

Palmetto City Commission
December 5, 2005 7:00 p.m.

Elected Officials Present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor
Eric Ball, Commissioner
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner
Mary Lancaster, Commissioner
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner

Staff and Others Present:

Michele Hall, City Attorney
Chief Garry Lowe
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director
James R. Freeman, City Clerk
Tanya Lukowiak, CRA Executive Director
Ric Hartman, Planning supervisor/Zoning Administrator
Frank Woodard, Deputy Public Works Director
Deanna Roberts, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. An invocation delivered by Mayor Bustle was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Persons expecting to address City Commission during the meeting were sworn in.

PUBLIC COMMENT (2:11)

John Lawson and Anna Alvarez passed out flyers about the 3rd Annual Alvarez Family and Friends Christmas Celebration on December 25. A dinner will be served for those who are alone and have no place to go on Christmas, and those displaced by recent hurricanes. They requested any help the Commission might give in support of the celebration. Mayor Bustle said Commission will consider the request and contact them.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL (8:38)

MOTION: Mr. Ball moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the December 5, 2005, 7:00 PM agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA (9:11)

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mr. Ball seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the December 5, 2005, Consent Agenda.

Discussion: Ms. Cornwell expressed concern over the Vintage Wheels Car Show as the cars have driven over the irrigation system in the past. Mr. Lukowiak said he will get with Geoff Seger and they will address her concerns.

Mrs. Varnadore asked why the legal bills were paid on November 10 but did not come to Commission for approval until December 5. She requested that she receive a copy of the bills as soon as they come in.

3. APPROVAL: INDUSTRIAL MEDICAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES (11:52)

Industrial Medical Management assists the City in the administration of our infection control program. This item renews the existing program for an additional year, beginning January 1, 2006.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mr. Ball seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement, as amended, with Industrial Medical Management for one year ending January 6, 2007, with two one-year automatic renewals, in an amount not to exceed a fixed cost of \$1,980 per year plus variable expenses according to the schedule of fees.

Discussion: Attorney Michele Hall said the agreement as written says it will renew automatically with a 5% increase every year. It does not state that there will be two one-year automatic renewals. Also, the contract period is not clear. The agreement will be amended.

Mr. Williams asked Jim Freeman to investigate getting additional training classes from the vendor under the agreement. The contract can be cancelled in writing within ninety days prior to renewal. Mr. Williams requested that staff put that in a tickler file in case the City wants to cancel.

4. APPROVAL: HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS CONTRACT RENEWAL (19:00)

November 21, 2005 Commission awarded the health insurance benefits contract to Self Insured Plans, LLC and GE Financial reinsurance company in an amount not to exceed an estimated \$966,000.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mr. Ball seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the Addendum to Customer Agreement between Self Insured Plans, LLC and GE Financial to renew the existing health insurance benefit contracts for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2006 in an amount not to exceed \$966,000, which may be extended for up to two additional one-year periods with Commission approval.

5. APPROVAL: ASR WELL GRANT APPLICATION (26:16)

Staff seeks permission to apply to Southwest Florida Water Management District for grant funding for Phase II of the ASR Well Project.

MOTION: Mr. Ball moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to authorize the Southwest Florida Water Management District ASR Well Phase II grant application.

6. APPROVAL: "YELLOW FEVER CEMETERY" GRANT APPLICATION (27:52)

Staff seeks permission to apply to the Department of State for an historical grant for the "Yellow Fever Cemetery".

MOTION: Mrs. Varnadore moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion passed unanimously to authorize the Department of State "Yellow Fever Cemetery" historical grant application.

7. APPROVAL: LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT ACCEPTANCE (29:18)

The City has been awarded an LWCF grant for \$150,000 for the final expansion of Estuary Park. The funding purchased the additional parcel, using a land value match of \$150,000 from Riviera Dunes.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mr. Ball seconded and motion passed unanimously to authorize the Mayor to accept the LWCF \$150,000 grant funding as reimbursement for the final expansion of the Estuary Park.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 05-64 (35:22)

Resolution No. 05-64 authorizes the Mayor to renew the existing FDOT Highway Maintenance Agreement.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

MOTION: Mr. Ball moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion to adopt Resolution No. 05-64.

Discussion: Mr. Williams asked why the rate of reimbursement from FDOT went down approximately \$3,000 when the cost of doing business has gone up; for example, fuel costs. He suggested before approving the resolution the city finds out why, and this would also give Attorney Hall the opportunity to review the contract as she had requested. Chris Lukowiak will investigate the reimbursement amount.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Ball seconded and the motion to table the motion to adopt Resolution No. 05-64 until the December 19, 2005, 7:00 p.m. meeting passed unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS (46:50)

Mr. Hartman

No comments for Commission.

Mr. Lukowiak

Presented a resolution to Commission for approval. The resolution declares that legislation to regulate boat docks is in progress and applications would not be approved for the duration of the process. As a result of the community meetings for input on a proposed new boat dock ordinance, some residents are trying to obtain permits before the new ordinance is approved. Mr. Lukowiak said there is nothing currently in effect to prohibit this. Mr. Hartman estimated that the new ordinance should be ready for a First Reading the first of February.

After much discussion by Commission, with concerns raised about the fact that the resolution was not numbered, had not been properly advertised and might set a precedent, the Mayor announced the Commission would pass on voting on the resolution.

Mr. Freeman 1:27:58

Flu shots will be given to employees on December 19th from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in Commission Chambers.

Open Enrollment is available to employees at Public Works on December 9th from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. and at the Police Department from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

A memo will be forthcoming from HR to determine the level of interest in Spanish classes. Scheduling of classes is expected to begin the first of the year. Grants may be available from Jobs, Etc. to help supplement the cost.

The team committee to select a scanning and imaging vendor has finalized the meetings with the vendors and will bring forward a recommendation to Commission at the December 19 meeting or the first meeting in January, 2006.

Chief Lowe

Nothing to report.

Attorney Hall (1:29:15)

A Shade meeting regarding the Thornton case is requested by the City Attorney for December 19, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT (1:29:50)

Advised Commission that he will be away at a Leadership Florida class from December 7th – December 9th.

11. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Varnadore (1:30:07)

Inquired about the possibility of a No Left Turn sign at 4th Street and 8th Avenue as traffic backs up there. Chief Lowe advised her that one had been placed there, but it had been removed by the State because that is a State road.

Mr. Williams (1:31:28)

Wal Mart will be opening soon and the City needs to be prepared for a high level of parking lot accidents and thefts. The City needs to start planning now. Chief Lowe said a Community Service Officer can be utilized.

Mrs. Lancaster

No comments.

Mr. Ball (1:35:18)

Acknowledged Chris Lukowiak and Ric Hartman for the job they did in the boat dock meetings.

There is no pedestrian entrance off 8th Avenue into the new Horizon Bank. If Palmetto wants to be a pedestrian friendly town, we have to start thinking about pedestrians as well as automobiles.

Advised Commission he will be away from the city from Tuesday through Saturday of this week.

Ms. Cornwell (1:37:10)

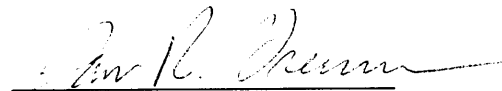
Attended the last Fair Board meeting. The Board will issue a statement that they're going to move forward with a two – three year window to open the Fair in the new location in 2008, pending some requests from the Board for some items that need to be there.

Requested that in January she receive a report showing the cost to the City for police cars going home with the officers. Have there been any accidents? What is the City paying for gas? Is extra insurance required?

Asked Mr. Lukowiak for an update on extra fees from the county for excessive water usage. Mr. Lukowiak reported that the county feels there was a mistake and a refund will be forthcoming for the overpayment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Minutes approved: December 19, 2005



James R. Freeman, City Clerk