

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2023
7:00 P.M.

This Commission Meeting was conducted utilizing Communications Media Technology. Some Staff members were present in the Commission Chambers while others were present via the Zoom application.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:

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

STAFF PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Edward Johnson, Interim CRA Director
Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Cassi Bailey, Assistant City Clerk
Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant

STAFF PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY:

Todd Williams, Information Technology (IT) Consultant

1. Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor James McCrickard from Crossroads Christian Church, gave the prayer for tonight's meeting.

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

2. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION:

Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the August 7, 2023 City Commission Agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. SRO Contract
- b. Surplus Property
- c. Legal Bills

MOTION: Commissioner Jones moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda items a and c.

4b. Surplus Property was pulled for discussion. Commissioner Cornwell asked for clarification on the surplus property procedure. Mr. Freeman explained the process.

MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved to approve item 4b. Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Bryant recessed the City Commission Meeting to open the August 7, 2023 CRA Board Meeting at 7:05 pm.

Mayor Bryant reconvened the meeting at 7:50 pm.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

5. Traffic Update

Chief Tyler asked everyone to be patient with traffic once school starts on August 10th. He noted that traffic will be especially congested around Palmetto High School. The school is under construction along with the roundabout construction on US 41 and 23rd Street.

Mr. Rayan noted that the 14th Avenue sidewalk was completed.

Commissioner Jones asked Chief Tyler about people illegally parking along 17th Street near the high school. Chief Tyler answered that he has extra officers coming out the first few days of school. They are also working with the schools to try to help on the east side of the school to pull the parents in for drop off/pick up.

COMMENTS:

6. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Freeman noted that there is a budget only workshop on August 16th @5:30 pm. August 21st will be the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting. If needed, there will be another budget workshop on August 28th @5:30 pm.

Mr. Johnson thanked Mr. Freeman for his help with the excel spreadsheet which was included in the Tax Incentive document presented during the CRA Board meeting. He noted that they collaborated on that together.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bryant reported that she is still working on the Green Bridge fishing pier with the Tourist Development Council. She also mentioned an earlier discussion to allow semi-trucks to park on the city owned lots on the southwest corner of 14th Avenue and 10th Street during the fair.

MOTION:

Commissioner Williams moved to allow the fair to utilize the two properties on the corner of 14th Avenue and 10th Street for parking extra vehicles. Commissioner Mathews seconded.

Ms. Cornwell questioned if there was a limited amount of time they can park there. It was answered that they would have to move their vehicles the day after the fair is over.

The vehicles will have to be moved the day after the fair closes. The motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Rayan clarified the area. Commissioner Williams stated that they will only use the soccer fields during the swine sales.

Mayor Bryant also noted that Palmetto High School is getting artificial turf on the football field. They are also working on the baseball field.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Cornwell wished for her fellow Commissioners to have a wonderful learning experience at their Florida League of Cities conference. She noted that she will be starting the school year on Thursday, August 10th.

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Commissioner Williams asked for the following updates to be provided in the near future:

- Issues at the Palmetto Mobile Home Club with the building department
- Issues at the park's restrooms
- Status on the negotiations with Apogee for Riverside

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED: AUGUST 21, 2023

JAMES R. FREEMAN

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CITY CLERK