

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Council Meeting was held on February 27, 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: Fire Chief Brian Swartout, Utilities Director John Bostic, Public Works Director Shane LeBlanc, Building Official Bill Burgess, Finance Director Brian Williams, Director of Planning Todd Vande Berg, CRA Director Gail Hamilton, and City Clerk Lori Hillman.

Alan Knight gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Charlie Proctor moved the minutes of the February 13, 2017 Regular Meeting and the minutes of the February 21, 2017 Mayor's Caucus be approved. Seconded by Ken Burgess. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR

Fire Rescue Cadet Recognition

Mayor Whitfield called Fire Chief Swartout and Firemedic Jefferies to the floor. Firemedic Jefferies stated the Zephyrhills Fire Cadets attended the statewide Second Annual Fire Games competition in Cocoa Beach, Florida on February 11, 2017. He said the cadets brought home a 1st place team trophy for the Rapid Dress Event with a total team time of 50 seconds. Ms Joselee Burgos brought home a third place individual trophy in the Rapid Dress Event with a time of 39 seconds. Montanna Knight, Jordan Slater, and Joselee Burgos were in attendance and recognized for their accomplishments.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Slope Mower – Kut Kwick Corporation.
2. FDLE Ballistic Shields
3. Pasco County and Zephyrhills Sewer Expansion Project
4. Lift Station Major Rehab

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

Councilman Smith asked Dr. Spina to elaborate on the \$3M plus Sewer Expansion Project. Dr. Spina said the Site Readiness Sewer Expansion is a \$3.2M project being funded through Pasco County, the Penny for Pasco Economic Development arm. He said the City's Utility Department will oversee the construction and bidding process. This project will open up approximately 2,000 acres to development around the airport.

BUSINESS ITEMS

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

1. Engine 1 Replacement

Fire Chief Brian Swartout stated Fire Rescue is seeking approval to pursue the replacement of the first of two fire engines using state sanctioned pricing through the Florida Sheriff's Contract. He said replacement of these units will take place over the next several years using funds set aside from Penny for Pasco. He said the department has an aging fleet and requested Engine 1 be placed in reserve status and the authority to pursue the purchase of a new fire truck.

Finance Director Brian Williams said the current Florida Sheriff's Contract expires March 31, 2017 and the new contract includes a 3% increase. He said the city has reserved \$225,000 of Penny for Pasco funding and \$25,000 of Fire Impact Fees for a new engine in this year's budget which can be applied as a prepayment toward the purchase and the city will receive an \$8,000 early payment discount.

Charlie Proctor said with the growth our community has been experiencing the last few years, he believes the purchase of a new engine is a major necessity for the safety of the citizens.

Charlie Proctor moved to proceed with the replacement of Engine 1 with a prepayment of \$250,000. Seconded by Lance Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Added to this place on the agenda

Zephyrhills Little League

Council President Compton welcomed the Zephyrhills Little League.

Spoke from the floor: Matthew Seekins – 5928 18th Street – Zephyrhills, FL 33542

Mr. Seekins said he is President of the Zephyrhills Little League and requested the Mayor or a member of Council deliver an inspirational speech on opening day. He said the event is Saturday, March 4th at 9:00 a.m., Field 3, Sam Pasco Park.

Councilman Smith thanked Mr. Seekins for working with the youth. A city representative will attend.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

2. P-Card Workshop

Dr. Spina stated in August 2016 staff recommended and Council approved using P-Cards for travel. Staff recommends a P-Card Workshop be held on Monday, March 13th for Councilmen, Mayor, and City Attorney to receive their personal card along with fundamentals for use. Councilmen, Mayor, and City Attorney concur to hold the Workshop on Monday, March 13th at 5:30 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

3. First Reading RESOLUTION NO. 729-17 – “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ZEPHYRHILLS COMMENDING THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CITY CLERKS FOR ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY”.

Charlie Proctor moved to approve Resolution No. 729-17. Seconded by Ken Burgess. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Purchase of Barrow Pits on 6th Avenue

City Attorney Matthew Maggard said pursuant to the city's Fiscal Policy, any purchase of real property requires two appraisals. He requested an exception to the second appraisal due to the uniqueness of the property. He said a second appraisal seems excessive and requested an exception to waive the requirement for two appraisals.

Lance Smith moved to waive the second appraisal of the barrow pits on 6th Avenue and authorize the City Attorney and City Manager to negotiate the purchase of the parcels. Seconded by Alan Knight. Motion passed unanimously.

Spoke from the floor: Ella Cochran – 38822 Whisperwod Drive – Zephyrhills, FL 33540

Ms. Cochran said she has watched and participated in the Hercules Park Project for about eight years. Ms. Cochran mentioned several proposed developments in Zephyrhills that will house children who will attend Zephyrhills schools. She said there is an elementary school and high school on Hercules property and feels school expansion into the existing park should be the next step.

She stated Zephyrhills City Council has acted in good faith in every proposal submitted but each proposal has been met with determined opposition by the school board. She said the last proposal by the school board to leave the city the remaining property with strings attached should be unacceptable. She said if Zephyrhills is interested in expanding park property, it would be better to purchase land to develop for use of all ages. She thanked Zephyrhills for

providing beautiful recreational facilities and all they have done for the citizens of East Pasco County.

Council President Compton thanked Ms. Cochran for her intelligent and courteous presentation.

Dr. Spina said the City Attorney is working with the School Board's attorney to resolve the retention issues and the final status. He said the city is in the mist of rezoning a one acre parcel south of the WaWa to a PUD or C2 zone. The final total would be about nine acres of property that would be provided to the city.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS -- Mayor Whitfield thanked Councilman Proctor for pitch hitting for him at an event. He said he was fortunate to be able to speak to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade young politicians, Junior National Honor Society students, and the Student Government. He said it was a great opportunity to teach the young people about municipal government.

CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS - City Manager Dr. Spina stated several weeks ago, staff brought a list of proposals to Council to seek appropriations from the state through Danny Burgess' office which were ranked to include Re-Imagine Gall Blvd. and construction of an Airport Terminal. He said Airport Manager Nathan Coleman was notified by the Tampa DOT office that if the Airport Terminal project is funded, it would be taken from existing projects within the Airport's five year plan. Staff recommends Council authorize the City Manager and Airport Manager to withdraw the request for funding. City Council concur to withdraw the allocation request.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS -- City Attorney Matthew Maggard said the attorney for the school board requested an extension on Hercules due to their attention currently focused on two rezoning lawsuits which are time sensitive.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS -- Councilman Proctor thanked Ms. Cochran for bringing Hercules to Council's attention. He said Council is concerned and would like to see Hercules resolved this year. He said the Mayor called him several weeks ago and asked him to judge a hat and tie contest at the Grand Horizon MHP. He said he and his wife had a great time.

Councilman Burgess -- NONE

Councilman Knight thanked City Clerk Lori Hillman for assisting himself and the Mayor with qualifying.

Councilman Smith thanked Ms. Cochran for her kind words and said it was nice to hear someone positive. He said he rode with Code Enforcement Officer Joel Bacon and it was interesting to see Mr. Bacon interact with citizens. He said Mr. Bacon is doing a great job for the city and he needs to be provided with more technology to assist with his work.

Councilman Compton gave high compliments to Mayor Whitfield and Councilman Knight for re-election to their respective seats and said they are obviously doing a very good job. He said the Founder's Day Parade is March 11th and there will be a pre-reception Thursday, March 9th. He recognized Executive Director Melonie Monson for the Pay it Forward presentation at the Chamber of Commerce event. He said he is impressed with the volunteers and Ms. Monson's accomplishment of doubling the attendance from 5,000 to 11,000 guests.

Meeting adjourned 7:05 p.m.