

Special Meeting  
Palmetto City Commission  
July 31, 2007 6:00 p.m.

Elected Officials Present:

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

Staff and Others Present:

James R. Freeman, City Clerk  
Chief Garry Lowe  
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director  
Attorney Michele S. Hall  
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A moment of silence and appreciation was observed for overseas military personnel.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved and Ms. Varnadore seconded to approve the July 31, 2007 6:00 pm agenda; with a time certain end of 6:30 pm.

MOTION: Mr. Ball moved to amend the agenda to remove items pertaining to the proposed annexation pending a workshop discussion by Commission as to what the size of the City should be, geographically and population wise. Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Discussion: Attorney Hall advised the Commission the item is one of three annexation parcels and their associated development agreements that are being tracked together. Two of the parcels have already been advertised and will have public hearings August 20, 2007. In order for the annexation on the agenda to be heard August 20, 2007, the first reading must occur this date to allow for proper advertising.

Commission discussed the City boundaries should the annexations occur. Mr. Schmitt confirmed the City has parcels further north, off 26<sup>th</sup> St. and US 41. Mr. Ball stated he wanted a cost of extending City services; Mr. Lukowiak confirmed the project is on the 2008 CIP.

Attorney Hall agreed the growth issue is important and should be discussed, but may be more easily discussed if there were no pending items. Mayor Bustle suggested the discussion could be construed to be a discussion on development moratorium, and suggested City leaders and present staff did not have the qualifications to determine what the impact to the City would be if a moratorium on development is declared.

Attorney Hall informed Commission they instructed staff to bring all items pertaining to an issue to Commission at the same time, i.e. development agreements tracking with development. The developers complied with staff's request to delay their annexation application's public hearings until this third parcel could be brought forward at the same time.

**Mr. Williams withdrew his second. Motion died for lack of a second.**

Mr. Williams acknowledged his motion should have been a time certain end of 7:00 pm, given the length of the prior discussion. There were no objections from Commission.

**Motion to approve the July 31, 2007 6:00 agenda, as amended carried 4-1. Mr. Ball voted no.**

**2. APPROVAL: PROPOSED AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE**

Mr. Freeman summarized the State mandated roll back rate plus a percentage reduction and the other options available for Commission's consideration in approving a proposed tentative aggregate millage rate per \$1,000.

**MOTION: Mr. Williams moved and Mr. Ball seconded to approve the roll-back rate of \$5.1277 per \$1,000.**

Discussion: Mr. Williams confirmed he has made the motion to adopt the roll-back millage rate to allow Commission the ability to review the budget and further reduce the tentative millage rate at the conclusion of the budget review.

**Motion on the floor carried 5-0.**

**3. APPROVAL: BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING DATES**

**MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to set the tentative budget hearing on Monday, September 17, 2007 and a final budget hearing on October 1, 2007.**

**4. 1<sup>ST</sup> READ & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-934** (TAB 3)  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CITY BOUNDARIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (AN0704, 21<sup>st</sup> Street Business Park, LLC, 1305 21<sup>st</sup> Street East, PID#2575100159, 6.019 ± acres).

**MOTION: Mrs. Lancaster moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried 4-1 to approve Ordinance No. 07-934 for advertising and schedule a public hearing August 20, 2007. Mr. Ball voted no.**

**5. 1<sup>ST</sup> READ & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-935**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR A SMALL SCALE DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF PALMETTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT/FUTURE LAND USE MAP BY REDESIGNATING CERTAIN LANDS FROM IL – Industrial Light (County) TO HCOMIND – Heavy Commercial/Industrial (City); PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (PA0704 – 21<sup>st</sup> Street Business Park, LLC, 1305 21<sup>st</sup> Street East, PID #2575100159, 6.019 ± acres).

**MOTION: Mrs. Lancaster moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried 4-1 to approve Ordinance No. 07-935 for advertising and schedule a public hearing August 20, 2007. Mr. Ball voted no.**

6. 1<sup>ST</sup> READ & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-936

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 387, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, TO CHANGE THE ZONING OF THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN FROM LM – LIGHT MANUFACTURING (COUNTY) TO CHI – HEAVY COMMERCIAL AND LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (CITY); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Z0704) – 21<sup>ST</sup> Street Business Park, LLC, 1305 21<sup>ST</sup> Street East, PID #2575100159, 6.019 ± acres.

**MOTION:** Mrs. Lancaster moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried 4-1 to approve Ordinance No. 07-936 for advertising and schedule a public hearing August 20, 2007. Mr. Ball voted no.

7. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Lukowiak

Referring to the eminent domain suit filed against the City by Manatee County, Mr. Lukowiak recapped his discussion with county personnel regarding the 17<sup>th</sup> Street widening and the Public Works Department driveway. He informed Commission Jim Staples, Manatee County Government, had acknowledged the error in naming the City in the suit, and extended his apologies. Attorney Hall confirmed she is in receipt of a Notice of Dropping Party, removing the City from the suit.

The ASR well has received funding from Southwest Florida Water Management District, as well as the feasibility study between the City and the City of Bradenton.

MPO granted the City the two top rankings in the CMS funding.

Reported Mr. Williams read an email from County Commissioner Amy Stein stating the county had no objection to the items before the Joint Planning Committee (JPC) at Monday's meeting. He reported the City of Bradenton representative questioned why a meeting was called when there are no objections. Mayor Bustle opined the JPC is an independent entity formed by the ACCORD and suggested the formality of a meeting should occur. Attorney Hall agreed, stating that a formal agreement should be filed if practices of the Committee are going to change.

Chief Lowe

The Police Department has received notice that the assessors will recommend reaccreditation for the department.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Commission agreed that Mayor Bustle should prepare a press release concerning the setting of the tentative millage rate.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Williams

Distributed a handout created by Jacksonville's Sheriff's Office concerning the employment of off duty officers. Chief Lowe informed Mr. Williams the Palmetto Police is working on a similar program.

Stated that prior to the August 20, 2007 Commission meeting, he wanted an opportunity to discuss the City boundary issue. Mayor Bustle suggested the City should consult someone with

the background and experience in economic development, such as the Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Council (EDC), to assist. He further stated the annexation brought to Commission tonight is the type of annexation the EDC promotes because heavy commercial sites means jobs. He suggested the type of input EDC can provide is important to help determine how the City should grow. Mayor Bustle briefly commented on the Hometown Democracy topic.

Mr. Ball

Suggested a document transferring power in the Mayor's absence should be created. Mr. Williams also commented on the need to establish the succession of power when both the Mayor and Vice Mayor are out of town.

Congratulated the Police Department on its reaccreditation.

Opined growth does not necessarily mean expansion because there is an opportunity for increased density. He stated he is not anti-growth, but pro-density. Mayor Bustle rebutted that the only way to affect density is to annex property into the City, which will also allow control of growth. Mr. Ball again stated there should be a philosophical discussion of how large the City should be. Mrs. Lancaster stated Commission needs to do what is best for the City and that is increasing the tax base. She further opined that the present Commission cannot know what is best for the City 50 years from now.

Mr. Williams reminded Commission the motion for the approval of the agenda contained a time certain of 7:00 pm.

**MOTION: Mr. Williams moved and Mrs. Lancaster seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Minutes approved: August 20, 2007



James R. Freeman  
City Clerk