

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

August 17, 2015

6:15 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Frankie Burnett, Mayor, Natalie Kahler, Vice Mayor, Council Members Robert Battista, Betty Erhard, and William Kemerer; Attorney Clifford A. Taylor, City Manager, T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, Janet Kato, Deputy Clerk and Court Reporter, Holly Kirchman of Carolyn F. Engel & Associates.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

6:29 P.M.

An Executive Session was called to order at 6:30. Persons in attendance were Frankie Burnett, Mayor, Natalie Kahler, Vice Mayor, Council Members Robert Battista, Betty Erhard, and William Kemerer; Attorney Clifford A. Taylor, City Manager, T. Jennene Norman-Vacha and Court Reporter, Holly Kirchman of Carolyn F. Engel & Associates.

ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:29 P.M.

There was a ten minutes recess.

COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED

7:41 P.M.

The City Council meeting reconvened in regular session with Frankie Burnett, Mayor, Natalie Kahler, Vice Mayor and Council Members Robert Battista, Betty Erhard and William Kemerer. Also present were Tom Hogan and Clifford A. Taylor, City Attorneys; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janet Kato, Deputy City Clerk; Mike Walker, Director of Parks, Facilities & Recreation Director, George Turner, Police Chief; Tannette Gayle, Finance Director, Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief and citizens.

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

CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Hernando County Health Department E-Cigarettes

Anne-Gale Ellis from the Hernando County Health Department introduced Dr. Mary Martinasek of USF. Dr. Martinasek presented an update on the research and medical concerns associated with the inhalation of vapors from e-cigarettes, advocating local community control of usage.

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha stated that more cities and counties are taking

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 17, 2015

action in adopting policies on the use of e-cigarettes in their communities.

Council Member Erhard requested this item be placed on the next agenda for discussion

Council Member Battista stated he would like to read the wording of enacted ordinances from other municipalities and how they're being enforced.

Attorney Taylor added that since using e-cigarettes is technically not smoking, the City is free to make policy based on Home Rule Authority.

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha will prepare updated information and additional research from the Health Department to present to the Board.

Hernando County Tourist Development

Tammy Heon, of the Hernando County tourist Development, gave a presentation on “re-branding” Hernando County and how it will benefit the City. Goal research was gathered, finding that the County’s greatest asset is nature-based. The chosen logo is the blue heron in flight to represent Florida’s Adventure Coast.

Andrew and Matt Sufficool-Bicycle Tour from Alaska to South America

Proclamations

Fire Chief, Tim Mossgrove introduced Andrew and Matthew Sufficool. Andrew Sufficool gave a history of how he and his brother made preparations for their journey. Matthew shared photos with the Council and citizens.

Council Member Battista read the Proclamation.

Mayor Burnett congratulated the Sufficools on their accomplishment.

CITIZEN INPUT

Mr. Andrew Williams stated he has a problem with water drainage from the road at his home. He has approached both the County and Mr. Radacky from the City for remedy with no results. He asked for relief from the Council in solving this potentially hazardous road situation.

Shirley Miketinac gave a brief history of her knowledge of how litigation with Sensys and the City has progressed. She raised concern in there not being a more timely response from Sensys and asked for a more diligent approach in removing the cameras by December, 2015.

Michael Heard, Coordinator for the Blueberry Festival commended the collaborative efforts made between the County, Chamber of Commerce, Florida Blueberry Growers, and the Blueberry Festival for two new billboards that will be welcoming visitors to Brooksville as the home of the Blueberry Festival.

CONSENT AGENDA

Professional Services - Hearing Officer/Special Master Contract

Consideration of approval of automatic renewal for the contract with Attorney Kenneth L. Warnstadt for Professional Services.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 17, 2015

Public Risk Management Renewal (PRM) for FY2015-16

Consideration to accept renewal coverage for property, liability and workers' compensation insurance coverage with continued participation in the PRM Pool for the FY2016 Policy Year.

Alternate Voting Member to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

Consideration of appointment of alternate voting member to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority.

Motion:

Motion by Council Member Battista, seconded by Vice Mayor Kahler to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

Employee Healthcare Benefit Coverage Renewals

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha introduced Shawn Flemming of the Gehring Group. He presented an overview of the goals and changes made to the Healthcare Coverage for Brooksville. Claims have been increasing consistently with medical inflation, until the current year when they increased due to catastrophic claims. 60% of claims were generated by 2% of the membership. Cigna's plan has a stop-loss limit of \$30,000 per individual.

Council Member Kemerer asked from what the administrative fees are based on, and if the 13% rate increase was applied to both employee and spouse. Mr. Flemming responded that fees were based on per employee, per month, and that the increase was applied to all tiers.

Motion:

Motion by Council Member Erhard, seconded by Council Member Kemerer to accept the FY2016 renewal insurance rates, as provided, and to begin scheduling open enrollment prior to October 1, 2015. Motion passed 5-0.

External Board Appointment – City Council

Appointment of City Council Member to the Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization.

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha stated that Council Member Battista has regularly attended the MPO Board meetings since the December 2014 appointments, and is serving as a representative/voting member as vacated by Vice Mayor Johnston. She requested direction from Council as to who should be appointed for service on the MPO Board.

Mayor Burnett asked if Council Member Battista would be willing to continue to serve, and if anyone would like to serve as alternate.

Motion:

Motion by Council Member Erhard, seconded by Vice Mayor Kahler to appoint Council Member Battista to serve as the primary representative to the Hernando/Citrus Metropolitan Planning (MPO) Board with Council Member Kemerer to serve as alternate. Motion passed 5-0.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 17, 2015

CITIZEN INPUT

Mr. Miketinac pointed out that the red light camera verbiage “careful and prudent” could have different interpretation.

Mr. Kojak Burnett commented on the good job everyone is doing.

ITEMS BY COUNCIL

City Attorney Cliff Taylor

In an abundance of caution, and in light of what had been discussed earlier in the Executive Session, Mr. Taylor recommended another Executive Session be scheduled prior to the next Regular Meeting on September 21, 2015.

Mayor Burnett directed an Executive Session to be scheduled at 5:30 September 21, 2015.

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha

The Chamber of Commerce has invited the City to participate in a county-wide effort to acknowledge emergency responders by passing a Proclamation, “First Responder’s Day” before September 11, 2015. As this is a last minute request, Ms. Norman-Vacha suggested, that if the Council so desired, that this Proclamation could be addressed at a special meeting held at 4:30, just prior to the Budget Hearing set for September 6, 2015 at 5:01.

It was the consensus of the Council to hold a special meeting on September 9, 2015 at 4:30 prior to the Public Hearing scheduled at 5:01.

Council Member Erhard

She thanked everyone for coming, and echoed the same sentiments as Michael Heard in commending Tammy Heon for her good work on Tourist Development, for which she is proud to serve as a board member. She attended the Florida League of Cities 89th Conference in Orlando, and announced other events coming up which she would also like to attend, primarily the FAST Fly-in Event held in Washington, D.C. October 7- 8 in 2015.

It was the consensus of the Council that Council Member Erhard be able to attend this event on October 7-8, 2015.

Council Member Kemerer

No items to report.

Council Member Battista

He announced that recycling takes place on Wednesday. He inquired as to the Ethic Board’s fulfillment of requirements, and to the progress of him receiving the Index of City Policies.

City Manager T. Jennene Norman-Vacha stated that the opportunity for an additional two hours toward the four hour requirement for the Ethics Committee will be offered before the end of the year, and that she will provide him an Index of City Policies.

Vice Mayor Kahler

She announced the College Kick-off Party on the 29th of August which is sponsored by the Friends of the Children. Tickets are \$15 at the Parks Department. She attended the Conference as a committee member for Taxation Planning whose efforts are in keeping Tallahassee from designating how municipality’s funds are spent. Since the attendance of

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – August 17, 2015

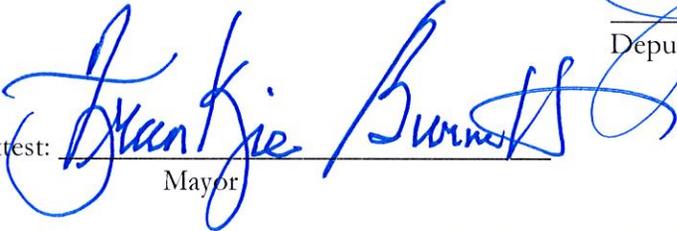
these worthwhile events brings with it certain expenses, she requested that expenses be notated in Correspondence to Note. She also reminded everyone of the Half-Penny vote coming up on September 8th, and her history note was taken from Dr. Roger Landers, Hernando County Florida: In 1500 there were 80,000 indigenous Native Americans here. Between disease and war the number was reduced to 200.

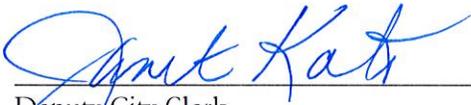
Mayor Burnett

He thanked Mr. Walker for the excellent work on the Back-Pack Program which made school supplies available for students. He encouraged safe driving as children will be going back to school. He thanked Michael Heard for her efforts in providing the Blueberry Festival. He advised Council that with the increase of rainfall, they may respond to callers that three inches of rain will cause flooding, except where there are costly management systems in place.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Council Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Attest:  _____
Mayor

 _____
Deputy City Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

There was none.