

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
January 26, 2015
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2—(Entered the meeting at 4:31 p.m.)
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-at-Large 1
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2

Elected Officials Absent

Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3

Staff Present

Scott Rudacille, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Rick Wells, Chief of Police
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

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

1. ORDINANCE 2015-01 SOLICITATION

Attorney Rudacille explained that the reason this proposed revision to the current ordinance is being brought forward is because of a recent solicitation of people in their vehicles within the City. Commission has been provided a copy of the current code as well as a copy of the language in Manatee County's code for solicitation. The primary difference between the two is that the County does not have a licensing process for solicitors.

Chief Wells stated that there is a need to control the solicitation that occurs within the intersections of the City. There is a statute that does not allow for solicitation in major roadways; the benefit to adding this language to the code would be to allow better enforcement by the officers.

Mayor Bryant opined that having solicitors in the road is not safe for the occupants of the vehicle, nor for the solicitor approaching them.

Discussion ensued regarding the permitting process. Chief explained that currently the applicant starts at City Hall and is sent down to the Police Department for his signature. He said this really is no longer necessary because he does not run criminal backgrounds on them; he does like to know about the solicitation to give his officers that information. Ms. Foley stated that this can be changed, and she can provide Chief with a copy of the permit instead of sending the applicant down to his Department. Ms. Foley was asked to provide a "FAQ" with the permit to give the applicant understanding of the dos and don'ts of soliciting in the City. It was opined that directing them to read the ordinance may not give the applicant a clear understanding.

The consensus of Commission was to have the attorney incorporate the Manatee County language regarding solicitation prohibited in roadways into an ordinance and bring forward for a first reading.

Mayor Bryant asked Commission to mark their calendars for the following events:

- Vern Buchanan Town Hall meeting at City Hall on February 28th sometime in the morning
- Ribbon cutting for the Boat Ramp will be at 12:00 p.m. on February 2nd
- Palmetto Mobile Home Club meeting on February 2nd
- Leadership Manatee meeting at Pier 22 12:00 p.m. February 11th

Mayor Bryant asked staff to prepare a map and text to be uploaded to the City's website for the Bradenton Area Regatta event on February 7, 2015. She would like information to include detours, maps, the Green Bridge closure, etc.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Minutes approved: February 9, 2015

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman
City Clerk