

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

MINUTES

December 15, 2014

7:00 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Frankie Burnett, Mayor and Council Members Robert Battista, Betty Erhard, and Natalie Kahler in attendance. Vice-Mayor Johnston was absent. Also present were Clifford Taylor, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice 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 Burnett followed by an Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION & REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS

Fee Waiver Request - Hernando County Library

Consideration of request for fee waivers in the amount of \$1,058.60, or 50%, which is \$529.30, for the Brooksville Library 5K Run to be held on February 28, 2015.

Adam Brooks discussed the event advising proceeds will benefit the Friends of the Library of Hernando County and the YMCA Foundation.

Council Member Kahler asked if they had any corporate sponsorship. Mr. Brooks stated they have been sponsored by the Tourism Board, along with other small sponsors, but no big sponsors as of yet.

Council Member Battista asked if the County was providing any support. Mr. Brooks advised no and confirmed it is the first year they are doing the event. He anticipated 250 with a goal of 500 people. He is hoping to raise \$3,000 to split amongst the groups.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Kahler and seconded by Council Member Erhard for approval of the fee waiver in the amount of \$529.30. Motion carried 3-1.

Council Member Battista stated he has a problem giving tax payer money to fee waivers and his position will probably not change.

Mayor Burnett advised he will always be a great proponent of fee waivers to help people that want to do things within the City. He appreciated the policy change to 50% but he will always vote 100% when he knows something will do good for the community.

APPROVED BY BROOKSVILLE
CITY COUNCIL
ON 1/5/15 INITIALS AP

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA – December 15, 2014

CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Hogan Law Firm 25 Year Anniversary Proclamation

Presentation of proclamation recognizing the Hogan Law Firm's 25th Anniversary.

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Council Member Battista and presented to The Hogan Law Firm by Council.

Attorney Tom Hogan introduced friends and family present and thanked Council for the recognition. Mayor Burnett expressed appreciation for The Hogan Law Firm.

Proclamation - Parrott Middle School Football Team

Presentation of proclamation in recognition of the team's undefeated season.

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Council Member Kahler and presented to representatives from D.S. Parrott Middle School by Council.

Coach Bingham spoke about the team and expressed appreciation for his coaching staff.

Dr. Lori Romano, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed Council and offered support.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Burnett called for citizen input.

Pat Miketinac commented on his interview with Time, Inc., f/k/a Time Magazine, and asked Council to vote to not renew the cameras.

Shirley Miketinac congratulated the new Council members and The Hogan Law Firm. She referenced anomalies in the report received at the previous red light cameras workshop. She also asked Council to review the contract and consider not continuing the program.

Hamilton Hansen congratulated the new Council members and asked that they consider the citizens wishes regarding the red light cameras.

Raymond Walk of 863 Easy Street expressed concern for the manhole repairs, drainage, and the limestone deposits in his kitchen. Mayor Burnett advised the parts have been ordered and repairs will be made as soon as the parts are received.

Rick Ballou advised the sidewalk by the park is cracked and falling apart.

Richard Howell introduced a petition from the residents on Shane Street and commented on the red light camera at Dr. Martin Luther King.

Dan Patrick commented on the red light cameras.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

October 20, 2014	Regular Meeting
November 3, 2014	Regular Meeting
November 17, 2014	Regular Meeting
November 18, 2014	Workshop
December 1, 2014	Regular Meeting

Budget Amendment to the Police Department Grants and Donation Fund 123

Consideration of acceptance of grant/donation from Walmart Corporation in the amount of \$1,000 to be credited to Fund 123.

2014 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Consideration of acceptance of grant in the amount of \$2,583 and authorize the Mayor to sign the Certificate of Acceptance and related documents.

Fire Assessment Collection Interlocal Agreements

Consideration of approval to allow for renewal of the agreements with the Hernando County Property Appraiser and Tax Collector for collection of the non-ad valorem assessments.

Termination of Golf the Quarry, LLC Lease Agreement

Consideration of termination of the lease between the City and Golf the Quarry LLC and for the City Attorney to continue seeking court determination of rights along with authorization for staff to seek proposals/letters of interest from others for use/lease of the City's property.

Personnel Policy Amendment

Consideration of revision/amendment of the City's Drug Free Workplace Policy – adding a definition for “mandatory testing positions”.

Retainer Agreement for Sunrise Consulting

Consideration of approval to engage Sunrise Consulting for lobbying services/representation for the City of Brooksville, Florida Blueberry Festival and the Florida Blueberry Growers Association.

Council Member Battista elaborated on the Sunrise Consulting process and purpose and the need for support regarding the Good Neighbor Trail.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Kahler and seconded by Council Member Battista for approval of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

Advisory Board Appointments

Appointment of advisory board members replacing those whose terms expire December 31, 2014.

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Beautification Board

Two (2) vacancies to fill 4-year terms of office through December 31, 2018. One (1) vacancy to fill an unexpired 4-year term of office through December 31, 2016. One (1) student volunteer vacancy.

Scott S. Renz Reapplying (Expiring Term)

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Battista and seconded by Council Member Erhard for reappointment of Scott Renz to the Beautification Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Cemetery Advisory Board

Two (2) full-time positions to fill expiring 4-year terms of office through December 31, 2018, and one (1) full-time position to fill an unexpired 4-year term of office through December 31, 2017. Board members must be City residents or have a documented tie to the cemetery. (Cason did not reapply & Mr. Brewer resigned)

James V. Brooks New Applicant
Roberta A. Hilliard New Applicant
Peggy L. Hope New Applicant
Onna L. Howard New Applicant
Jan E. Knowles Reapplying (Expiring Term)

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Battista and seconded by Council Member Erhard for reappointment of Jan Knowles, James Brooks and Roberta Hilliard to the Cemetery Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Great Brooksvillian Screening Committee

Five (5) full-time positions to fill expiring 1-year terms of office through December 31, 2015.

Julia Jinkens Reapplying (Expiring Term)
Sue Loveday Reapplying (Expiring Term)
Gail Samples Reapplying (Expiring Term)
Roger Sherman Reapplying (Expiring Term)
Michelle Thompson Reapplying (Expiring Term)

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Erhard and seconded by Council Member Battista for reappointment of all applicants to the Screening Committee. Motion carried 4-0.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

One (1) full-time position and one (1) alternate position to fill expiring 4-year terms of office through December 31, 2018.

Richard D. Gant Reapplying (Expiring Term)
Susan D. Rupe Reapplying Alternate (Expiring Term)

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Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Erhard and seconded by Council Member Kahler for reappointment of Richard Gant to the full-time position and Susan Rupe to the Alternate position for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Motion carried 4-0.

Planning & Zoning Commission

One (1) full-time position to fill an expiring 4-year terms of office through December 31, 2018. Applicants must be a City resident.

John A. Wanat Reapplying (Expiring Term)

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Battista and seconded by Council Member Erhard for reappointment of John Wanat to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion carried 4-0.

Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Committees

Consideration of appointment of Council Members to the Florida League of Cities' Action Committees for the 9/2014 – 8/2015 year.

	<u>Current Council</u>
Finance, Taxation & Personnel	Natalie Kahler
Transportation & Intergovernmental Relations	Joe Johnston
Energy & Environmental Quality	Robert Battista
Growth Management & Economic Development	Frankie Burnett
Urban Administration	Betty Erhard

CITIZEN INPUT

Hamilton Hansen referenced a 2012 instance of bullying by the Brooksville Police Department and asked Council to address the situation.

Kojack Burnett thanked Council and The Hogan Law Firm for their 25 years of service. He also thanked the City Manager and staff for their efforts, wishing all a Merry Christmas.

ITEMS BY COUNCIL

Cliff Taylor, City Attorney

Attorney Taylor advised the law firm is presenting Council with a check for \$39,000 which may be the last installment of the bankruptcy funds.

T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager

City Manager Norman-Vacha requested to schedule a workshop on January 12th regarding fee waivers and training for sunshine and ethics. Mayor Burnett suggested a time of 3:00 p.m. and Council concurred.

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Betty Erhard, Council Member

Council Member Erhard wished a Happy Anniversary to The Hogan Law Firm and commended Parks and Recreation on their parade float.

SENSYS AGREEMENT

Council Member Erhard made a motion to discuss the end of the Sensys Agreement.

Mayor Burnett suggested making it an agenda item and also asked Council to consider terminating at the end of lease to avoid fees.

Council Member Battista seconded for discussion and recommended a special meeting. He discussed his interpretation of the Sensys contract and expressed it is his desire to end the program. He pointed out that most violations are right on red turns and if the speed is increased they will need to ensure they are not infringing on their guarantee in the contract to provide Sensys \$4,500.00 a month on every approach.

Attorney Hogan advised it is a policy decision and recommended the determination of speed for right hand turns be defined.

City Manager Norman-Vacha suggested choosing a date at the January 5th meeting to allow her time to evaluate Council's questions and determine the time necessary for staff to investigate. Mayor Burnett asked Council to consult with the City Manager to relay what they would like to review at that meeting.

Natalie Kahler, Council Member

Council Member Kahler congratulated The Hogan Law Firm and the Parrott Middle School on their accomplishments.

She wished all a Merry Christmas.

She expressed appreciation to the utility employee that advised her husband about an increase in the water bill and the potential issues that may be causing it.

She commented on her great-grandmother's candy recipe and stated that she looked forward to preserving and loving the old within the City while looking for ways to make things better.

Robert Battista, Council Member

FEE WAIVERS

Council Member Battista expressed concern that the County had not contributed to this evening's fee waiver request and he noted that they will be charging attendees and making a profit. He pointed out that the current Fee Waiver Policy allows preference to events where all or the majority of activities are available at no cost to attendees.

He believes they are passing tax payer money to not-for-profit charities by granting waivers to events that are making money and distributing it to those types of organizations. He thinks the residents should make those decisions about their money.

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Frankie Burnett, Mayor

EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY

Mayor Burnett asked City Manager Norman-Vacha about the budget impact if employees were allowed to take the day after Christmas as a holiday. City Manager Norman-Vacha could not comment on the cost of one particular holiday. She advised there is a holiday schedule policy within the personnel manual that can be changed by Council and pointed out that several employees are using vacation days to take off after Christmas.

Mayor Burnett asked for Council input pointing out that there have been no raises and he was trying to be thoughtful. Council concurred. Mayor Burnett asked Attorney Hogan how they should proceed. Attorney Hogan advised Council to make a motion amending the calendar.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Battista to amend the existing Council Calendar to reflect December 26, 2014, as a holiday for City employees, other than those who are normally required to work on such holidays, seconded by Council Member Erhard. Motion carried 4-0.

City Manager Norman-Vacha pointed out that employees working during the holiday will be paid at time and a half plus the holiday pay. She confirmed this information will be copied to Council.

HOGAN LAW FIRM

Mayor Burnett expressed appreciation for the Hogan Law Firm and discussed some of their achievements with the City.

He thanked the City Manager and staff for their hard work.

ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE

He advised he attended the opening of the One-Room Schoolhouse on Russell Street. He stated that they will be teaching educators how to teach in the schoolhouse sometime in January.

HOLIDAY GIVING

He commented how he and his brother have gone out for 38 years on Thanksgiving and Christmas to give to the people who have the least. He hoped that people would help them in their endeavor.

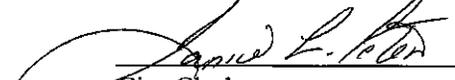
He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Attest:


Mayor


City Clerk