

**CITY OF PALMETTO  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
December 2, 2013  
7:00 p.m.**

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor  
Tambra 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

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney  
Jeff Burton, CRA Director  
Jim Freeman, City Clerk  
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director  
Scott Tyler, Deputy Chief of Police  
Deanna Roberts, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bryant called the December 2, 2013 meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All persons intending to address City Commission were duly sworn. Mayor Bryant asked all to rise for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dominique Leclezio, 722 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Palmetto, thanked Commission for the opportunity to speak. He thanked the Commission members for all they do as community leaders. He informed Commission that he lives on the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street West. The intersection is a two-way stop with too many accidents, which he and his family have witnessed. He recommended a four-way stop, a roundabout or speed bumps. The residents in his area have signed a petition asking for a four-way stop. He implored the Commission to treat this as a matter of urgency. Mayor Bryant asked Deputy Chief Tyler and Public Works Director Allen Tusing to look at the issue and bring it back to Commission.

City Attorney Mark Barnebey said the Commission could vote to waive the policy of holding a public hearing.

Mayor Bryant suggested adding this to the agenda.

Vice Mayor Tambra Varnadore presented Mayor Bryant with a Certificate of Completion for the Advanced Institute of Elected Municipal Officials.

2. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and motion carried unanimously to approve the December 2, 2013 Agenda with the addition of Item 7A, discussion of a stop sign at 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.**

3. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

A. City Clerk's Office

1. Special Function Permits

a. Vintage Wheels Car and Truck Show February 2, 2014

b. Holiday Run or Walk Festival December 21, 2013

B. Police Department

1. Budget Resolution 2013-38 Bulletproof Vests/Pistols/License Plate Recognition

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and motion carried unanimously to approve the December 2, 2013 Consent Agenda.**

4. PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2013-17 VACATING ALLEYWAY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, VACATING A PORTION OF A PLATTED ALLEYWAY TRAVELLING NORTH AND SOUTH LOCATED NORTH OF 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET WEST, BETWEEN 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE WEST AND 10<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE WEST, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION 2 OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Bryant opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, Mayor Bryant closed the public hearing.

**MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and motion carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2013-17.**

4A. PERMANENT UTILITY EASEMENT

**MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously to accept the permanent utility easement from Alexander Berne to the City of Palmetto.**

Discussion: Mr. Barnebey stated that a sewer line runs beneath this area, and there is the possibility for other underground utilities. The City needs a permanent utility easement.

Commissioner Williams asked if there would be a building on top of this easement. Mr. Bob Green, representative for the applicant, said there is no plan for a building.

5. RESOLUTION 2013-39 2014-2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE 2014-2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND ADOPTING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and motion carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 2013-39.**

Discussion: Mr. Freeman advised Commission that he had passed out a revised resolution since the workshop. There was a typo in Section 3. The revised number of \$2,037,483 is correct.

Commissioner Varnadore asked to confirm that the new loan will come back to Commission for final approval. Mr. Freeman confirmed that it would.

*Mayor Bryant recessed the City Commission meeting to open the December 2, 2013 CRA Board meeting.*

*Mayor Bryant reconvened the City Commission meeting at 8:17 p.m.*

6. RECOMMENDATION OF MLK PARK CONTRACTOR RFP

The MLK RFP information has been included in the CRA Board agenda.

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Smith seconded, and motion carried unanimously to accept Stellar Development's bid and allow the Mayor and staff to *heavily* negotiate a workable construction plan for MLK Park; and, also to poll the potential bidders that attended the pre-bid workshop regarding lack of responses.**

7. RESOLUTION 2013-40 CRA BUDGET RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2013-29, WHICH RESOLUTION ADOPTED THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Smith seconded, and motion carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 2013-40 authorizing adjustments to CRA 2013 budget.**

Discussion: In response to Commissioner Varnadore, Jeff Burton explained that the increase for property purchase was for the purchase from the City of the property donated by the School Board and for the purchase of a vacant property for parking.

Mr. Burton said that he had confirmed that there was a consensus for a digital sign at the gateway to the City. Mrs. Varnadore asked for a copy of those minutes.

Mr. Burton explained to Mr. Williams that the project contingency increase was for the boat ramp, MLK Park, and the bathrooms at Sutton Park. Any expenditures would come back to the City Commission for approval.

7A. Stop Sign at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue

This item was added to the agenda following public comment at the start of the meeting.

**MOTION: Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to place the consideration of a stop sign at 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the next available agenda without holding a public hearing.**

Discussion: Mr. Barnebey stated that this will be subject to the normal review with the exception of holding a public hearing.

8. BASEBALL FIELD UPDATE

None

9. ASR WELL UPDATE

Mr. Tusing reported the project is on schedule and on budget.

10. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

None

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Thanked the community for all the support and donations for the Mayors' Feed the Hungry drive. She thanked all who helped distribute the food and gave kudos to Shirley Pearson and Mt. Carmel.

12. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Williams

The design of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and the new stop signs [at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue] are creating havoc. The planters sit out too far. Large vehicles pulling boats turning there hit the curbs.

Mr. Tusing suggested directing boats at 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue to turn left and go over to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Mrs. Varnadore wanted to look at all options, as she receives complaints from large vehicles.

The Mayor asked Mr. Burton to look at some minor modifications.

Mr. Williams believes the new electronic sign for the Blu Mangrove Grill is permanent and asked that someone look into that.

Commissioner Varnadore

Asked for an update on the paving at Sutton Park, particularly the section about 200' before the stop sign at 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Tusing said he is trying to expedite that one portion.

Commissioner Cornwell

None

Commissioner Davis

None

Commissioner Smith

Informed Commission that he has asked Mr. Barnebey to review the procedure for appointment of Commissioners in the event of vacancies. He was concerned about the time frame for filling a vacancy. Following discussion, it was decided to bring the issue to a workshop.

Asked Mr. Burton if the trial period to offer assistance to businesses in the CRA with advertising had ended. Mr. Burton said it had, but the CRA still has funds to assist. He will contact the business owner in charge and continue the program.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Minutes approved: December 16, 2013

*James R. Freeman*

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James R. Freeman, City Clerk