

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

June 7, 2021

7:00 pm

This Commission Meeting was conducted utilizing Communications Media Technology. Some Staff members were present in the Commission Chambers while others were present via the Zoom application to respect the social distancing guidelines.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3
Sheldon Jones, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2

STAFF PRESENT:

Charles Johnson, City Attorney
Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Kera Hill, Planning Analyst/Address Coordinator
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant
Vanessa Cochran, Assistant City Clerk

STAFF PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY:

Todd Williams, Information Technology (IT) Consultant

1. Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

All persons intending to address the City Commission were sworn.

2. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Varnadore seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the June 7, 2021 City Commission Agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Betty Rhodes gave her views on Lincoln Memorial Academy issue.

Rodney Jones spoke about the operations within the City of Palmetto.

Dan Bilman reported a drainage problem on 17th Street West.

Rick Gullet and Elaine Johnson gave their opinions on the limited parking spaces if the vacant lot across the street from the boat ramp is sold for development.

Jauana Phillips commented on Commissioners' past comments and School Resource Officers' assignments to schools.

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Elizabeth Bluangtook expressed her views regarding the land uses in Palmetto.

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved, Commissioner Smith seconded, and the motion carried for Betty Rhodes to speak on behalf of Henry Lawrence.

Betty Rhodes gave her opinion on how the Commission Meetings are conducted.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes
- b. Legal Bills

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Smith seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by staff with the removal of item 4.B for discussion.

4.B Legal Bills Discussion

Commissioner Smith questioned the legal fees concerning Lincoln Memorial Academy bankruptcy and the Police Benevolent Association negotiations. Attorney Johnson responded that the legal fees for Lincoln Memorial is regarding the review of the bankruptcy documents, and he is not familiar with the Police Benevolent Association charge. Chief Tyler announced that the charge for the Police Benevolent Association is for the collective bargain process, which is done every 3 years for the police officers. Next, Commissioner Jones questioned how the Florida League of Cities (FLC) selected the attorney to handle the Lincoln Memorial Academy case. Commissioner Smith opined on the attorney selection as well. Attorney Johnson replied that it can be discussed at the Shade Meeting on June 14th.

MAYOR BRYANT RECESSED THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:44 P.M. TO RESTORE ORDER.

MAYOR BRYANT RECONVENED THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:54 P.M.

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda item 4.B Legal Bills as presented by staff.

5. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-06 ANNEXATION - ART RENTALS, LLC (K. Hill)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, ANNEXING TWO PARCELS CONTAINING A COMBINED TOTAL OF 5.22 ACRES OF UNINCORPORATED MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA INTO THE CITY OF PALMETTO SPECIFICALLY LOCATED AT 1907 AND 2003 16TH AVENUE EAST, PALMETTO, FL 34221, WHICH PARCELS ARE REASONABLY COMPACT AND ARE CONTIGUOUS TO THE CITY OF PALMETTO; REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA TO INCLUDE SAID PARCELS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ART RENTALS, LLC.)

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve First Reading of Ordinance 2021-06 and authorize staff to advertise for the appropriate Public Hearing.

6. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-07 FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION- ART RENTALS, LLC (K. Hill)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA APPROVING A SMALL SCALE FUTURE LAND USE MAP AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION FOR THE TERRITORY HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED FROM COUNTY FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION IL (INDUSTRIAL LIGHT), TO CITY FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION HCOMIND (HEAVY COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL), ON APPROXIMATELY 5.22 COMBINED TOTAL ACRES MORE SPECIFICALLY LOCATED AT 1907 AND 2003 16TH AVENUE EAST, CONSISTENT WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 163.3187, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ART RENTALS, LLC)

Motion: Commissioner Jones moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve First Reading of Ordinance 2021-07 and authorize staff to advertise for the appropriate Public Hearing.

7. FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2021-08 REZONE - ART RENTALS, LLC (K. Hill)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA REZONING APPROXIMATELY 5.22 ACRES OF PROPERTY SPECIFICALLY LOCATED AT 1907 AND 2003 16th AVENUE EAST, PALMETTO, FLORIDA, FROM COUNTY ZONING A-1 (AGRICULTURAL SUBURBAN), TO CITY ZONING CHI (HEAVY COMMERCIAL AND LIGHT INDUSTRIAL), AND AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (ART RENTALS, LLC.)

Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve First Reading of Ordinance 2021-08 and authorize staff to advertise for the appropriate Public Hearing.

8. CONDITIONAL USE 2021-01 CELL PHONE TOWER CONTINUANCE (K. Hill)

Commissioner Williams advised the Board that the conditional use 2021-01 for the cell phone tower is regarding a new application submission.

Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Jones seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to continue Conditional Use 2021-01 to June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers.

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9. MAY CHECK REGISTER (informational only)

Mayor Bryant recessed the City Commission Meeting at 7:59 p.m. to open the June 7, 2021 CRA Board Meeting.

Mayor Bryant reconvened the June 7, 2021 City Commission Meeting at 8:07 p.m.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

10. TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mr. Rayan, Public Works Director, gave a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) update on the roundabout project at US Business 41 and 23rd Street.

Chief Tyler reported that there is a traffic light left turn signal delay at US 301 and Canal Road. He contacted Manatee County Traffic Control to have the time extended and is waiting for a response.

11. POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING UPDATE

Chief Tyler stated that the ground breaking for the new Police Department building will be in late August or September. And, Mr. Rayan added that by August, the contractor's selection for the project will be given to the Board.

COMMENTS:

12. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Rayan informed the Board that 5 proposals for the MLK Restroom Project were reviewed, and the recommendations will be presented at the Commission Workshop Meeting on June 21st.

Jim Freeman, City Clerk, reported that a bid of \$5,000 was received for the Celebration Center removal, and they are responsible to have it removed within 60 days. In regards to the 4th Fest, Commissioner Varnadore asked if the area will be roped off for safety reasons, and Mr. Freeman replied that the area will be reinforced. Mr. Freeman reminded the Board that the approved Fire Charity Fishing Tournament Special Function Event is scheduled this weekend, and they requested internet access and will be responsible for it.

Mr. Rayan announced that the 1207 7th Avenue certified survey is available for review. And, the survey indicates that the property meets setbacks of the code.

Chief Tyler reported that a patrol car was totaled and needs to be replaced. He stated that the new patrol car will be purchased via insurance disbursement, surplused money received from several patrol cars, and funds in the budget.

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13. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bryant announced that Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT) will have a meeting on June 8th at the Rubonia Community Center at 5:30 pm to present new transit opportunities.

14. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Williams requested updates on the Chloramine House Project and the railroad tracks repairs on 7th Street. Mr. Rayan stated that the Chloramine House Project is ready to go and equipment will be delivered within 3 to 6 months. And, he will follow-up on the railroad tracks issue. Next, Commissioner Williams asked about the Baptist Church Parking Space Project cost, and Mr. Burton, CRA Director, answered that there will be 45 parking spaces, and he will follow-up on the cost and obtain the information.

Commissioner Cornwell congratulated the 2021 Palmetto High graduates and stated that she visited a new salon, The Color Lab Hair Salon, and they invited everyone to their open house. Also, she thanked Chief Tyler on how well the school closing traffic was handled.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm

MINUTES APPROVED: JULY 19, 2021

JAMES R. FREEMAN

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CITY CLERK