

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

**October 19, 2015**

**7:00 P.M.**

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Frankie Burnett, Mayor, Natalie Kahler, Vice Mayor and Council Members Robert Battista and Betty Erhard. Also present were Clifford A. Taylor, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Mike Walker, Director of Parks, Facilities & Recreation Director, George Turner, Police Chief; Tannette Gayle, Finance Director; David Freda, Interim Fire Chief, Richard Radacky, Public Works Department; Steve Gouldman, City Planner; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Jennifer J. Battista, Acting Deputy City Clerk; and citizens.

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

**CITIZEN INPUT**

There was no citizen's input.

**PRESENTATION & REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS**

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner Fee Waiver Request**

Consideration of fee waivers in the amount of \$325.00 total or \$162.50 at 50% of costs for use of the Jerome Brown Community Center for Thanksgiving Dinner on Monday, November 23, 2015, being sponsored by the Christian Life Assembly of God.

Al Gaither, Children's Pastor at Christian Life Assembly of God, was present to answer any questions that Council may have.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Erhard and seconded by Battista to approve the amount of \$325.00. Motion carried 4-0.

**CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**"Florida City Government Week" Proclamation**

Consideration of Proclamation declaring the week of October 18-24, 2015, 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.

The proclamation was read in its entirety by Council Member Battista.

Police Chief Turner advised that the Police Department is conducting limited tours this week in conjunction with Florida City Government Week. He advised that that the tours at this point have been very well received by both citizens and his staff, and he plans to hold these tours more frequently.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 19, 2015

### **Resolution No. 2015-20 – Timothy Mossgrove Retirement**

Consideration of Resolution honoring Fire Chief Timothy Mossgrove who retired from the City of Brooksville on September 29, 2015, after more than 29 years of service.

Resolution No. 2015-20 was read in its entirety by Vice Mayor Kahler.

#### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Battista and seconded by Kahler to approve Resolution No. 2015-20.

Motion carried 4-0 upon roll-call vote:

Council Member Battista	Aye
Council Member Erhard	Aye
Vice Mayor Kahler	Aye
Mayor Burnett	Aye

Those speaking in honor of Chief Mossgrove were Mike Nickerson, Deputy Chief of Operations of the Hernando County Fire Rescue; George Turner, Brooksville Police Chief; Jennene Norman-Vacha, Brooksville City Manager; Council Member Erhard; Council Member Battista; Vice Mayor Kahler; Mayor Burnett; Kojack Burnett; Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works; and Bill Geiger, Community Development Director.

Tim Mossgrove accepted the Resolution and gifts, thanking all for the pleasure of working for the City of Brooksville.

### **2015 Valuation Adjustment Board Petitions Filed**

Presentation by Hernando County Property Appraiser regarding 2015 Valuation Adjustment Board (VAB) petitions filed on parcels within the City of Brooksville.

Kevin Johnston, Property Appraiser's Officer Chief Deputy of Valuation and Tax Roll, was representing Property Appraiser, John Emerson. He advised that in 2015 there were 23 petitions filed on properties that impact the City of Brookville and are being or have been contested at the value adjustment board.

In response to Council Member Battista's question, Mr. Johnston advised that Special Master must have their decisions in to the Value and Adjustment Board within 30 days of the hearing. The last hearing is mid November, so it may be into January before the VAB reconvenes and accepts the recommendations of the Special Master.

Vice Mayor Kahler questioned if it these larger properties that are filing petitions do this every year, to which Mr. Johnston replied that it is a standard "blanket filing" done by many attorneys, tax representatives and brokers.

Mr. Johnston confirmed Mayor Burnett's comment that for the last several years, there has been tax legislation proposed to change or limit this "blanket filing" procedure but due to tax lobbyists, has been unsuccessful at this point.

City Manager Norman-Vacha stated that Council will be advised when the City gets additional information from the Property Appraiser's office.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 19, 2015

### Hernando County Fair Association Presentation

Presentation by Hernando County Fair Association discussing Hernando County Fairgrounds events and activities.

Richard Klimas, Grounds Manager for the Hernando County Fairgrounds, reported on the success of the Firecracker Smash'm Up event held in July, 2015, and thanked the City for their support. He advised that he would like the City's support for next year's event to be held on Monday, July 4, 2016.

Mr. Klimas mentioned the County Fair, scheduled for April 15 – 23, 2016 and hopes that the Fair can work with the Blueberry Festival to bring people to the City and County during the days that the events coincide with each other.

He also mentioned the Candy Cane Acres, adding they are hoping that all the different events the Fair Association is offering will bring in more visitors to the area.

### EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant Program Summary

Presentation of Brownfield Assessment Grant Program summary and overview of accomplishments.

Community Development Director Geiger introduced the team involved in the USEPA grant, which began in October, 2012, and finished September 30, 2015. Those included Brian Kvam, Cardno Programatic Manager; Ryan Givens, Cardno Urban Designer and George Foster, Creative Environmental. He further acknowledged the Brownfields Community Task Force who met regularly over the past three years, and particularly Task Force Member, Kojack Burnett, who attended all but one of the meetings.

Brian Kvam presented Council with a PowerPoint which summarized accomplishments during the grant period. He advised that City Staff, consultants and the Task Force identified over 90 properties which are not being used, or are being under-utilized due to real or perceived contamination, and completed Phase I environmental site assessments on nine properties. Three sites were targeted for Phase II assessments which include soil samplings for analysis and two of those sites completed were two Housing Authority sites. He advised that the third site changed ownership late in the grant effort and the team could not get permission to access the property. The grant money targeted for that assessment was used toward Redevelopment/Reuse Planning Scope.

Mr. Kvam stated that close out documents will be submitted within 90 days from the closing of the grant. He advised that the Brownfields website will remain active. He went over funding available for additional assessment grants, clean up grants, revolving fund loans, area wide planning grants, job training grants and other funding options.

Ryan Givens presented a PowerPoint outlining the Reuse Planning Scope which creates a S. Brooksville community concept plan. He detailed the planning scope which includes a streetscape block along Smith Street, E. Jefferson Street and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.

Council Member Erhard questioned the targeted completion date of the whole project. Community Development Director Geiger advised that this is a planning program and funding will have to be pursued to implement it.

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – October 19, 2015

Mayor Burnett offered his opinion that this program has been a great success due, in large part, to the involvement and partnership with the community.

### CITIZEN INPUT

Kojack Burnett thanked Council Member Battista for attending most of the Brownfields Community Task Force meetings. He further requested that in future years, October 23<sup>rd</sup> should be considered “Chief Tim Mossgrove Day” in the City of Brooksville.

### ITEMS BY COUNCIL

#### City Attorney Taylor

At City Attorney Taylor’s request, Council agreed to hold an Executive Session at 5:15 p.m. on October 26, 2015.

#### Council Member Erhard

Council Member Erhard thanked all for coming, thanked Tim Mossgrove for his service and thanked Kojack Burnett for wearing a pink ribbon in honor of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

#### Vice Mayor Kahler

The Vice Mayor called attention to the letter included in Correspondence to Note from the Florida Department of Health regarding their recent visit to City Hall. Vice Mayor Kahler thanked staff, the Brooksville Health Food Store and Publix for making this a successful event.

Noting past history, Vice Mayor Kahler advised that when the City of Brooksville was first incorporated in the 1880s, it was a misdemeanor punishable by a fine or prison time, at the discretion of the Mayor, to have your dog run away.

#### Mayor Burnett

The Mayor thanked Tim Mossgrove for his service and City employees for their dedication.

  
Acting Deputy City Clerk

Attest:   
Mayor