

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
February 24, 2014
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor—(Entered the meeting at 4:35 p.m.)
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2—(Entered the meeting at 4:37 p.m.)
Charles Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2
Brian Williams, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present:

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director—(Entered the meeting at 4:47 p.m.)
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

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

1. ORDINANCE 2013-16 Personnel Policy

Mr. Freeman informed Commission that any changes that were made to the Policy since the last meeting are marked in blue. He noted that there were a few changes made to include “relevant work experience” to Section 7.03: Employee Credit for Education, Training, and Experience.

Commissioner Varnadore noted a typo on page one. It currently reads “...a copy will be maintained the employees personnel file.” It should read “in the employees personnel file.”

Commissioner Smith questioned Section 4.04: Political Activity. Discussion ensued regarding the clarity of the language in this section. Commissioner Williams suggested that an employee that is running for office and is unopposed then they should be out of their employment at that time. There was no consensus on Mr. Williams’ suggestion.

2. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR TRAFFIC MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Mr. Tusing gave Commission a revised copy of the agreement that includes an updated 2013/2014 adopted budget costs per agency. This copy shows that the percentage for the City of Palmetto is 4% for the maintenance.

Commissioner Varnadore questioned the population percentages and the census. Will the percentage change every year or only when the census comes out every ten years? Mr. Tusing will verify with the County and have it defined in the Agreement.

Commissioner Williams requested that “or designee” be added to Section 1, the Central Software Operations paragraph within the Agreement.

Commissioner Varnadore questioned why the beach communities are not involved in this Agreement. Mr. Tusing will follow up with the County and find out why.

Mayor Bryant departed the meeting at 5:32 p.m. and returned at 5:33 p.m.

County Commissioner Whitmore gave a brief history of the development of the Traffic Management Center in the County to City Commission.

3. CRA DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL CODE

Mayor Bryant and Attorney Barnebey exited the meeting at 5:38 p.m. and returned at 5:41 p.m.

Mr. Burton informed Commission that he will be sending a copy of the Downtown Development Code along with some Comprehensive Plan information to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO). He is currently working on the parking analysis for the downtown. Discussion ensued regarding parking in downtown. Commissioner Smith is in favor of a parking garage in downtown. He opined that this will encourage people to walk around throughout the downtown because they will feel safe about where their car is parked. Commissioner Williams questioned businesses not being required to have an established amount of parking spaces. Mr. Burton explained that some of the empty lots in downtown are not large enough to build on and include enough parking spaces. He opined that the City could lease parking spaces to the businesses in the downtown. All parking in downtown could then be public parking.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Minutes approved: March 17, 2014

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk