

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Council Meeting was held on April 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Robert H. Johnson Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

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

Staff present: Police Chief David Shears, Police Captain Derek Brewer, Fire Chief Brian Swartout, Utilities Director John Bostic, Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Building Official Bill Burgess, HR Director Sandra Amerson, Director of Planning Todd Vande Berg, IT Director Mike Panak, Airport Manager Nathan Coleman, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, Assistant Planner Rodney Corriveau, and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

Alan Knight gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Ken Burgess moved the minutes of the March 27, 2017 Regular Meeting be approved. Seconded by Charlie Proctor Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

MAYOR

Telecommunications Appreciation Week Proclamation

Mayor Whitfield brought Police Chief Shears, Police Captain McKinney, Communications Supervisor Stephanie Nelson, and Telecommunications Operators Debbie Ocasio, Alex Crawford, Maryann Turner, Bea Addison, Brittany Burris, and Jodi Stewart to the floor while City Clerk Lori Hillman read a Telecommunications Proclamation in recognition of the City of Zephyrhills Telecommunication Operators.

BUSINESS ITEMS

City Manager Dr. Spina said the swearing in of Mayor Whitfield and Councilman Knight is effective Friday, April 14, 2017 due to the Supervisor of Elections requiring three days to certify ballots.

1. City Clerk Lori Hillman Administered the Oath of Office for:

Mayor – Gene Whitfield
City Council Seat 2 – W. Alan Knight

2. Consider Reorganization of Council Officers

Council President

Charlie Proctor moved Alan Knight be nominated Council President. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Vice President

Charlie Proctor moved Lance Smith be nominated Council Vice President. Seconded by Alan Knight. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Councilmember Liaison Appointments to the Ridge League of Cities, Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Zephyrhills, Pasco Economic Development Council, and MPO and MPO Alternate.

Dr. Spina stated the Councilmember Liaison Appointments currently as Chamber of Commerce: Ken Burgess; Ridge League of Cities: Charlie Proctor; Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): Lance Smith, MPO Alternate: Mayor Whitfield; and Main Street Zephyrhills: Charlie Proctor.

Charlie Proctor moved to reappoint council members to their existing appointments. Seconded by Alan Knight. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Business Item 6 was moved to this place on the agenda.

6. Purple Heart Bench

Dr. Spina stated the Purple Heart Memorial Bench was placed at Zephyr Park last year by Boy Scout Simon Caldwell as a project to earn his Eagle Scout designation. He said the bench was vandalized and destroyed in October 2016 and Councilman Knight requested the City replace the bench.

Spoke from the floor: Earl McMillan – 8428 Angela Court - Zephyrhills, Florida

Purple Heart Commander Earl McMillan conveyed his deep appreciation to Council for entertaining the replacement of the bench in honor of local veterans and Simon Caldwell.

Lance Smith moved to approve the replacement of the Purple Heart Memorial Bench up to \$2,000. Seconded by Alan Knight.

Spoke from the floor: Eagle Scout Simon Caldwell – Zephyrhills, FL

Mr. Caldwell said the bench was a community effort. He said he worked with the VFW, the AMVETS, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Eagles, state representative Danny Burgess, and congressman Gus Bilirakis. He thanked Council for approving the replacement of the bench.

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Business Item 8 was moved to this place on the agenda.

8. Zephyrhills Relay for Life

Kristi Dorough and Emily Buckler addressed Council to publicly thank the City for their support in moving the Relay for Life event from the Zephyrhills High School stadium to downtown Main Street. They said this year's event was successful in attracting more people than in previous years.

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

3. Silverado PUD Amendment Request

Planning Director Todd Vande Berg stated the original Silverado rezoning to PUD was approved in 2004. Mr. Vande Berg directed Council to a Silverado Ranch Subdivision Proposed PUD Modification Summary, Silverado Ranch PUD Amendment Properties Boundary Map, approved PUD Plan, Proposed PUD Plan, and a Master Community Plan of Silverado. Mr. Vande Berg narrated a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted the proposed PUD modifications.

Spoke from the floor: Michael Lawson of Metro Development – 2502 North Rocky Point Dr., Suite 1050 – Tampa, FL 33607.

Mr. Lawson answered questions and addressed the decrease in units, varying lot sizes, concentration of smaller lots in Village Eleven, traffic studies, etc. Mr. Lawson clarified the Community Development District (CDD) designation.

Conversations ensued between Council and staff surrounding road improvements, traffic lights, schools, fire, and police. Dr. Spina stated the cost of services to the City are included in the Director of Planning's analysis of the project.

Lance Smith moved to approve staff's recommendation as to the Silverado PUD Amendment Request. Seconded by Alan Knight.

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

4. Links of Silver Oaks PUD Amendment Request

Director of Planning Todd Vande Berg directed Council to a Links of Silver Oaks Property Boundary, Existing Approved PUD, Proposed PUD Modification, and Silver Oaks Master Plan PUD Modification. Mr. Vande Berg narrated a PowerPoint presentation breaking down the modifications. He stated the PUD was originally submitted as a 55+ multi-family community which the developer is now proposing single family homes, increasing the lot size and decreasing the density.

Lance Smith moved to approve staff's recommendation as to the Links at Silver Oaks PUD Amendment Request. Seconded by Ken Burgess. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5. 2017 Employee Satisfaction Survey

Dr. Spina said he worked with Dr. Stephen Neely, a Professor at USF, to create an employee satisfaction questionnaire. He said a portal was set-up in January 2017 for employees to respond to the survey of which 104 employees out of a possible 165 completed the survey, a 63% response rate. Dr. Spina referred to the Executive Summary of the Employee Satisfaction Survey and read, "The responses indicate that the City of Zephyrhills is a positive workplace and an organization culture marked by collegial interactions, supportive leadership and appropriate levels of individual autonomy." He said there are several strategic opportunities for the city and department managers, particularly in the areas of interdepartmental communication, goal alignment and opportunities for advancement. Dr. Spina said in the task satisfaction area, there was a prevailing sense of contribution suggesting a strong public service ethic among the City's employees.

7. Request Shade Meeting – ZFR Collective Bargaining

City Attorney Matthew Maggard requested Council approve a Shade Meeting (Executive Session) per Florida Statute 447.605 which is exempt from the Florida Sunshine and Public Record Request Laws.

Lance Smith moved to schedule a Shade Meeting for Wednesday, April 19th at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Charlie Proctor. Motion passed, 5-0.

Spoke from the floor: Warren Earle – 3822 Florida Ranch Blvd. – Zephyrhills, FL

Mr. Earle presented Councilmen, Mayor, and City Attorney Matthew Maggard with Easter baskets in a brown paper bag. Mr. Earle said the Easter bunny will visit City Hall employees soon.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Whitfield recognized Relay for Life promoters for their efforts and thanked Mr. Earle.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS - NONE

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS - City Attorney Matthew Maggard thanked Mr. Earle.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilman Proctor thanked Mr. Earle for the Easter basket and said he was pleased with the results of the Employee Satisfaction Survey.

Councilman Burgess said he puts a lot of stock into staff recommendations and encouraged all Department Heads to speak up on issues even if they are alone in their opinion.. He thanked Mr. Earle.

Vice President Elect Councilman Smith thanked President Compton for his great job as Council President. He said Councilman Compton applied for a judgeship position and was in the final pool of candidates. He encouraged Councilman Compton to continue his endeavors.

President Elect Knight thanked Mr. Earle and recognized Mr. Vande Berg for a great report. He said the City is not growing, it's exploding. He recognized Simon Caldwell for his work on the Purple Heart Memorial Bench project.

President Compton said all councilmen received a letter from Sheriff Nocco who is on the Constitution Review Committee. He said the state of Florida is honored to have Sheriff Nocco on the committee, he is one of 35.

Meeting adjourned: 8:04 p.m.