50% in the amount of \$137.50. Motion carried 5-0

# REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

## Resolution No. 2014-17 to Florida Dept. of Transportation (FDOT) – Annual Christmas Parade Route

Consideration of approval of resolution supporting annual Kiwanis Christmas Parade route and closing of SR50/Jefferson St. & US41/Broad St., with authorization for Police Chief and Mayor to sign FDOT permit application.

### Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval Resolution No. 2014-17.

City Clerk Peters read Resolution No. 2014-17 by title, as follows:

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA SUPPORTING A REQUEST TO CLOSE JEFFERSON STREET AND BROAD STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND BELL AVENUE IN DOWNTOWN BROOKSVILLE ON DECEMBER 13, 2014; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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

Council Member Bradburn	Absent during voting
Council Member Johnston	Aye
Council Member Bernardini	Aye
Vice-Mayor Burnett	Aye
Mayor Hohn	Aye

## EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Program Inventory – Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESA)

Consideration to move forward with Phase II assessment activity.

Bill Geiger, Director of Community Development, reviewed the item and introduced Brian Kvam with Cardno TBE. Mr. Kvam discussed the project participants and reviewed the sites recommended for Phase II.

Vice-Mayor Burnett asked if this had been presented to the Community Task Force. Mr. Kvam advised it will be presented to them at their next meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Vice-Mayor Burnett would like the Community Task Force to be involved before Council approval.

Director Geiger advised the Community Task Force has already approved the sites. George Foster of Creative Environmental advised the Community Task Force will prioritize the sites approved by Council because not all sites can be done.

Council Member Bradburn asked Mr. Kvam how many sites were initially selected. Mr. Kvam advised there were 19 and the ones remaining had property owners that allowed site access.

Council Member Bradburn asked how much of the \$400,000 has been spent. Mr. Kvam advised just over half as he did not have the exact amount but confirmed they would have enough to do Phase II on the highest priority sites. She stated that one of Council's goals is to find additional funding to proceed with other phases. She discussed the status of the

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

Tank Rehab Fund which was used to pay for the current road budget on a Federal level. She asked if that will hamper the goals. Mr. Kvam advised that the Brownfields Program comes from a different appropriation. Mr. Foster stated that the State program is 100% funded by tax on gasoline sold in Florida so there should not be a problem.

Council Member Bradburn advised she serves on the State Transportation Board and they had a concern that it would create a problem for Florida properties. She hopes the impact will be minimal.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval to move forward with Phase II Environmental Site Assessments.

Council Member Bradburn asked when they can expect to get started on the next phase and how long this phase will take.

Mr. Kvam hopes they will be starting in November or December after the next Community Task Force meeting. He provided a general time frame of 90-120 days and it will depend on the complexity of the sites. He advised the grant period ends on September 30, 2015.

Vice-Mayor Burnett advised the Task Force has worked very hard to identify these properties. He stressed that although some properties would have benefited from the program, it was not possible because the owners are not interested in participating.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **Bid Award - UD2014-04 Eastside Water & Wastewater Expansion Project**

Consideration of bid award to Pospiech Contracting, Inc. for the Eastside Water & Wastewater Expansion Project.

Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works, and Supervisor Will Smith reviewed the project and bid award as referenced in the staff report. Director Radacky pointed out the difference of one million dollars between the low and high bidder. He asked for Council to allow a deductive change order to drop the project back to \$1,241,504.00. The contractor will then bring in his payment and performance bond documents for legal approval. He requested approval for transfer of \$241,500.00 from Fund 408, Uncommitted Reserves, to complete the project funding.

In response to Mayor Hohn, Director Radacky confirmed that the USDA Funds must be spent by February 2015 or face penalties.

Council Member Johnston asked if the funds have to be spent or just committed. Director Radacky advised they must be spent and the high cost of the project will be completed early. Council Member Johnston asked if there are any future plans for reuse. Supervisor Smith advised they are a long way from Cobb Road. Director Radacky advised they have been working with Hernando Oaks on the possible use of reuse water because the lines are close. He stated it would cost a lot more money to install dry lines in preparation of future development.

Council Member Bradburn believes this project is preparing the future of the City. She commended Director Radacky on his forward thinking. She would have liked to see it

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

brought back before Council prior to bid to discuss going even further east. She pointed out that the lines must run parallel on Mondon Hill Road and the traffic concern on the narrow roads. She is expecting future improvements and doesn't want the pipes to need to be moved. She asked for staff to keep in mind the placement of pipes with expected turn radius and the entrance and exit of subdivisions, particularly the south side. She also requested an on-site inspector for the project.

Council Member Johnston added that the future widening of Mondon Hill Road is definitely in the future. He stressed locating the pipes as far to the edges of the easements as possible in anticipation of future changes.

Director Radacky advised staff has discussed the possibility of State money for improvements and they will be getting with Senator Simpson on these projects.

Council Member Bernardini asked if the money could be spent somewhere else such as Southern Hills. Director Radacky advised it has to be spent on capital projects and this project was quicker and better to get water and wastewater where it is not currently supplied.

Council Member Bernardini agreed with Council Member Johnston and Council Member Bradburn to avoid conflict with other proposed road projects. He suggested getting alongside the Good Neighbor Trail where there is right-of-way that will not be used. He also pointed out the project that was built to the west in anticipation of development which never happened. He expressed confidence in Director Radacky to go in the right direction.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of the bid award to Pospiech Contracting, Inc., and allow a deductive change order to drop the project amount to \$1,241,504, and approval of the transfer of \$241,500 from Fund 408. Motion carried 5-0.

### **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mayor Hohn called for public input.

Shirley Miketinac commented on the renovations to the restrooms.

Kojack Burnett, concerning fee waivers, felt that some events warrant a larger waiver of fees. He felt that he should have been recognized as committee member for the Community Task Force during the Brownfields discussion. He expressed appreciation for the service of Council Member Johnston.

### **ITEMS BY COUNCIL**

#### **T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager**

City Manager Norman-Vacha proposed the Pavement Management Workshop for Tuesday November 18, 6:00 P.M. Council agreed. She reminded Council of the workshop on Wednesday.

# REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

## Joseph E. Johnston, III, Council Member

### Highway Sidewalks

Council Member Johnston pointed out that the sidewalks on the side of rural highways are barely used. He suggested moving the bike path onto the existing sidewalk or widening it and installing signs that say yield to pedestrians. He thinks it makes sense to get them out of the main traffic for everyone's safety. He asked Council Member Bradburn if this is something that can be presented at the MPO.

Council Member Bradburn advised that federal policy requires any road project using pass along money to have intermodal transportation associated with it. Those projects were already in the works but going forward wide walks are being considered.

### Enterprise Zone

He emphasized that Enterprise Zones are a voluntary program and felt the localities should be able to make that decision.

### Water Supply Authority Board

He discussed a presentation that was given on a cooperative effort between Crystal River and Duke Energy. They are building a plant and water reuse line from the City of Crystal River to Duke Energy and sharing the cost. He pointed out that Duke is paying the City of Crystal River to use the reuse.

### Water Conservation Grants

He asked if staff would be interested in getting with Swiftmud about grants than can be used towards the reuse program. He believes it would encourage installation and use of those facilities if the cost can be defrayed.

He thanked everyone for their kind words regarding his 20 years of service.

## Lara Bradburn, Council Member

### MPO Board

Council Member Bradburn commented on the trail network and pointed out that the top priority was always Wiscon. She pointed out that she was lobbying law makers to make sure Hernando County was included in the first phase of funding for the coast to coast trail. She advised that County planning staff submitted a plan to the State without review by the City, MPO, Good Neighbor Trail Committee or any public discussion which bypassed the City of Brooksville. She stated that the Main Street Program, Downtown Beautiful, Pennies for Projects and the Brownfields plan focuses on the trail. After sharing her concerns with the President of the Vision Foundation, he compromised and now the trail should go through the historic area and then eventually to State Road 50. She advised the County planners have it placed on the MPO agenda tomorrow to amend the long range transportation plan and start a PD&E study on the route without consideration of the City. She requested Council's input for when she addresses the MPO tomorrow.

Council Member Johnston asked if a representative from Downtown Brooksville will be there. Council Member Bradburn advised the President of the Vision Foundation is on vacation and its late notice for the Trail Committee. Council Member Johnston stated it only makes sense for it to connect to the trail head.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

Vice-Mayor Burnett expressed appreciation for Council Member Bradburn's persistence and hopes a compromise is available.

Council Member Bernardini agreed with Council Member Johnston about connection to the trail head and asked if the decision can be postponed or if a decision is necessary in order to not lose the money. Council Member Bradburn explained the upcoming election means that at least two members of the current MPO will not be there and there is potential for other changes.

Director Geiger explained the proposed route goes from the Suncoast Parkway to State Road 50, then west to Cobb Road, then following State Road 50 to Emerson Road, and to East Jefferson and up to the existing trail.

Council Member Johnston asked if the reason for this is because these are federal and state funds and have to be used on federal or state roads. Director Geiger thinks the County is using it as an easy route due to right-of-way but believes they missed out in providing the scenic, safe and enjoyable route. He believes this will be considered with the PD&E study.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the compromised portion. Director Geiger explained Daniel Avenue is a connector and a trail could probably be built within the existing right-of-way to get it all the way to US 41. He stated the County's options include Fort Dade Avenue and State Road 50. Council Member Bradburn advised the long range plan includes a statement about Wiscon Road/Good Neighbor Trail connection to Suncoast but its being ignored.

### Christmas Decorations

Council Member Bradburn asked Council Member Bernardini if he has visited with the Beautification Board and had them map out the decoration placement for staff. Council Member Bernardini stated he has not met with the Board. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised staff has met with them and they were in agreement with the proposed plan.

### Joe Bernardini, Council Member

#### Sidewalks

Referencing Jefferson Street, Council Member Bernardini commented that the sidewalks should be built higher so they don't go under water when it rains. Council Member Johnston advised it's the way the plans are presented by the State in an effort to save money.

Council Member Bernardini stated the new sidewalk that goes 41 north has several cracked areas being fixed by DOT instead of the contractor. He is unaware of the agreement details but believes it is wasting tax payer money.

#### Workshop – Citizen Input

He asked the Mayor if citizen input will be allowed at the workshop on Wednesday. Mayor Hohn indicated the scope of the meeting is narrow and the citizen input will also be narrowed to the area being discussed which is the mile per hour for right on red.

### Frankie Burnett, Vice-Mayor

Vice-Mayor Burnett gave accolades to the City Manager and staff for always meeting Council's requests.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2014

### Lighthouse of the Blind

He attended the awareness event by the courthouse discussed by Lighthouse of the Blind when they accepted their proclamation. He thought he was going there to support the people of the blind and the white cane but it became an event that was more beneficial to him as an individual. He would like to get with staff on meeting the needs of the blind and not just ADA compliance.

### Waterline Project

He expressed appreciation to Director Radack and his staff for thinking outside of the box with the waterline expansion project.

### **Kevin Hohn, Mayor**

#### Reuse Facility

Mayor Hohn is hoping that future Council does not use money for the expansion of the reuse facilities for another purpose.

#### Homecoming Week

He pointed out it is homecoming week for Hernando High and wishes them the best of luck. He advised the Wednesday night meeting cannot be moved but he supports the citizens that choose to attend the Leopards game and root them on.

#### Anniversary

He announced his anniversary is tomorrow and wished his wife a happy anniversary.

#### Red Light Cameras

He stated that cameras were never meant to be behavior modification instruments. He pointed out that cameras in banks would not be removed just because banks continue to be robbed.

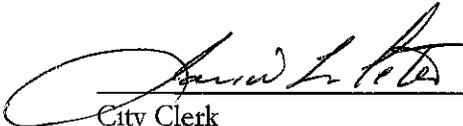
#### Golf Tournament

He stated for the first time in 17 years Hernando High won the Women's District Golf Tournament. He advised the regional tournament is tomorrow morning.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk