Elected Officials Present
Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tamra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Charles Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present:
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Scott Rudacille, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. PRESENTATION: COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR)
Mr. Freeman reviewed the highlights of the CAFR, reporting on major initiatives for the year, major initiatives for the future, and financial data. A copy of this presentation is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Tommye Barie and Jeff Gearhart, Mauldin & Jenkins, were present. Ms. Barie emphasized how prestigious it is to be awarded the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, which the City received again this year. She confirmed that an Unqualified Opinion has been issued for the CAFR.

Ms. Bari also commented on the finance team and the great job they do. Mayor Bryant and Commission thanked finance for their hard work.

2. GATEWAY SIGN DISCUSSION
Grant Vosberg, Robson Corporation, discussed different options for signage including electronic and manual changeable copy. The cost for the proposed electronic sign is approximately $30,000. Commissioner Varnadore does not agree with having an electronic gateway sign. Commissioner Smith opined that an electronic sign could be beneficial to convey to the public when there are emergencies. Commission agreed that the design of the proposed sign is nice. Mayor Bryant would like to have this item brought forward for approval at the next CRA Board meeting.

Mr. Burton stated he will put a video together of different electronic signs throughout the County.

Mr. Burton handed out a draft sign code for the CRA district to Commission. He stated this item is on the agenda for the next CRA Advisory Board. Mayor Bryant stated this is something that could be adopted citywide if that is what Commission would like to do.

Mr. Freeman stated that he is looking into having a monumental sign built in front of City Hall.

Carol Whitmore, County Commissioner, informed Commission that there are no cities in Manatee County with electronic gateway signs.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes approved: May 20, 2013

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk