

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, November 16, 2020

7:00 pm

This Commission Meeting was conducted utilizing Communications Media Technology in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order. Some Elected Officials and Staff members were present in the Bradenton Area Convention Center, Longboat Key Room, while others were present via the Zoom application to respect the social distancing guidelines.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tambra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-At-Large 1 (Not Present)
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3
Sheldon Jones, Commissioner-Elect At-Large 1

STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Deputy Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant
Vanessa Cochran, Assistant City Clerk
Todd Williams, Information Technology (IT) Consultant

1. CALL THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Varnadore called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm, followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Jim Freeman presented the certificate of the City Canvassers, which is made a part of the minutes, for the City of Palmetto reflecting the results of the City of Palmetto Election held on November 3, 2020, to be read into the minutes. The results were as follows:

Shirley Groover Bryant was elected as Mayor with 3,486 votes
Tamara Cornwell was elected as Commissioner-At-Large 2, unopposed
Sheldon Jones was elected as Commissioner-At-Large 1 with 2,307 votes

Judge Rene' Inman administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Shirley Groover Bryant and Commissioner-At-Large 2 Tamara Cornwell. And, Commissioner Sheldon Jones was sworn in by Judge Diana Moreland.

Motion: Vice Mayor Varnadore adjourned the meeting sine-die at 7:10 p.m.

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order with the newly sworn elected officials at 7:20 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tambra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Sheldon Jones, Commissioner-At-Large 1
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

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STAFF PRESENT:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney

Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Deputy Director

Scott Tyler, Chief of Police

Jim Freeman, City Clerk

Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant

Vanessa Cochran, Assistant City Clerk

Todd Williams, Information Technology (IT) Consultant

Dr. Chuck Groover, Senior Pastor, Victory Baptist Church, Mount Juliet, Tennessee, gave the invocation for the tonight's meeting.

Mayor Bryant gave her inaugural address, commenting on the many achievements that have been accomplished during her last term as Mayor. She acknowledged current and past Commissioners, City staff, and volunteers for their outstanding work and effort in assisting her to achieve the tasks. She also expressed her gratitude to the Palmetto residents and businesses for their support and confidence in her to serve as their Mayor for another 4 years.

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

1. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the November 16, 2020 Commission Meeting Agenda.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anthony DeRusso, Bradenton Area Convention Center, congratulated those that were re-elected to the Palmetto City Commission, and gave an update on the Palmetto Sheraton Hotel.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes: October 5, 2020 and October 19, 2020

b. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade Special Event

c. 2020 Board Appointment Planning and Zoning

d. Resolution 2020-21: Bulletproof Vest Grant (S. Tyler)

e. Resolution 2020-24: Council of Governments Meeting on December 1, 2020 (S. Bryant, M. Barnebey)

f. Resolution 2020-25: FY 2020 Year End Budget Clean-up (J. Freeman)

g. Surplus Police Vehicles (S. Tyler)

h. De-Escalation/Verbal Judo Expense (S. Tyler)

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by staff with the removal of item B for questions.

4. B. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR PARADE SPECIAL EVENT DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Smith asked Scott Tyler, Chief Police, the hourly rate for the security during events. Chief Tyler replied that the charge is \$35 per hour, and if it is a large event that requires multi-officers, the supervisor is paid \$40 per hour.

Commissioner Smith stated that MLK Parade is a non-profit agency, and asked if they have been charged this fee every year. Chief Tyler responded that as far as he can remember the agency have been charged every year.

Motion: Commissioner Smith moved, Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve item 4. B. of the Consent Agenda.

5. ARCHITECTS DESIGN GROUP (ADG) CONTRACT AMENDMENT (M. Rayan, S. Tyler)

Moe Rayan, Public Works Director (PWD), presented a request to amend 2 items pertaining to the contract between Architectural Designs Services and the City of Palmetto regarding the new Police Department building (PD). He stated that the approved initial allowance of \$30,000 for the Civil Engineering cost is now \$77,000 and will need to increase by \$47,000. A break down for the site Civil Engineering design is a part of the minutes. Mr. Rayan expressed that the furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E) and FF&E coordination be amended. He affirmed that the project be deferred to the architects to ensure proper placements of the items, and to prevent conflicts with third party involvement. Mr. Rayan requested to have the contract amended to add FF&E services of \$39,000 in addition to the \$47,000 mentioned above. The total increase for both services is \$86,000.

Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Varnadore seconded, and the motion Carried 5-0 to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the proposed Amendment to increase the contract amount between the City of Palmetto and Architects Design Group by \$86,000 for civil engineering and procurement services and subject to the City Attorney's approval.

Discussion: Commissioner Smith asked for clarification regarding the furniture purchasing. Chief Tyler responded that the City has one purchasing agent, and this project is enormous, so the Architects Design Group (ADG) will provide selections, and we will choose the best option for the PD. Mr. Rayan (PWD) added that the ADG also evaluates where the furniture is positioned in regards to electrical outlets, etc.

Commissioner Smith questioned if the City has the money. Chief Tyler responded yes. Mr. Freeman, City Clerk, pointed out that the Board approved up to 8 million dollars through the half cents sales tax, and the balance of that will come from the sale of the City's properties, or an inter fund loan until properties are sold. He confirmed that 141,769 thousand dollars have been spent to date and 1.2 million dollars were paid for the land. Mr. Freeman stated that the financing package/loan for the entire project will come back to the Commission in the 1st Quarter for their approval.

6. OctoberCheckRegister(InformationalOnly)

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

7. TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mayor Bryant gave an update on the traffic signal light at Canal Road and stated that it is moving forward.

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8. PALMETTO POOL UPDATE

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney, reported that the County Commission approved the Interlocal Agreement with City of Palmetto and authorized the project to move forward. He added that the ground breaking is scheduled Thursday, November 19th, at 4:00 p.m.

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING UPDATE

None

COMMENTS:

10. DEPARTMENT HEADS COMMENTS

Jeff Burton, CRA Director, congratulated the Mayor and the Commissioners on the election.

Mr. Freeman, City Clerk, congratulated the Mayor and Commissioners and stated that he welcomes the opportunity to work with them. He confirmed that the next Commission Meetings will be held December 7th and December 21st. He added that the 2021 meetings schedule will probably be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Rayan, PWD, congratulated the Mayor and the Commissioners and gave an update on the following projects.

- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Meeting scheduled Friday, November 20th to discuss the Canal Road Project.
- Eta Tropical Storm clean-up continues.
- Met with the MLK Restroom Project architects to discuss and review final drawings. And, hoping to bring bid to the Board by December or early January.
- Ward 1 Phase 3 Project for areas 17th Street to 14th Street, and 2nd Avenue to 4th Avenue, meeting with the engineers Friday, November 20th, to review drawings.

Mr. Rayan reminded the Board that grants were submitted for the Ward 1 Phase 3 Project, the Police Department Building Project, and the Public Works Building Project, and the City could receive notification by December or early January.

Chief Police Tyler congratulated the Mayor and Commissioners on the election and stated that he is looking forward to working with them. He reported that there were no major damages after the Eta Tropical Storm, but there was some flooding and minor power down lines.

11. MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Bryant reported that the Sarasota and Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization had a Safe Street Summit Meeting, and Karla Owens, Development Services Director, gave a presentation and did a great job.

12. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Jones stated that he campaigned on a plan and will discuss his concerns with the Mayor.

Commissioner Varnadore stated that she is looking forward to working with the Commissioners and the Mayor. Also, she informed the Board that her new granddaughter was born today. Then, Mayor Bryant acknowledged Commissioner Varnadore's birthday to the Board.

Commissioner Smith congratulated everyone on their election. He asked Mayor Bryant to confirm the date of the Palmetto Pool's groundbreaking. Mayor Bryant replied Thursday, November 19th, at 4:00 p.m.

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Commissioner Williams asked about the termite issue at Grower's Hardware and the rental. Attorney Barnebey replied that the issues will be discussed at the next Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting, December 7th. Commissioner Williams added that during the last meeting, he addressed 23rd Street getting an additional traffic control and suggested a similar round about at Riverside and Business 41 should be considered. Commissioner Williams congratulated the Mayor and Commissioners on their election.

Commissioner Cornwell congratulated everyone on the election. She thanked Mayor Bryant for saying we in her inaugural speech because we have to work together. She continued with thanking the City's departments on a great job keeping the City of Palmetto safe regarding the Eta Tropical Storm.

Mayor Brant adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes approved: December 7, 2020

JAMES R. FREEMAN

James R. Freeman, City Clerk