

**CITY OF PALMETTO**  
**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**April 7, 2014**  
**4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor  
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1  
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2  
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  
Jim Freeman, City Clerk  
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director  
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

Mayor Bryant opened meeting at 4:30 p.m.

**PROCLAMATION:** Commissioner Davis presented the Water Conservation Month proclamation to Tara Poulton, Government Affairs Program Manager, Southwest Florida Water Management District.

**PROCLAMATION:** Commissioner Cornwell presented the Donate Life Month proclamation to Andrew Spehr, LifeLink Foundation, Volunteer and Heart Recipient

North River Fire District Commissioner Margaret Tusing introduced the new Fire Chief, Mike Rampino. Chief Rampino is excited to be working at North River and is looking forward to working with the City of Palmetto.

1. FDOT TRAFFIC REPORT STUDY

L. K. Nandam, P.E., District Traffic Operations Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation District 1, gave a presentation on "9<sup>th</sup> Street Improvements." FDOT plans on making improvements to this corridor in FY 17/18; if funding is available, this project could begin sooner. These improvements include reconstructing all lanes to be 10' from the end of the Green Bridge to Manatee Avenue West. There would be a right turn lane added for vehicles to turn onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West and a right turn lane added for vehicles to turn onto Manatee Avenue West. The sidewalk and bicycle lane would remain intact; the median would be reduced. A copy of this presentation is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

2. CRA DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL CODE

This item will be on the next Workshop meeting.

3. NEW FLORIDA TAX CREDIT

Dave Darcy, representative from the Florida New Markets Tax Credits Alliance, Inc. (FNMTCA), gave a presentation regarding tax credits. The objective is to directly obtain federal economic development funding from a complex program administered by the U.S. Treasury Department. The FNMTCA is a not-for-profit corporation working to assist local entities to each populate their own not-for-profit entity and meet the U.S. Treasury's deadline to apply for as much as \$8.5 billion of federal economic development assistance to be available nationwide. Mr. Darcy explained that the funding available is for a multitude of potential projects like parking garages, grocery stores, etc. so long as they bring jobs and economic development to low income areas. The FNMTCA has two subscriptions that the CRA can apply for; one subscription is \$2,500.00 and the other is \$25,000. Each subscription is good for three years. Mr. Darcy stated that the FNMTCA will do similar to what a Grant Administrator for the City does. He will help prepare the necessary documentation that is required to submit for funding for the tax credits. A copy of this presentation is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Workshop meeting  
April 7, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

This item is on the 7:00 p.m. CRA Board meeting for approval.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Minutes approved: April 21, 2014

*James R. Freeman*

James R. Freeman  
City Clerk