

Palmetto City Commission  
September 10, 2007

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  
Chris Lukowiak, Public Works Director  
Chief Garry Lowe  
Tanya Lukowiak, CRA Executive Director  
Michele Hall, City Attorney  
Bob Schmitt, Interim City Planner  
Deanna Roberts, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Bustle called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. A moment of silence was observed for our military personnel serving around the world, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two proclamations were presented by Mayor Bustle. The Mayor proclaimed September 2007 as Senior Center Month (accepted by Jean Kaney, Director, Senior Enrichment Center), and September 17-23, 2007 as Constitution Week (accepted by Dee Kermode, Regent, Osceola DAR and Lou Ann Douglas, Vice Regent).

All persons wishing to address Commission during the meeting were sworn in.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. John Gerlach, 2322 16<sup>th</sup> Street West, Palmetto, addressed parking concerns in his neighborhood and around the city. Too many cars are parked in yards and on sidewalks and not using driveways as designated. He asked if the City had an Ordinance regarding cars parking in yards and the number of cars at a single family home. Another problem he sees is the number of people living in a single family home. He would like the city to do something about these problems. Cars parked on sidewalks make it unsafe for young children as they have to walk into the streets, and the overcrowding could create a haven for drugs.

Mayor Bustle commented that both items are now under review. Mr. Freeman said the Suspense Log has an item regarding overcrowding in single family homes, but it has not been assigned a priority. Attorney Hall said a few years ago she had drafted an ordinance regarding parking in yards. Mr. Lukowiak said the current traffic study addresses street parking, and he will be bringing that to Commission. He told Mr. Gerlach he would get in touch with him and keep him involved in the process. The Mayor thanked Mr. Gerlach for highlighting the problem and said it will be scheduled for discussion some time in the future.

**1. AGENDA APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve the September 10 2007, 7:00 PM agenda with the removal of Item #11.

Discussion: Commissioner Varnadore asked why Item #13 (Flood Plain Management) wasn't scheduled for a Workshop first as the Ordinance proposed would make a significant impact. The Mayor asked if she would withhold discussion until the item came up on the agenda. She agreed to do so.

## 2. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Bustle asked if any items needed to be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ball asked that Item D be pulled, Commissioner Cornwell asked that Item C be pulled and Commissioner Varnadore asked that the August 13th minutes be pulled.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Consent Agenda Item B (Dye, Deitrich billing through July 31, 2007) and all minutes in Item A except for August 13.

Discussion: Commissioner Varnadore asked that Page 4 of the August 13th minutes be amended to reflect that she was unavailable for the next meeting (August 14th), not available, and noted that the meeting was subsequently cancelled.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Varnadore moved, Commissioner Ball seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve the August 13, 2007 minutes with corrections.

Discussion: Commissioner Cornwell asked if Church on the Rock needed a Special Function Permit and insurance in addition to the Noise Exception Permit. Attorney Hall said it was not needed since it was not on City property. Ms. Hall said that an Ordinance calling for a Special Function Permit for gatherings of more than 50-100 people on private property is on the Suspense Log. This would give the City the opportunity to review events and decide if it was in the public interest to require security.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Consent Agenda Item C (Church on the Rock Noise Ordinance Exception).

Discussion: Commissioner Ball asked about insurance requirements on two of the three remaining Special Function Permits. Commissioner Lancaster asked if the City had already agreed to approve costs associated with the Hooked on Scouting event. Mr. Lukowiak said that would be approved as part of approving the actual permit. She commented that they were not on the list for co-sponsored events. Mayor Bustle told her that such a list had not come to Commission for approval. Ms. Cornwell said Risk Manager Ron Koper had signed off on the event "pending insurance." Commissioner Varnadore requested that the list of co-sponsored events be presented at the next meeting. Attorney Hall said she will bring forth standards to use as guidelines in the selecting of events to co-sponsor. The Veterans Day Parade is already a city co-sponsored event so insurance is not required and city will absorb costs.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Varnadore moved and Commissioner Cornwell seconded a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item D, permits, pending insurance requirements being met [for Hooked on Scouting] and with the city paying costs.

Discussion: Commissioner Ball said he would vote for the permits so the events could take place but not to absorb costs for Hooked on Scouting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved to amend the motion on the floor to exclude paying for the event. The motion died for lack of a second.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion on the floor. The motion passed 3-2 with Commissioners Ball and Lancaster voting nay.

## 3. PUBLIC HEARING: CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 0602 (B. Schmitt)

Conditional Use Permit application for the reinstatement of an approximate 56 sq. ft. electronic message board located on the east tower of the Riverside Plaza building, 908 Riverside Drive.

Mr. Schmitt informed Commission that Mr. Hester, owner of the Riverside Plaza Building, was present. In October of last year, he had agreed to turn off the sign at Riverside Plaza until there were more solid plans for the building. Mr. Schmitt said the staff recommendation to deny the sign has not changed, but there is new information that Mr. Hester would like to present.

Mayor Bustle opened the Public Hearing on the proposed Conditional Use Permit. Chris Teale, 908 Riverside Drive, #300, addressed Commission. He is a tenant at Riverside Plaza occupying the entire third floor and running the health care facility and spa. He told Commission that currently he has no exposure to passersby for his business and it is adversely affecting his business. He needs the clientele to get his business up and running, at which time the business could provide about thirty jobs in the City. He agrees that in an emergency situation, the City could certainly use the sign. He would be willing to program the sign so that it would be static and not be a distraction to drivers.

Gordon Hester said he was at the meeting to support his tenants. His tenants need visibility. He asked Commission to give him some options if the sign does not work for them.

Bob Devine, owner of a physical therapy office at Riverside Plaza, said the biggest problem is that people don't know they're there. If that sign is not approved, he would love to hear other options.

Mayor Bustle closed the Public Hearing. Commissioner Ball said the sign was not approved by Planning and Zoning and Commission approved the sign only to run with the original owners. He is sympathetic to the applicant, but he would like to terminate the sign. He suggested approval for a temporary, limited use until alternatives can be found. The marquee look is not consistent with the plans for old downtown. Mr. Lukowiak interjected that the applicant was willing to continue the hearing while working on different options to present to Commission. Mayor Bustle opined that the Commission wants to support the businesses while accomplishing some goals of the city such as signage and aesthetics.

Commissioner Varnadore said she welcomed the businesses, but due to the complaints she has had on the signs, she moved to deny the conditional use permit and asked staff to work with the owner to come up with some alternatives.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Varnadore moved to deny Conditional Use Permit 0602.  
The motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Williams asked the applicant to work with staff for alternatives but said he is not in favor of the sign. Commissioner Lancaster agreed they should work with staff. She said she wants the businesses to succeed. Commissioner Varnadore reminded Commission that Planning and Zoning, and staff, recommended denial of the sign.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved to allow approval of the Conditional Use Permit for three months to allow time for another solution. The motion failed for lack of a second.

In answer to Commissioner Varnadore's question, Mr. Schmitt said the request should go back to Planning and Zoning when new recommendations are provided.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved and Commissioner Lancaster seconded a motion to grant the Conditional Use Permit with the fixed lettering for a three-month period of time. Mr. Hester remarked that he had no problem agreeing with the words "Open" or "Now Open" and the lettering remaining static. Mr. Ball amended his motion to include that agreement. Commissioner Lancaster seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE 07-937

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; ANNEXING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF PALMETTO; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CITY BOUNDARIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (AN0706 – Forristall Development, Inc. PID #1012000004, approximately 0.87 acres).

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lancaster moved, Commissioner Ball seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-937 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.

5. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-938

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 IH – INDUSTRIAL HEAVY (COUNTY), TO HCOMIND – HEAVY COMMERCIAL/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (CITY); PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Forristall Development, Inc. PA0706, PID # 1012000004, approximately 0.87 acres).

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lancaster moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-938 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.

6. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-939

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 IN HEREIN FROM HM, HEAVY MANUFACTURING, (COUNTY) TO CHI, COMMERCIAL HEAVY/LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (CITY); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Z0706, Forristall Development, Inc. PID #1012000004, approximately 0.87 acres).

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-939 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.

7. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-941

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; ANNEXING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF PALMETTO; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CITY BOUNDARIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (AN0705 – Diocese of Venice, PID #2421900059, approximately 6.9 acres).

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-941 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.

8. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-942

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 RES-9 – RESIDENTIAL 9 UNITS PER ACRE (COUNTY), TO – RES-10, RESIDENTIAL 10 UNITS PER ACRE (CITY); PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (The Diocese of Venice PA0705, PID # 2421900059, approximately 6.9 acres).

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-942 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.

9. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-943

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 IN HEREIN FROM A-1, SUBURBAN AGRICULTURE, (COUNTY) TO RM-5, DUPLEX AND SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (CITY); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Z0705, Diocese of Venice, PID #2421900059, approximately 6.9 acres).

**MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-943 for advertising and schedule a public hearing October 1, 2007.**

10. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-944

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT FOR THE CITY OF PALMETTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; STATING THE INTENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION TO AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BASED UPON RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT; APPROVING TRANSMITTAL OF THE REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 163.3191, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

**MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-944 for advertising and schedule a public hearing September 24, 2007.**

11. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL – ORDINANCE NO. 07-945

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING SECTION 7-2, PERTAINING TO BUILDING PERMITS; AMENDING CHAPTER 7, SECTIONS 7-218, 7-224, 7-225 AND 7-226 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES CONCERNING TREE REMOVAL; PROVIDING FOR TREE REMOVAL PERMITS; PROVIDING FOR REPLACEMENT OF TREES OR PAYMENT IN LIEU; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

As a result of discussion at the 4:00 p.m. Workshop, this item was pulled from the agenda. No action taken.

12. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL: ORDINANCE NO. 07-946

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 10 BY CREATION OF AN ARTICLE V, PERTAINING TO DOCK CONSTRUCTION; PROVIDING A STATEMENT OF INTENT AND APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING BUILDING OFFICIAL-DUTIES AND POWERS; CLARIFYING THE STATUS OF PRIOR PERMITS AND CONSTRUCTION; PROVIDING FOR PERMITS AND EXCEPTIONS; PROVIDING APPLICATION PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR APPEALS FROM ACTIONS OR DECISIONS; PROVIDING FOR MAINTENANCE AND ABATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS; PROVIDING FACTORS FOR EVALUATION OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS; PROVIDING FOR MOORING OF BOATS; PROVIDING FOR VARIANCES; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION: Commissioner Cornwell moved and Commissioner Lancaster seconded the motion to approve Ordinance No. 07-946 for advertising and schedule a public hearing September 24, 2007.**

Discussion: Mrs. Hall asked that prior to the vote the motion be amended to state that it is approved with the modifications made at the 4:00 p.m. meeting. Mr. Williams asked if she had researched the repeal of the moratorium. She first said she thought an ordinance would be required to terminate the moratorium. She then recalled that the moratorium ordinance recited that it terminated on the earlier of the date certain or the adoption of the dock ordinance. Issue resolved.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and the motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-946, with modifications made at the 4:00 p.m. meeting, for advertising and schedule a public hearing September 24, 2007.

13. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL: ORDINANCE NO. 07-947

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 17, ARTICLE III OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, PERTAINING TO FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION; PROVIDING FOR MINIMUM FLOOR ELEVATIONS IN AREAS WITH BASE FLOOD DATA; PROVIDING FOR REGULATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION IN COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS (V-ZONES); PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved, Commissioner Lancaster seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-947 for advertising and schedule a public hearing September 24, 2007.

Building Official Roger Titus led a discussion on base flood elevations in response to Mrs. Varnadore's questions. Commission requested velocity zone maps.

Mayor Bustle recognized Mr. John Fitt, 904 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West, Palmetto, for public comment on the dock ordinance. He had not come forward for comment when the ordinance came up for discussion. He expressed concern with the proposed ordinance because he has a neighbor who has six docks and does not own a boat. The neighbor rents the docks and this brings a lot of traffic to the cul-de-sac he lives on. The proposed ordinance does not cover existing docks. In this case, this individual is running a business. Attorney Hall commented that the city could check to see if the owner is violating the zoning ordinance by running a business in a residential district. Commissioner Varnadore suggested citing as a public nuisance to the neighboring citizens. Mr. Lukowiak said he will look at this situation again, and the Mayor suggested pursuing it through the nuisance ordinance and taking it to Code Enforcement. In answer to Mrs. Varnadore's question, Mrs. Hall said the current ordinance allows one dock for each home.

14. 1<sup>st</sup> READING & ADVERTISING APPROVAL: ORDINANCE NO. 07-948

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO AMENDING CHAPTER 29, ARTICLE VII, OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, PERTAINING TO THE CITY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM; PROVIDING A METHODOLOGY FOR THE CALCULATION OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; PROVIDING FOR THE DETERMINATION OF IMPERVIOUS AREA; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Ball moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded and motion passed unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 07-948 for advertising and schedule a public hearing September 24, 2007.

15. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Bob Schmitt

Informed Commission that Mr. Wade, owner of the building next door previously occupied by the Sheriff's Office, will be making improvements to the parking lot; resurfacing, restriping and adding paver bricks and new landscaping. Any trees removed will be replaced. None of his actions require Commission approval.

The McDonald's on Tenth Street is being torn down to be rebuilt and the sign is non-conforming. The sign will have to come down and the corporation is not happy with that ruling and does not wish to apply for a Conditional Use Permit. They have threatened to take the matter as far as they have to. Mr. Schmitt will keep Commission informed.

Chris Lukowiak

Advised Commission that based on comments at the Workshop, he will bring the Tree Ordinance and the sign at the Riverside Plaza Building back to Commission with a couple of options/suggestions. Regarding the project schedule emailed to the Commission by Mr. Woodard, he requested that in the interest of time, the Commission contact him directly with any questions.

Jim Freeman

Reminded Commission that next Monday, September 17, 2007, at 5:01 p.m., a public hearing will be held to approve the tentative budget and millage rate. Two resolutions will be presented to Commission for approval. There will be a joint meeting with the CRA at that meeting. September 24, 2007 will be the next regularly scheduled meeting and October 1, 2007 will be the final budget adoption. Mayor Bustle asked Commission if anyone anticipated going above the state mandated millage rate of 4.6662. No one said they did.

Chief Lowe

Palmetto Police detectives caught suspects operating from Pensacola to Miami using stolen credit cards to purchase big ticket electronic items. Also, the Victim Advocate was able to help a sixty-seven year old widow get money to have her vehicle windows repaired. They had been knocked out. Thanked the Mayor for acknowledging his twenty-six years of service to the City. Mrs. Lancaster asked about a report on the Victim Advocate program that she had been waiting to see. The Chief apologized for the delay and said he will get that report to her.

Michele Hall

Gave a brief update on the Thornton litigation for Commission.

16. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor said it will take a concerted effort to defeat the proposed constitutional amendment requiring all comprehensive plan changes to go to a voter referendum. This will substantially change local government as we know it. Costs will skyrocket and growth will stop.

The County approached the City about contributing one-third of the cost of operating an aquatic park at Blackstone Park. In a draft letter to Mr. Hunzeker, the Mayor proposed to tell him that it is not in the interest of the City to contribute without having a say in the management of the center. If the County would transfer the ownership of the aquatic center, or the entire park to the City, the city could provide all of the operating costs for the center. Fees would help subsidize the operating costs. At a minimum, he urged the county to provide a swimming pool for the residents of the communities north of the river. Commission agreed to have the letter sent. Any subsequent agreements with the County would be subject to Commission approval.

A discussion arose about the possibility that due to the disappointing environmental study results of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Street property for Palmetto Elementary, the School Board may again look into taking the Blackstone Park property for a school site and that would impact all plans for an aquatic center. The Mayor said he thought it was really premature to bring that up for discussion.

Mrs. Cornwell asked that the letter state the City would take over the center or the entire park "upon completion of the project." She also said some residents from Terra Ceia are preparing to go to the County Commission meeting on September 18 to speak in favor of the pool.

17. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Cornwell

Asked Mr. Freeman about the projections for the 2008-2009 budget if the super exemption for property taxes passes in January. Mr. Freeman said it would require a reduction of 8-10%, or approximately \$480,000, in the City budget. As CRA liaison, reiterated the joint meeting with the CRA will be on September 17th and said the two new members appointed to the CRA Board were at the last meeting.

Briefed Commission on the meeting at the Sickle Cell Center in Palmetto regarding gangs. The participants were mostly young people who wanted to know what they could do to take their neighborhoods back. The Chief of Police from Bradenton attended with some of his officers, along with Code Enforcement from Bradenton. She said she was embarrassed that the City of Palmetto had only two representatives. Detective Scott Tyler also attended. Mr. Lukowiak reminded her that the organizer, Wayne Washington, is an employee of Public Works. She asked the City to support these meetings more.

Mr. Williams

Asked Attorney Hall how the City's noise ordinance compared to the City of Bradenton's. She will look into it. He said he has already gotten complaints about noise from the new restaurant at Riverside Plaza. He asked the Chief to monitor and compile a list of complaints as they come in.

Reminded Chris they had talked about holiday waste pickup. The problem is the majority of the holidays fall on a Monday, and Waste Management does not schedule an alternate pickup date. Mr. Lukowiak said he is talking to Waste Management about options for relief for those residents who are routinely missed on holidays. Mr. Williams said one option might be a month's free pickup.

Mrs. Varnadore

Congratulated Chief Lowe on his twenty-sixth anniversary with the City. Reminded staff that she asked for any information they might have on stormwater mitigation credits to date. So far she has not received anything. Mr. Freeman said he would get it out to her tomorrow.

She had also asked for information about a line item in the budget of \$8,000 for the Yellow Fever Cemetery. Mr. Lukowiak said that is for the back fence in the cemetery that kept falling down. He said it will be so expensive because it is a double wrought iron fence. It will be coming back to Commission when the fence is actually purchased.

There being no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Minutes approved:      October 1, 2007

  
James R. Freeman, City Clerk