

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

August 2, 2021

7:00 pm

This Commission Meeting was conducted utilizing Communications Media Technology. Some Staff members were present in the Bradenton Area Convention Center, Longboat Key Room, while others were present via the Zoom application to respect the social distancing guidelines.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:

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 (Not Present)
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward

STAFF PRESENT IN CHAMBERS:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Mohammed Rayan, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Kera Hill, Planning Analyst
Jeff Burton, CRA Director (Not Present)
Xavier Colon, Assistant 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 7:03 p.m., followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

All persons intending to address the City Commission were duly sworn.

2. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY HIRED POLICE OFFICERS (S. Tyler)

Chief Tyler formally swore in the City's five new police officers.

- Miguel Rodriguez
- Jorge Lopez
- Derek Jackson
- Quinn Moriarty
- Caleb Cotton

3. CITY COMMISSION AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion: Commissioner Williams moved, Commissioner Varnadore seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the August 2, 2021 City Commission Agenda.

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4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The below residents were present to speak on the Riviera Dunes Apartment Project, however, this item is being continued to September 27, 2021, and the residents did not speak.

- Keith Ewer
- Gino Kauzlarich

Matt Guthrie gave his opinion on the Small Engine Repair business issue. Mayor Bryant explained that the issue is a zoning matter and is being reviewed.

Barbara Williams reported the loud noises occurring from a construction project behind her home in Colonial Manor Mobile Home Park and the heavy traffic in the area.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes: June 21st and July 26th

Motion: Commissioner Cornwell moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by staff.

6. FIRST READ ORDINANCE 2021-13 ADOPTING A PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS ELEMENT TO THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN (M. Barnebey, K. Hill)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY OF PALMETTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADD A PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS ELEMENT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion: Commission Varnadore moved, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 2021-13 and authorize staff to advertise for the appropriate public hearing.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE 2021-04 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/RIVIERA DUNES APARTMENTS (K. Hill)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; APPROVING ADOPTION OF A GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AS DESCRIBED HEREIN FOR A MULTI-FAMILY, PLANNED DEVELOPMENT CONTAINING 255 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNITS ON 8.37 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF U.S. 41 SOUTH OF HABEN BOULEVARD AT THE WESTERN ENTRANCE TO THE RIVIERA DUNES DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (RIVIERA DUNES APARTMENTS)

Open Public Hearing and Continue

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Motion: Commissioner Jones moved, Commissioner Cornwell seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to move to continue Ordinance 2021-04 to September 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Varlie Biabuyak, via telephone into Zoom Meeting, questioned the number of residential units to be built by Epoch Properties. Attorney Barnebey replied that it is being discussed and will be presented at the September 27th Meeting. Mr. Freeman announced that he is waiting for confirmation from the Bradenton Area Convention Center to schedule the September 27th Meeting and will keep the Board informed.

Lynn Daniels, Riviera Dunes, inquired about the thumb drive that contained slides pertaining to the Riviera Dunes Apartment Project. Mr. Freeman confirmed that the slides will be available at the September 27th meeting.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS:

8. TRAFFIC UPDATE

Mr. Rayan, Public Works Director, reported that as soon as he receives the information from Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on the temporary closure on US 41 and 23rd, he will present it to the Board.

Commissioner Jones inquired about the Colonial Manor Mobile Home Park flooding issue, and Mr. Rayan answered that the contractor was given notice, and the contractor provided extra pumps to divert the water to correct the problem.

9. POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING UPDATE

Chief Tyler stated that within 30 to 40 days, the gross maximum price will be presented to the Board. Mr. Rayan added that the construction documents are 60 percent developed and being reviewed by the architect, the engineer, and City staff.

COMMENTS:

10. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Mr. Freeman made reference to the Hidden Lake Park Cell Tower and Cingular Wireless Land Leases and questions that were raised during the June 21st meeting. He informed the Board that he contacted the Florida League of Cities and a cell tower consultant for information. Not being familiar with this field, Mr. Freeman requested a motion to speak with a consultant for advice not to exceed \$2,500.

Commissioner Williams made a motion, but there were no second. Mr. Freeman communicated that he will provide the Board with information collected and present it at the next meeting for a decision.

Penny Johnston, Executive Assistant, provided information on the Sunshine Law Training and requested that anyone who has taken the class to provide a copy of their certificate.

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In regards to the 7th Street Extension, Attorney Barnebey reported that the project is funded through a grant and a developer. Once more information is provided, he will inform the Board.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bryant announced that the County voted to add a boat ramp and parking, which has to be concurred with the City of Bradenton. And, they are establishing about 60 spaces at Fort Hamer and will work diligently to add spaces throughout the County.

12. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Cornwell commented that school is starting within a week and inquired why the household hazardous waste and pick-up for Manatee County Fairgrounds is not clearly posted on the website. Mr. Freeman replied that Manatee County was contacted and was told that the fairgrounds do not have a pick-up at the moment because of Covid and scheduling. He will follow-up and get an update.

Commissioner Williams requested the status of the First Baptist Church parking project. Attorney Barnebey replied that a site survey was recently received, and the Commission has not taken action. Mr. Freeman pointed out that Mr. Burton, CRA Director, Weekly Updates mentioned that this item will be discussed at the August 16th Meeting. Xavier Colon, new hire Assistant CRA Director, introduced himself and reiterated that the item is set for August 16th.

Commissioner Williams inquired about the residents' concerns that were discussed at the Colonial Manor Mobile Home Park Meeting with staff in attendance. Pertaining to the flooding, Mr. Rayan stated that he will check on the ditch cleaning project and will provide the information at the August 16th meeting. Attorney Barnebey addressed the easement taxes and declared that the owner of the land is responsible for paying the taxes.

The Board allowed Jeanine Burns, Colonial Manor Mobile Home Park resident, to make a public comment. Mrs. Burns gave her opinion regarding the taxes and flooding issues.

Mayor Bryant welcomed new hire Xavier Colon, Assistant CRA Director, and adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

JAMES R. FREEMAN

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CITY CLERK