

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
January 6, 2014
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tambra Varnadore, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 2 –(Entered at 5:20 p.m.)
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Charles Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present:

Scott Rudacille, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Lisa Byers, Human Resources Coordinator
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

1. 2030 COMP PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Burton passed out maps for the Downtown Commercial Core District that is color coded to show the different amounts of incentives for the different parts of the downtown. The map also shows the historic locations that would receive incentives if preserved as well as parking in the downtown. While researching the downtown area to prepare the map, property was found in the area with no identifiable owner. Mr. Burton is working with the City Attorney on the correct way to clean-up those properties. A copy of the maps are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Commissioner Cornwell requested that the City not give up their rights to alleyways as has been done in the past.

Commissioner Williams asked that the areas labeled “parking” on the map are designated as non-incentive areas so that the map is consistent.

Mr. Burton exited the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

2. ORDINANCE 2013-20 OUTDOOR VENDING MACHINES

Attorney Rudacille informed Commission that the proposed ordinance was updated to reflect Automatic Teller Machines (ATM) at banks.

Discussion ensued regarding the hazards that outdoor vending machines could cause. Mr. Rudacille explained that this ordinance has been drafted using an adopted ordinance from another city. He stated that there have not been any particular accidents caused by vending machines in the City of Palmetto; however, there is the potential that an outdoor vending machine that is not installed correctly could be a hazard.

In regard to this ordinance affecting ice machines in front of convenience stores, Mr. Rudacille explained that this ordinance does not pertain to those types of machines because a customer would purchase the ice in the store and come outside to pick it up after paying. This ordinance is primarily focused on vending machines that a customer would put money and/or a credit card into to purchase the items in the machine; a self-serving vending machine.

Mayor Bryant would like to carry this item forward to the January 13th workshop meeting for further discussion. She stated that this item will be pulled from tonight’s 7:00 p.m. agenda as well.

3. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Tusing explained that he has been working on this agreement with Manatee County since 2008. Manatee County, City of Bradenton, Sarasota County, and the City of Sarasota entered into an interlocal agreement in 2005 for the installation of a fiber optic system to allow the traffic signals to communicate with each other and be monitored and regulated from one central location. In 2010 City Commission approved an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to allow the fiber optic to run through 8th Avenue which connects with the City of Bradenton and Manatee County. This allowed the City's traffic lights to be connected to the network and work in conjunction with the traffic lights throughout the County. As part of this cooperation and the connection of the City's lights into the system, Mr. Tusing has been working with the County to try to determine the overall cost to operate and maintain the system. The cost for each municipality is based on population; this is shown on the attached spreadsheet. The total is approximately \$14,000 a year and includes maintenance and operations of the facility in the County. He recommended entering into the interlocal agreement because the cost to hire someone to maintain the City's portion of the traffic system would be more than \$14,000 a year.

Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of entering into the interlocal with the County. Commissioner Williams asked that on page 2 of the agreement where it states "The City of Palmetto Public Works Director will have final authority in traffic management operation decisions involving signals within the City's jurisdiction" that after Public Works Director, "or his designee" be inserted.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost of \$14,000. Commissioner Smith asked if the amount would change with the fluctuation of population in the City.

Attorney Rudacille asked Mr. Tusing to speak with Manatee County to find out if they can amend the 2005 agreement that was made between the County, City of Bradenton, Sarasota County, and the City of Sarasota, and add City of Palmetto. If they cannot, he would like to see the June 1st duration/termination as mentioned on page 3 extended.

Mr. Tusing removed this item from tonight's 7:00 p.m. agenda and will meet with Manatee County to discuss the Commission's concerns that were expressed tonight.

Commissioner Varnadore asked Mr. Tusing to provide her with information on how many lights in the City are actually owned by the City.

4. PERSONNEL POLICY DISCUSSION

Commissioner Smith reiterated his concerns as mentioned at the last workshop. He asked if his request was incorporated in the Personnel Policy since the last meeting regarding what the Mayor can do if and when a Department Head is refusing to do what is asked of them by the Mayor. Ms. Byers reminded Commissioner Smith that Attorney Barnebey was to do research regarding his suggestion and bring back to the Commission at the next meeting. Mr. Rudacille was asked to remind Mr. Barnebey regarding Commissioner Smith's concern. Mr. Freeman also pointed out to Commissioner Smith that in Section 7.02 it does state matters related to Department Heads shall be performed by the Mayor. This should cover what Mr. Smith had requested.

Mayor Bryant asked staff to put this item on the January 13th 7:00 p.m. agenda for a first read.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Minutes approved: February 3, 2014

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk