

CITY OF BROOKSVILLE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 HOWELL AVENUE

MINUTES

July 7, 2008

7:00 P.M.

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Vice Mayor Frankie Burnett and Council Members Joe Bernardini, Lara Bradburn and Richard E. Lewis present. Also present was George G. Angeliadis, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Karen M. Phillips, City Clerk/Director of Administration; Janice L. Peters, Deputy City Clerk; Steve Baumgartner, Finance Director; Mike Walker, Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Emory Pierce, Director of Public Works; George Turner, Police Chief and Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief. Members of the Hernando Today and Hernando Times were also present. Mayor Pugh was absent due to illness.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

May 19, 2008 Regular Meeting

Interlocal Agreement between the City of Brooksville, Hernando County and the MPO for Transit Operations

Approval of amended draft of the Transit Operations Interlocal Agreement between the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, the City of Brooksville City Council and the Hernando County Metropolitan Planning Organization.

United Way Grant Agreement (Removed by Amended Agenda prior to meeting)

~~Consideration of approval to accept United Way Grant Agreement in the amount of \$10,000.~~

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Margaret R. Ghiotto Beautification Award - Residential Award

Recognition of improvements to the property of John and Merry Jo McFarlane located at 427 Howell Avenue.

Sally Sperling, Chairman of the Beautification Board reviewed the award, which will be presented to the McFarlane's.

Margaret R. Ghiotto Beautification Award - Commercial Award

Recognition of improvements to the property of Hernando County Fair Association and Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, located at 6436 Broad Street.

Sally Sperling, Chairman of the Beautification Board reviewed the

APPROVED BY BROOKSVILLE

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award, which was presented by Mrs. Sperling and Council to Sandra Nicholson, representing the Hernando County Fair Association and Commissioners Rose Rocco and Chris Kingsley, representing the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners.

Parks & Recreation Month Proclamation

Proclamation designating July as Parks & Recreation Month

The proclamation was read in it's entirety by City Clerk Phillips to be presented to Mike Walker, Director of Parks & Recreation.

Vice Mayor Burnett advised that Mayor Pugh is out because of illness.

Jerome Brown Community Center (JBCC) Fee Waiver - Hernando County Fine Arts Council

Request to waive fees in the amount of \$177.50 for the use of JBCC for meetings for the Annual "A Taste of Jazz" Festival at Weeki Wachee on November 1-2, 2008.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Lewis and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of the waiver of fees for further discussion.

Council Member Bradburn indicated they are still responsible for the insurance and deposit.

Mary Jane Russell, Chairman of the Hernando County Fine Arts Council, confirmed the above and reviewed the request for waiver and thanked Council.

Vice Mayor Burnett asked for public input; there was none.

Motion carried 4-0.

Children's Burn Foundation Fundraising

Authorization for Fire Department to participate in nationwide fundraising drive by utilization of on-duty staff and equipment stationed in major shopping center parking lots (dates to be determined).

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Lewis and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of the fundraiser.

Council Member Bradburn requested to hear from Fire Chief Mossgrove who reviewed the fundraiser and locations. He indicated forms are available at the fire station for those who would like to make a donation, which is tax deductible.

Vice Mayor Burnett asked for citizen input; there was none.

Motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

Alcoholic Beverage Location Permit Application - Package Store

Consideration of approval of Alcoholic Beverage Location Permit for 7260 Broad Street (Plantation Plaza) for the sale of alcohol for off-site consumption only.

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Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Lewis and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of the alcoholic beverage location permit for discussion.

Council Member Lewis asked if the State license had been acquired. Mr. Manescalchi stated they wanted to get Council approval before applying to the State.

Council Member Bradburn asked legal counsel if the item needed to be approved on the contingency that a state license be required. City Attorney Hogan indicated it could but that they cannot open without the state license.

Vice Mayor Burnett asked for citizen input; there was none.

Council Member Lewis made reference to the underage drinking problem in Hernando County to which Mr. Manescalchi advised that they sell nothing to anyone under 21.

Motion carried 4-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

City Hall Generator Wall Bid No. PR2008-03

Consideration to allow Staff to renegotiate with Ressel, Inc. (only bidder) to reduce the cost of the project for the generator wall.

Emory Pierce, Director of Public Works reviewed the issue.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bradburn and seconded by Council Member Lewis for approval of staff recommendation to renegotiate with Ressel, Inc., to reduce the cost of the project.

Discussion continued of the cost of the brick and the design. Director Pierce will come back to Council with options after negotiations.

Vice Mayor Burnett asked for citizen input.

John St. John, Vice Chairman of the Mural Society, indicated he does not think it is enough of an eyesore to warrant spending so much money on it as the money could be better spent on things like missing lights and potholes.

Vice Mayor Burnett indicated it is grant money, which limits what it can be used for.

Motion carried 4-0.

Florida League of Cities Voting Delegate

Consideration of designating one official to be the voting delegate of the Florida League of Cities 82nd Annual Conference.

Vice Mayor Burnett asked for a volunteer to attend. Council Member Bradburn expressed interest in going to certain events.

City Attorney Hogan indicated they would be attending events relevant to legal counsel at their own expense.

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Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Lewis for approval of Council Member Bradburn to be the voting delegate and to pay the registration cost of \$325. Motion carried 4-0.

City Clerk Phillips indicated the FLC is once again looking for representatives for various legislative committees and distributed the information to Council. City Manager Norman-Vacha requested any who are interested to meet with her.

Great Brooksvillian of the Year

Appointment of screening committee members and approval of timelines for the celebration.

City Clerk Philips reviewed the issue and indicated a notice for nominations has been published with a closing date of Friday, July 12, 2008.

Council Member Bradburn nominated John Tucker and Betty Debusk to serve.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for appointment of John Tucker and Betty Debusk to serve. Motion carried 4-0.

City Clerk Phillips indicated the timeframe needs to be approved for the August 4, 2008, meeting and for the celebration to take place during Founders Week.

Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Lewis for the recommended timeframe. Motion carried 4-0.

It was the consensus of Council that the term for the Screening Committee be on a year to year basis.

CITIZENS INPUT

There was none.

ITEMS BY COUNCIL

Jennifer Rey

City Manager Evaluation

She indicated a draft had been prepared and asked that Council review and return to her with their comments.

T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager

Water/Sewer Grant Award

City Manager Norman-Vacha referenced the letter on Correspondence to Note from the State which indicated the City has been awarded a \$190,000 grant through the General Appropriations Act. The grant requires no matching money from the City of Brooksville and is for improving waterlines in the downtown area. She advised that Council Member Bradburn had worked diligently with staff to put together the grant package as well as State Senator Paula Dockery, whose efforts pushed forward the request.

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Lara Bradburn, Council Member

Water/Sewer Grant Award

In continuation of the grant discussion, Council Member Bradburn indicated she will be meeting with U.S. Senator Mel Martinez' staff, which will be in town tomorrow. She hopes to make sure they are on board with the efforts of Congresswoman Ginny Brown-Waite, who has advanced some requests similar to the projects for the water and sewer lines on the federal level.

Martin Luther King Boulevard

She indicated work has started on the road paving.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board

Council Member Bradburn indicated the MPO, on behalf of the City Council, reiterated its support of the Good Neighbor Trail. The Secretary of DOT, Mr. Clifford, will be releasing the bid for the restroom facility at the trailhead next week.

Elections Process

Council Member Bradburn expressed concern for the City's election process. She advised that on June 21st the St. Pete Times ran a story declaring a winner in the City Council race when in fact the qualifying period does not end until August.

Further, she stated that City staff sent out a notice announcing that someone had qualified to run for City Council when notices for other candidates had not been sent. She felt the e-mail could reflect some favoritism or bias on the part of the City's staff, which is not the position she wants staff or the City to be in.

She asked that Council strongly consider turning over all election duties to the Supervisor of Elections, who is constitutionally mandated to run the election process and is qualified to do so and to instruct legal staff to move forward with that.

City Attorney Jennifer Rey indicated the City Code provides for the City to designate an election official. In accordance with the current ordinance the City Clerk is designated but there is a provision which allows for Council to make an alternative designation. The city would need to negotiate to modify the existing cooperative agreement with the Supervisor of Elections, which provides that the City is the qualifying official for the municipal candidates and the County Supervisor of Elections does the rest.

Council Member Bradburn requested the issue be on the next agenda.

Richard E. Lewis, Council Member

Council Member Lewis indicated the incident Council Member Bradburn spoke of was retracted the very next day, June 22nd and was a miscommunication.

He indicated he would not support the move to allow the Supervisor of Elections to fully take over the election process.

Bandshell Bash

He invited all to the Saturday, July 12, 2008, to the summer Bandshell Bash at 3:00 p.m. He advised that the Hernando Anti-Drug coalition Board will be involved and there will be bands and activities for the youth of the community which will focus on an anti-smoking campaign.

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Joe Bernardini, Council Member

Water/Sewer Grant Award

Council Member Bernardini thanked Council Member Bradburn for her efforts in obtaining the grant.

Alcoholic Beverage Fee

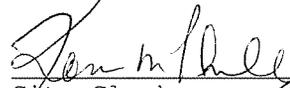
He asked staff to take a look at the fee and review whether it should be increased to cover staff time. Council Member Bradburn advised she requested staff to update the letters/policy that go out with the application to reflect the proper names.

Frankie Burnett, Vice Mayor

Vice Mayor Burnett offered congratulations to ReShawn Smith of our community who won The Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks of the World Oratorical Contest won on the local district, state and regional levels and will proceed to the Nationals to represent the Southeast U.S.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



City Clerk

Attest: _____

Agenda Revision Legend: Additions indicated by Bold/Underline
~~Deletions indicated by Strikethrough~~