

Palmetto City Commission
August 17, 2009 4:30 p.m.

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Bryant, Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor
Alan Zirkelbach, Commissioner (departed the meeting at 5:00 p.m.)

Elected Officials Absent:

Mary Lancaster, Commissioner

Staff Present:

Mark P. Barnebey, City Attorney
James R. Freeman, City Clerk
Capt. Rex Hannaford
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Diane Ponder, Deputy Clerk-Administration

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. A moment of silence was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION: Tribute to Heroes
Accepting: Michael D. Williamson, Battalion Chief, North River Fire
Capt. Rex Hannaford, Palmetto Police

1. ABANDONED REAL PROPERTY

Mr. Freeman confirmed the proposed language was conceptual to determine if Commission has an interest in pursuing an ordinance that will assist staff in addressing the maintenance of the abandoned or foreclosed properties located within the City.

Code Enforcement Director Bill Strollo stated the intent of the ordinance is to obtain a contact for the properties through a registration process. A registration fee was discussed, but no consensus was arrived at concerning the issue. Mr. Strollo confirmed that there is no appeal process for the fee at this time. Attorney Barnebey confirmed negotiation of the fee would be a decision for the Commission.

Attorney Barnebey stated he has not made a detailed review of the proposed language. He will define public nuisance in the document, as well as ensure appropriate language is in place concerning the survival of City liens.

The ordinance will be prepared for the September 14, 2009 workshop and will be moved forward to the 7:00 agenda for first reading.

2. SPECIAL FUNCTION PERMITS

There are still several questions to be resolved concerning the special function permit approval process:

- The number of attendees that require the permit; the occupancy of the City buildings.
- The form's review by the Palmetto Historical Commission board
- Administrative approval for emergency special function permits; approval at a City Commission meeting; sign off of abutting neighbors
- Time frame requirement for permit approval

John Gerlach addressed Commission on excessive noise in residential areas. He opined that the ordinance should be reviewed as to disturbance. He opined that special permits (noise exception permits) should be allowed only on public or City property, not in subdivisions.

It was suggested that surveys of the populace relating to the topic should be considered.

Mayor Bryant informed Commission that a statement from the City alerting the public that the City will no longer waive fees for special function permits has been prepared in anticipation of moving it forward with the ordinance. Commission concurred that the statement shall be attached to the special function permit application, and become effective immediately.

The topic will be brought back to Commission as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Minutes approved: September 14, 2009



James R. Freeman
City Clerk