Elected Officials Present:
Tambra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Charles Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Elected Officials Absent:
Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor

Staff Present:
Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Vice Mayor Varnadore called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. 2030 COMP PLAN UPDATE
Mr. Burton discussed the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. He sent information to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO) last week with all the information and documents that he and his staff have been working on. He informed Commission of the changes made on pages 1-26 that have been marked in red in their agenda packets. He asked that Commission review the update, specifically the areas that were highlighted in yellow. Those are areas he is asking for direction from Commission on how they would like to see it corrected.

Mr. Burton discussed the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA). He informed Commission of the state laws regarding the CHHA. He noted that the boundaries for the CHHA were from 5th Street West to the Manatee River and 10th Avenue West to 8th Avenue West, allowing for only 4 dwelling units per acre in all applicable zoning districts. He is changing that back to 35 dwelling units per acre in all applicable zoning districts. Commissioner Williams opined that there was a reason that it was changed from 35 to 4. He asked staff to review the notes from when Commission reviewed and updated the Comprehensive Plan to see why the change was made to the dwelling units in the CHHA. Mr. Burton informed Commission that CHHA is determined by a Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) computerized storm surge model. Vice Mayor Varnadore requested that the SLOSH model be emailed to Commission.

Commissioner Cornwell asked that the document be cleaned up and the wording and verbiage be consistent throughout, specifically the definitions.

Vice Mayor Varnadore requested that, in the following meetings where the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan are reviewed, instead of going page by page, she would like to go through and get consensus from Commission on how to re-write and re-word the highlighted pages.

Mr. Burton stated that he changed “pedestrian” form of transportation throughout the document to “multimodal” transportation. The term “multimodal” is defined as the use of multiple modes of transport. In the case of this plan, it refers to pedestrian and bicycle forms of transport. Commissioner Cornwell asked how a Segway would be categorized; pedestrian or bicycle. She asked staff to contact other municipalities to see how they categorize that form of transportation.
Discussion ensued regarding bicyclists using the pedestrian pathway on the Green Bridge. Commission asked that Florida Statutes/City Code of Ordinances be reviewed on how to handle bicyclists on pedestrian pathways.

Commission and staff discussed historical preservation throughout the City. Commissioner Smith discussed the vision for the future of 8th Avenue West and 10th Avenue West; specifically the parking for those avenues. Mr. Burton would like to see a parking garage built in the downtown area in the future.

Commissioner Smith exited the meeting at 5:38 p.m. and returned at 5:39 p.m.

Mr. Burton stated that he will make the suggested changes to the document as well as bring Commission some options to the highlighted areas in the Comprehensive Plan to discuss at the next workshop.

Vice Mayor Varnadore closed the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes approved: November 18, 2013

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk