

**CITY OF PALMETTO
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING
September 14, 2015
4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor
Brian Williams, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, Ward 3
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-At-Large 2
Jonathan Davis, Commissioner-At-Large 1
Harold Smith, Commissioner, Ward 1
Tambra Varnadore, Commissioner, Ward 2—(arrived at 4:38 p.m.)

Staff Present

Mark Barnebey, City Attorney
Jeff Burton, CRA Director
Jim Freeman, City Clerk
Allen Tusing, Public Works Director
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police
Amber Foley, Assistant City Clerk

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

1. FY2016 CITY BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Freeman reviewed the City's FY2016 tentative budget that is on the 7:00 p.m. agenda tonight along with the tentative millage rate. The City is proposing a .25 mill increase; and with that, the budget is balanced. In the budget there was \$128,000 budgeted for 32 police radios through a capital lease. This amount has reduced to approximately \$95,000 at this time. Mr. Freeman stated this will be budgeted over four years through the lease.

Commissioner Williams departed the meeting at 4:38 p.m. and promptly returned.

Commissioner Cornwell requested the figures of the balance that is currently in the City's reserves. Karen Simpson, Finance Director, stated that there is approximately \$4.4 million in General Fund reserves. Discussion continued regarding fund balance/reserves.

Commissioner Cornwell questioned the reduction in the cost for the police radios and the expense for the Police Union Negotiations. Discussion ensued between Commissioner and Mr. Freeman regarding the revenues and expenses for those two factors in the budget presented today.

Discussion ensued regarding allocation of costs to the City Planner and the City Clerk to other departments. Mr. Freeman and Mrs. Simpson explained that the City Planner oversees Code Enforcement and the Building Department now, and due to that, those departments pay for services received from the Planning Department. The City Clerk provides agenda, minute, and records management to the CRA and that is why the CRA is allocating a small amount of funds to the City Clerk.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) DISCUSSION

Mr. Freeman explained that there are not many new CIP projects as compared to last year. There are a few small updates. Staff is seeking discussion about the projects that are listed and the priorities.

Commissioner Williams discussed the 14th Avenue and 17th Street intersection improvements project. Mr. Tusing stated that the problem is that the northbound lane of 14th Avenue doesn't align on the other side of the intersection causing drivers to turn their vehicles even though they are going straight. Oncoming drivers then think that those vehicles are making a turn and start to drive into the intersection. Mr. Tusing said that the project will relocate pedestrian crosswalks and realign 14th Avenue straight through the intersection. Design and engineering has already been completed with construction to cost

approximately \$273,000. This project will also include an upgrade to a transit bus stop at the intersection improving overall pedestrian safety. Mr. Tusing estimates the project will begin after the first of the year.

Commissioner Varnadore requested more information regarding a new Police Department and Public Works building. Mayor Bryant stated she will be bringing more information to Commission to discuss these projects in a few meetings.

Various projects were discussed and explained. The CIP will be re-evaluated and brought forward for further discussion at the next Commission Workshop meeting.

3. ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD DISCUSSION

Attorney Bill Lisch came to the dais to represent the City in regards to the Electronic Billboard Agreement with Impact Local Florida; Attorney Barnebey stepped down.

Attorney Lisch stated that one significant change to the Agreement since the last meeting is that the Agreement will not automatically renew after the 20 years; it will be brought back to the Commission for a vote. Article 7 was changed to say the Mayor may be entitled to approve all sponsors. Attorney Lisch would like to modify language in Article 6.H. to say "expenses shall not include officers, directors, or shareholders salary or compensation."

Staff has expressed a need to reduce the installation of an electronic billboard at any City of Palmetto property from 2500 feet to 1000 feet of the Impact Local billboard. Also, give Impact Local first right of refusal. Commissioner Williams would like to see a map showing all City owned property in a 2500 foot radius of the proposed location of the Impact Local billboard. Commissioner Smith agrees with the reduction of 2500 feet to 1000 feet.

Attorney Lisch reminded Commission that this Agreement will be contingent upon the approval of a Conditional Use Permit for the electronic billboard.

4. ORDINANCE 2015-07 MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES (A. Foley)

Staff to discuss the changes made to the Ordinance since the June 15, 2015 Workshop meeting.

5. REZONE OF PID#2902000005 AND #2901800009 AKA SOCCER FIELDS (DISCUSSION)

The property was recently approved to surplus. Staff would like direction on rezoning of the parcels and splitting the two.

6. LAMB PARK PLAN (J. Burton)

Due to lack of time, items 4, 5, and 6 were not discussed. These items will be brought forward at another Workshop meeting.

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Minutes approved: September 28, 2015

James R. Freeman

James R. Freeman, City Clerk