

**CITY OF PALMETTO  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
September 25, 2017  
7:00 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor  
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3  
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2  
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1  
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1

Elected Officials Absent:

Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney  
Jeff Burton, CRA Director  
Jim Freeman, City Clerk  
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police  
Amber LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

All persons intending to address the City Commission were duly sworn.

1. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Bryant added Resolution 2017-25 for the Manatee County Fair Association to the Consent Agenda as item 3.A.3.

**Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the September 25, 2017 Commission Agenda.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alice Newlon, speaking on behalf of Manatee Solar Co-Op., explained the functions of the Co-Op and the benefits of using solar energy. More information can be obtained at [www.FLSUN.org](http://www.FLSUN.org).

3. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

A. Clerk's Office

1. Minutes: 8/23/2017, 8/28/2017, 9/7/2017
2. Special Function Permit
  - a. Veterans Day Parade 11/11/2017
  - b. Palmetto High Homecoming Parade 10/13/2017
3. Resolution 2017-25 City Support of the Manatee River Fair Association (ADDED TO AGENDA)

**Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Davis seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the September 25, 2017 Consent Agenda with the addition of Resolution 2017-25.**

#### 4. PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2017-11

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, VACATING A PORTION OF UTILITY EASEMENT 20 FEET IN WIDTH AND APPROXIMATELY 190 FEET IN LENGTH, LOCATED SOUTH OF 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET WEST AND EAST OF THIRD AVENUE WEST, WITHIN THE PARCEL LOCATED AT 209 7TH STREET WEST, PID# 2796800007.

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing.

Karla Owens, City Planner, requested a continuance due to waiting on a letter from Florida Power and Light and Brighthouse indicating no utilities are located in the easement.

Discussion ensued regarding continuing to the October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting or the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting date. Mrs. Owens indicated either date would be fine with staff and the applicant.

**Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to continue the public hearing on Ordinance 2017-11 to October 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as same can be heard in these Chambers.**

#### 5. 1<sup>ST</sup> READ ORDINANCE 2017-12 MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, REGARDING THE REGULATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTERS; AMENDING THE ZONING CODE (APPENDIX B OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES); PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTER DISPENSING FACILITIES IN THE CITY; ESTABLISHING LIMITATIONS ON THE LOCATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTER CULTIVATING AND PROCESSING FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Smith expressed a conflict with voting on this Ordinance and left the Chambers at 7:18 p.m.

**Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Davis seconded, and the motion carried 3-0 to schedule Ordinance 2017-12 for a public hearing on October 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as same can be heard in these Chambers and direct staff to advertise for same. Commissioner Smith abstained from voting and was not in Chambers at the time the vote was taken.**

#### 6. TRAFFIC UPDATE

Commissioner Smith returned to the Chambers at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Bryant updated the Commission on the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting today. She sent an email out to them with the Central Manatee Network Alternative Analysis from the Florida Department of Transportation. She asked the Commission to review it.

#### 7. PALMETTO POOL UPDATE

#### 8. CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL UPDATE

#### 9. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Freeman—reminded the Commission of tomorrow's budget adoption meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding cancelling the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop, Commission and CRA meetings.

**Motion:**           **Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Davis seconded, and the motion carried 3-1 to cancel the October 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings. Commissioner Williams voted no.**

Mr. Freeman discussed the situation with debris monitoring company and the debris removal company. Due to the storm causing state wide debris issues, the removal companies that the City has an agreement with are all occupied with bigger jobs at this time. They have projected a date in the middle to end of October for removal in the City. The issue that they're all encountering is the limited resources to remove and dispose of the debris. This issue is not only for the City of Palmetto, several other municipalities are experiencing the same issues. Commissioner Davis questioned if a local vendor had resources to remove the debris and dispose of the debris in the City, would this be an option? Mr. Freeman indicated it could potentially be an option and asked for Mr. Davis to provide the information to him so he can forward that to the debris monitoring team.

Mr. Freeman announced the site visit for Community Development Block Grant that was approved of and submitted earlier this year by the City.

Chief Tyler—would like to begin a full time citizen's academy in January and asked Commission to spread the word among the citizens of Palmetto to join.

Attorney Barnebey—working on revisions to the Purchasing Ordinance and will be providing it to Commission soon.

#### 10. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bryant attended the reef cleanup held over the weekend at the Bradenton Yacht Club. She commented on how much debris the teams cleaned from the area reefs.

She announced the Community Park meeting to be held Thursday from 5:00 p.m.to7:00 p.m. at the Palmetto Library; surveys have been distributed to the residents via water bill.

Mayor Bryant informed the Commission that on an upcoming agenda Chief Tyler will be including a request for the purchase of protective gear for the officers.

#### 11. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Cornwell—would like to have a discussion regarding the goals of the City and what projects/goals can be accomplished with applicable grants.

Commissioner Williams—Manasota League of Cities will be making a presentation to the legislatures at the County building on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. regarding proposed legislative changes.

Commissioner Davis—questioned why the Chief cannot just order the gear that has been budgeted for instead of waiting for another Commission meeting to do so. Discussion ensued.

**Motion:**           **Commissioner Davis moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the purchase of protective gear for the Police Department not to exceed \$50,000 subject to the purchase/vendor being on State Contract.**

Commissioner Davis commented on derelict boats becoming more than just an eye sore, stating that they are drifting into the pillars of the bridges and are now causing damage to the bridges.

Commissioner Smith—would like to know who else is on the Business Advisory Committee as gathered by the Chief of Police.

Commissioner Smith commented on the protective gear and would like to have further discussion on budgeting and purchasing body cameras.

He would like further information on carport shades. Mrs. Owens stated she will discuss this with him this week.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Minutes approved: October 16, 2017

*James R. Freeman*

James R. Freeman  
City Clerk