

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Council Meeting was held on July 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Zephyrhills Public Library.

Council President Alan Knight called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present were members Ken Burgess, Kenneth Compton, Alan Knight, Charlie Proctor, Lance Smith, and Mayor Whitfield. City Manager Steve Spina and City Attorney Matthew Maggard were also present.

Staff present: Interim Police Chief Derek Brewer, Police Captain Reggie Roberts, Police Sergeant Gardner, Police Sergeant Adams, Fire Chief Brian Swartout, Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Building Official Bill Burgess, Director of Planning Todd Vande Berg, IT Director Mike Panak, Airport Manager Nathan Coleman, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, HR Director Sandra Amerson, Fire Medic and Lead Cadet Advisor Jeffries, and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

Reverend John Chesser from the Zephyrhills First Assembly of God Church gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Kenneth Compton moved the minutes of the June 26, 2017 Regular Meeting be approved. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR

Captain Reggie Roberts

Interim Police Chief Derek Brewer announced Detective Sergeant Reginald Roberts' promotion to Captain on June 23rd. He said Captain Roberts was selected not only for his knowledge and experience but for his hard work, innovation, motivation, and commitment to the city. He recognized Captain Roberts for his passion toward professional development within the police department and relationship building within the community. Interim Chief Brewer stated although he and Captain Roberts come from different backgrounds, their values and vision of the police department are one in the same. He asked Captain Roberts' wife, Debra, to perform the official Captain's badge pinning.

Dr. Spina congratulated Captain Roberts stating he is a great asset to the Police Department and to our community.

Introduction of K-9 Bolt

Interim Police Chief Derek Brewer introduced new canine Bolt, a 95 pound, 2-year old German shepherd handled by K-9 Officer Lorenzo Limoges. He said Bolt was certified by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement on May 30, 2017 and was officially working on the streets June 3, 2017. He said Bolt made a successful in the line of duty track and catch on July 1st.

CONSENT ITEM

1. Tampa Bay Soaring Society Lease

Ken Burgess moved the consent agenda item be approved. Seconded by Charlie Proctor. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Hidden River Phase One A

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg narrated a PowerPoint presentation depicting the subject development location, lot sizes, setbacks, flood plain, buffer easements, Subdivider's Agreement, and conditions. He said the roads were originally public but were turned over to the HOA and have been recorded as such on the final plat. He said upon completion of the minor maintenance to the roads and required maintenance to the utility infrastructure, the developer will post a one year maintenance security deposit equal to 15% of the total construction costs. Mr. Vande Berg stated there is currently one way in and out and he asked the applicant to work with the mining operation on Yonkers Blvd. to create an emergency ingress/egress where there is potential for a stub-out. He said staff recommends approval of the Phase One A final plat for Hidden River with conditions.

Kenneth Compton moved to approve Business Item 1 with conditions. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Chamber of Commerce Scope of Work (Economic Development)

Dr. Spina said the city has partnered with the Chamber of Commerce since 2012 on economic development issues and strategies. He said the agreement was revised this year to include short and long term goals to benefit economic development and revitalize efforts to meet the goals. He said a list of deliverables has been created to measure the chamber's progress in return for \$50,000 the city provides on an annual basis.

Zephyrhills Chamber Board Director President-Elect Dr. Randy Stovall narrated a PowerPoint presentation of the Zephyrhills Economic Development Coalition (ZEDC) three year plan of work, 2017 – 2020. Dr. Stovall elaborated on month, bi-monthly, and periodic activities. He said economic development is a partnership to move Zephyrhills forward and only as a partnership will it be successful.

Dr. Spina said when staff and elected officials meet with legislators they need the support of the local business community which the chamber can provide. He plans to bring representatives from the business community to the Legislative Action Days in Tallahassee in March 2018. He said he spoke with Kathy Till, a former elected official and previous employee of the Florida League of Cities, who is willing to give pointers on addressing legislators, selecting issues for discussion, and helpful information she has learned over her twenty (20) year career.

Charlie Proctor moved to approve Business Item 2. Seconded by Ken Burgess. Motion passed unanimously.

3. PACE Resolution

Dr. Spina said the state of Florida and Pasco County provide a funding mechanism for residents to improve their homes and pay for those improvements through their property taxes. He said Ygrene Energy Fund has been approved in Pasco County to work with property owners in financing energy efficiency projects on their homes to make improvements. He said this program is a benefit to property owner who are not able to otherwise fund improvements and benefits the city with higher property values.

City Attorney Matthew Maggard read Resolution No. 734-17 by title. Lance Smith moved to approve Business Item 3. Seconded by Kenneth Compton. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Water and Sewer Rate Study

Dr. Spina said the city is completing a five year, graduated rate increase approved by Council in 2012 to cover costs in the Utility Department for operation, maintenance, and future growth. He said in January 2017, the city contracted with Raftelis Finance Consultants to conduct an objective study to determine revenues vs. expenses associated with the utility system which was presented to Council on June 12, 2017.

Dr. Spina said to maintain a positive revenue flow and keep up with replacement and growth needs, the study revealed the city needs to raise utility rates every year for the next five years. Raftelis Finance Consultants recommend a 4% water rate increase and an 8% sewer rate increase. Dr. Spina presented examples of increases monthly on customer water bills. He said the current utility impact fee of \$641 would increase to \$1,010 and the current sewer impact fee of \$2,010 would increase to \$2,260.

Dr. Spina said the Capital Improvement Plan has been reviewed by staff and a representative from Raftelis Finance Consultants who recommend approval of the rate effective January 1, 2018. to implement to the increases and everything will be settled down and we kind of start anew in that way.

Lance Smith moved to direct the City Attorney to draft a utility ordinance. Seconded by Kenneth Compton. Motion passed unanimously.

5. City Hall Rendering

Dr. Spina referred Council to Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc who was holding a rendering of the new city hall final design created by Harvard Jolly. Dr. Spina said the design is 50% complete, the project is out for bid, demolition will occur in late July, and the anticipated construction start date is August 23, 2017.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Elks Lodge Feed the Kids Summer Program

Cliff McDuffie of 6130 17th Street, Zephyrhills, Florida, introduced past Exalted Ruler and current Exalted Ruler, Donna and David Moyer. He said three years ago, Donna Moyer met with Dianna Thomas and Amanda Keith of Thomas Promise. Thomas Promise had no way to get food to children during the summer months. For the past three years, the Elks has been feeding kids and parents Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mr. McDuffie thanked Donna Moyer for initiating the Elks Lodge Feed the Kids Summer Program.

Councilman Compton said Donna and David Moyer are partnered with the best people in Zephyrhills and thanked them for their services.

Councilman Smith said the Elks Lodge feeds the YMCA campers.

Councilman Knight said there is an old saying, "no man ever stood so tall as when he stooped to help a child." He said after 35 years in the school system, nothing will break your heart more than a child coming to you and stating they are hungry.

Spoke from the floor: David Moyer – Elks Lodge Past Exalter Ruler

Mr. Moyer thanked Fire Chief Swartout and Interim Police Chief Brewer for their assistance. He said it is amazing the number of kids that don't have any milk because it is too expensive, the Elks Lodge provides milk to the children. He recognized the city's police and fire departments for visiting the Elks Lodge to visit with the children. He said they did a wonderful job and the kids really loved their visits. Mr. Moyer thanked Council for allowing city employees to participate in the program, he said it makes your heart feel good. He stated the entire program is funded from personal donations and the Elks Lodge Charity Funds. As of Friday, July 7, 2017, 1,620 kids and adults have been fed.

GOLF BALL DROP - Noon Rotary Club and the Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melonie Monson presented a check in the amount of \$500.00 to Fire Medic Jeffries who is the Lead Fire Cadet Advisor. Ms. Monson said 230 golf balls were dropped and the donation to the Fire Cadets is a 50/50 split between the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club.

Fire Medic Jeffries expressed his appreciation and support from the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, and city. He said the program currently has 13 Fire Cadets and he plans to ensure the longevity the program has sustained having been a Fire Cadet himself 17 years ago.

Spoke from the floor: Amy Chappell – 4206 Coats Road – Zephyrhills, Florida

Ms. Chappell said she has been in the finance industry in Zephyrhills for 31 years and has always felt safe in Zephyrhills working around money. She said the Zephyrhills Police Department officers devote themselves to serve and protect the community. Ms. Chappell requested Council to give consideration to promoting from within the department for the position of Police Chief. She said it is very important to send a message that the department has core talent. She said she loves Zephyrhills.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Whitfield expressed his appreciation to Donna and David Moyer for the work they in feeding the children within the Zephyrhills community and thanked Mr. Earle for his generous donation of \$1,000.00 to the Elks Club to feed the children.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS - NONE

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS - NONE

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Smith said he is encouraged by the development off Eiland Blvd., Rural King, Harbour Freight, WaWa, the Woodland Elementary School expansion, renovations in the core of the city, and downtown becoming more active. He

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said the city sponsors a summer recreation program at Stewart Middle School which enrolled 140 children the first week.

Councilman Compton wished City Attorney Maggard and his wife good luck on the pending birth of their twins.

Councilman Proctor thanked former Mayor Cliff McDuffie for his dedication to community involvement along with David and Donna Moyer of the Elks Lodge, and Mr. Earle for his generous donation. He said he believes in promoting from within in department within the city.

Councilman Burgess – NONE

Councilman Knight said the growth within the City of Zephyrhills is phenomenal with more to come. He thanked Councilman Compton for filling in during his absence at the June 26th meeting. He announced the City Council, City Manager, City Attorney and Mayor will be working the Zephyrhills Concession Stand on Friday, September 22nd, 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 7:20 p.m.