

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

**MINUTES**

**October 6, 2014**

**7:00 P.M.**

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Kevin Hohn, Mayor; Frankie Burnett, Vice-Mayor; Council Members Joe Bernardini, Lara Bradburn and Joseph E. Johnston, III. 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.

**PRESENTATION & REQUESTS FOR WAIVERS**

**Junior Service League of Brooksville Fee Waiver Request**

Consideration of request for fee waivers in the amount of \$485.72 for their 2nd Annual Masquerade Madness 5k/10k/1 mile Fun Run on Saturday, October 18, 2014.

Angie Woodruff, past President of the Junior Service League, reviewed the event.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Council Member Bernardini for approval of the waiver of fees in the amount of \$242.86. Motion carried 5-0.

**Christian Life Assembly of God Fee Waiver Request**

Consideration of request for fee waiver in the amount of \$305 for rental of the Jerome Brown Community Center for their annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner scheduled for November 24, 2014.

Pastor John Hensel of the Christian Life Assembly of God reviewed the event.

Mayor Hohn felt the actual costs for use of the Jerome Brown Center should be taken into consideration. Council briefly discussed.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of waiver of fees in the amount of \$305. Motion carried 4-1, with Council Member Johnston voting in opposition because the super majority vote has not yet been addressed in the policy.

**Hernando County Fine Arts Council Fee Waiver Request**

Consideration of request for fee waiver in the amount of \$600 for the 2015 Art in the Park event at Tom Varn Park scheduled for March 13 - 15, 2015.

Council Member Bradburn asked that staff look into a meeting space for the Fine Arts Council. City Manager Norman-Vacha will speak with them.

APPROVED BY BROOKSVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL  
ON 12/1/14 INITIALS AL

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## **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Vice-Mayor Burnett for approval of waiver of fees in the amount of \$300. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Hernando High School Homecoming Parade Fee Waiver Request**

Consideration of request for fee waiver in the amount of \$548.68 for the Homecoming Parade on October 24, 2014.

Joy Nagy of Hernando High School reviewed the event.

## **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Bradburn for approval of waiver of fees in the amount of \$274.34. Motion carried 5-0.

## **CERTIFICATES, PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Margaret R. Ghiotto Improvement Award - Commercial Award**

Recognition of improvements to the property owned by Deborah Bane, dba/Maw's Vittles/Proprietor McAllister Venture Group, LLC., and located at 511 South Broad Street.

Scott Renz, Beautification Board Chair, reviewed the award. The award was presented to Deborah and Brad Bane by Chairman Renz and Mayor Hohn.

### **Proclamation - White Cane Awareness Day**

Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing White Cane Awareness Day on October 14, 2014.

Mayor Hohn read the proclamation in its entirety and presented it to Laurel Brown, Programs Manager at Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind, along with Lauren Blum.

### **Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week**

Presentation of a Proclamation honoring Fire Prevention Week October 5-11, 2014.

Mayor Hohn read the proclamation in its entirety. He presented it to Fire Chief Mossgrove who commented on smoke detectors, advising 3 out of 5 home fire deaths occur in homes without a working smoke detector. He advised the Fire Department will supply and help to install smoke detectors to those who do not have one. He was joined by Dan Danzak, Capt. Hilary Sanford, Capt. David Freda and Sparky the Firepup. Chief Mossgrove advised Capt. Sanford is a 9-plus year employee is the city's Certified National Life Safety Educator as well as the Public Information Officer. Further, in 2009 she received one of two national scholarships from National Fire Protection Association to attend the "Remembering When" conference in Boston.

Chief Mossgrove advised Captain Freda brings a lot to the department and in his off time is the Fire Chief for the Hernando Beach Volunteer Fire Department. At the Executive Development Conference in July he was awarded Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year.

Capt. Hilary Sanford gave Council fire detectors and asked that they pass them along to someone they know. Fire Chief Mossgrove also advised they also provide medical "File of Life" magnets for the refrigerator to anyone that needs one.

Mayor Hohn asked if code requires all new homes to have smoke detectors. Fire Chief Mossgrove stated the code requires them and they must also be wired together so in the event of fire they all go off together.

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Mayor Hohn advised the new I-Phone has a health application that is able to store medical information for emergencies.

Council Member Bernardini asked about the best place to put a smoke detector if the resident only has one. Fire Chief Mossgrove advised central to the sleeping areas within the home, preferably in the hallway.

## **Fire Department Recognition**

Recognition of 30 Years of participation in the Firepup Program through the National Safety Council, Inc. (NSC) and presentation of plaque.

Fire Chief Mossgrove introduced Dale Barton, National Fire Safety Council Safety Coordinator, who reviewed the recognition and presented the 30-year award to Fire Chief Mossgrove. He advised that funding is provided through businesses in the community to sponsor children's supplies for fire prevention education.

Fire Chief Mossgrove called up Tom Browning of Browning Insurance. He advised Browning Insurance has been a supporter for 54 years of Brooksville Firepup program.

Vice-Mayor Burnett pointed out that the cooler weather will bring out heating equipment and the holidays bring turkey frying. He cautioned everyone to have at least two alarms if possible. He also requested the Fire Department record a fire safety workshop in the future for the citizens' information.

## **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mayor Hohn called for public input.

Hamilton Hansen spoke of the red light camera program and recommended a requirement to come to a complete stop at all intersections. Council Member Johnston agreed.

Pat Miketinac spoke of the red light camera petitions.

Shirley Miketinac spoke of the 5 mph right turn on red and intersection fatalities.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Bradburn asked that Item 3 be removed for separate vote.

### **Surplus**

Consideration to surplus obsolete/inoperable equipment.

Council Member Bradburn asked about recycling of computer equipment. She will supply the name of a recycler in Brandon to the City Manager.

### **Rising Sun Bistro & Market Special Revocable License Agreement**

Consideration of Special Revocable License Agreement with owners of Rising Sun Bistro & Market, for use of sidewalk in front of the business located at 10 S. Main St. and adjacent building (Patricia's Boutique) for placement of tables and chairs for a 5-year term, with automatic 5-year renewal terms.

### **Bid Award - UD2014-01 Pump and Processing Equipment**

Consideration of bid award of Items 1 and 2 to Xylem Solutions, Inc., for the not-to-exceed amount of \$142,588.

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## **Police Department Car Purchase and Surplus**

Consideration for purchase of Police Department vehicle using JAG Grant monies and surplus of retired Police vehicle.

## **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of the Consent Agenda Items 1, 2, 4 and 5. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Mowing Services Agreement Extension**

Consideration of final extension of agreement with Benchmark for Mowing Services.

Council Member Bradburn still felt some mowing could be done in house. She pointed out that this contract for these small pieces of land equates to \$17,000 to \$19,000 for the year.

## **Motion:**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of the Consent Agenda Item 3. Motion carried 4-1 with Council Member Bradburn voting in opposition.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Update on Pavement Management**

Alan Garman and Dale Ravencraft of Greenman-Pedersen Inc. (GPI) reviewed an update of the Pavement Management Program.

Alan Garman gave an update on the program. The first phase has begun but Daniel Avenue has been removed due to difficulties with CSX Railroad. Staff is aware of the issue.

Dale Ravencraft advised they support the bid award of Phase I to B.R.W. Contracting, Inc. He stated the gap in the bidders' costs had to do with Pave Rite not wanting to close down one lane at a time.

Council Member Bradburn commented that other contractors in the area have not had a problem paving one lane at a time. Mr. Ravencraft advised the city streets in question are very narrow and as much flexibility as possible was provided in the bid.

Council Member Bradburn asked if the contractor knows they will be abutting the city's bricks. Mr. Ravencraft advised this was addressed.

Mr. Garman advises the work and costs has exceeded what they anticipated due to the severity of the condition of the streets and substandard drainage and culverts.

Council Member Bradburn asked why, with their experience and knowledge of the city, the cost and work exceeded what they anticipated. Mr. Garman stated that money was not budgeted for borings of the streets. He advised that 24-inches of material needs to be removed and replaced and lime rock depths vary throughout the city.

Mayor Hohn asked what the original estimate for the Phase I project repairs.

Council Member Johnston agreed the project has to be done correctly. Regarding CSX, he asked if all the roads would have to be done at the same time. Mr. Garman advised it would just be the crossings. Council Member Johnston asked about the sidewalks on South Brooksville Avenue. Mr. Garman advised curb and gutters had to be put in to deal with drainage so there is no room for sidewalks. He advised they can be done later but right-of-ways will have to be acquired.

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Vice-Mayor Burnett felt the school board should be approached regarding moving that bus stop to another area with sidewalks. Council consensus was to have staff draft a letter to the School Board addressing the issue.

Mr. Ravencraft indicated the original estimate for Phase I was \$130,000 for paving only. Mayor Hohn advised the bid project is a 300% increase in what was estimated. He asked that any changes in an estimate be brought before Council so they can make the decision to move forward. He expressed concern about money being diverted from planned projects that they would have started in future. Mr. Ravencraft advised Civil Tech undertook a conditioned analysis to prioritize the streets and it would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to do borings at that time of all the streets. He stated it was more practical to spread the costs over the specific design phase. He explained that the cost of reconstructing the street from subgrade up is three times the cost.

Council Member Bradburn reiterated that they know enough about the condition of the city's streets that a 300% increase should not have happened. She now feels the priority list and estimates need to be re-examined. Her concern is that a new evaluation will incur additional costs which she does not feel the citizens should have to pay.

Council Member Bernardini advised the only time a paving project has not come in over estimate is when the streets were just paved over and not done properly. He stated he will not support any change orders for costs related to this project.

Vice-Mayor Burnett advised he has yet to see a construction project come in under budget and unforeseen circumstances will happen regardless of job training.

Mr. Garman reviewed the process of borings which cost per foot and are done every 300 feet typically. He advised their contract with the City was to prioritize the streets and do an assessment. Council Member Bradburn does not believe a full assessment was provided.

Council Member Johnston advised GPI has given Council what they contracted for but believes they should have come back to Council when costs exceeded what was anticipated. He stated that future recommendations should have the borings complete before coming to Council. He recommended a workshop to review and determine how to proceed. Council concurred.

Vice-Mayor Burnett wants to see costs of resurfacing versus what really needs to be done to correct the problems.

Mr. Ravencraft advised the City and County have worked successfully with B.R.W. in the past. There is very little base under the streets that were constructed long ago. He will revise the estimates and go with the worst-case scenario.

Mayor Hohn felt the most impassable streets need to be re-addressed and fixed first.

### **Bid Award - UD2014-05 2014 Paving Projects Phase I**

Consideration of bid award to B.R.W. Contracting, Inc. for the not-to-exceed amount of \$394,420.25.

Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works, reviewed the bid award. He advised the streets being done first are in his opinion the worst streets in the City. He feels there are other streets that can have preventative measures done. The thickness of asphalt in all streets has been assessed. He recommended an inspector be on every job. He advised 2,475 feet of streets is included in this bid and comes about to about \$159 per foot.

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Regarding Veterans Avenue, he recommends three inches of asphalt be installed. He believes Mildred requires even more.

Council Member Johnston advised it was anticipated that Veterans and Mildred would require reconstruction, not just paving. He believes they need to get done because of their size and usage.

Council Member Bradburn felt the bigger bang for the buck would be refurbishing the brick streets. She would like that to be part of the workshop discussion.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Vice-Mayor Burnett for approval of award of the Paving Projects Phase I bid to BRW Contracting, Inc., for the not-to-exceed amount of \$394,420.25, and the Mayor to sign the contract upon receipt of the Payment and Performance Bond. Motion carried 5-0.

City Manager Norman-Vacha will consult with GPI and staff and will ask Council to set a specific date at the next meeting.

### **Personnel Policy Amendments**

Consideration of updates and adoption of the Drug Free Workplace Policy.

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed the amendment to the Drug Free Workplace Policy which affects only those employees applying for special risk and safety sensitive positions.

Council Member Johnston asked if the Mandatory Testing Positions should be added to the policy. City Manager Norman-Vacha will look into additional language.

Council Member Bradburn asked why the change is being made. City Attorney Taylor advised it is in regards to a particular court ruling with the Governor's Office.

Council Member Bradburn asked if employees know there is help through the Employee Assistance Program and recommended this be a part of the annual benefit fair. City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed the policy and advised all employees are given a copy.

### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of the amendment to the Drug Free Workplace Policy. Motion carried 5-0.

The subject of the medical marijuana amendment was briefly discussed. City Manager Norman-Vacha felt the policy will continue to change over the next couple of years.

### **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mayor Hohn called for public input.

Kojack Burnett was in agreement with the workshop for pavement management.

### **ITEMS BY COUNCIL**

#### **Cliff Taylor, City Attorney**

He advised they are looking at what other cities are doing regarding the medical marijuana and there may need to be a workshop on that issue.

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## Lara Bradburn, Council Member

### Pension

Council Member Bradburn asked if an action item on Pension issues can be added to the next meeting. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised Mr. Strong is currently preparing for the meeting but a date has not yet been discussed. She will follow-up with him.

### Fee Waiver

She asked when Council might see the rest of the Fee Waiver Policy. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated that a date has not been set.

Council Member Johnston recommended addressing the super majority issue to allow over 50%. Council concurred to bring this portion to the next meeting.

### Pennies for Projects - North Avenue Sidewalk

She is concerned about the placement of the North Avenue Sidewalk on the MPO's priority list. She asked that the City Manager or Mayor make their wishes known to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

### Pennies for Projects Pamphlet

She believes they did a very good job on the pamphlet but felt Council should have been consulted before printing. City Manager Norman-Vacha pointed out that it is being done by a private committee and Council and staff is not able to tell people how to vote. They are only allowed by law to provide information on the allocation of dollars. She advised this piece would not be something a government agency could put forward.

### Papa Joe's Pasta Fest

She advised the Papa Joe's Pasta Fest event is tomorrow and it is .99. The proceeds go to local youth groups.

### Surplus

She stated that she had a discussion with a group that buys cell phones from local government. She thinks it may be a good option. She will provide the information to the City Manager. City Manager Norman-Vacha pointed out that the desk phones are leased.

## Joe Bernardini, Council Member

### Resolution No. 84-04

Council Member Bernardini felt monies for special events fee waivers could be taken from this fund. He asked that staff bring back information at the next meeting.

### Bluesapalooza Fees

He asked if the County had paid the fees for this event. City Manager Norman-Vacha advised yes.

### Blueberry Festival

He asked about a newspaper article that stated the Blueberry Association is going to move into City Hall. He does not know the Blueberry Festival has the authority to sublet space in City Hall. He thinks Council should make the decision.

Council Member Johnston expressed concern that both groups are private companies and not public entities associated with the City.

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City Manager Norman-Vacha stated that Council had previously approved office space for the Blueberry Festival. She will bring the subject back to Council.

## Frankie Burnett, Vice-Mayor

Vice-Mayor Burnett thanked staff for their work.

## Kevin Hohn, Mayor

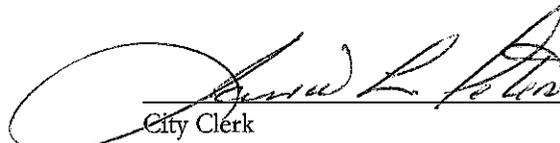
### Senator Wilton Simpson

Mayor Hohn stated that he and Director Geiger had the opportunity to meet with Senator Simpson to discuss his legislative priorities. Senator Simpson suggested applying to the State for funds for some of the local projects. He is going to provide Director Geiger with a checklist of items required to send in with the application.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Attest:   
Mayor

  
City Clerk