

**CITY OF PALMETTO**  
**CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**April 2, 2018**  
**4:30 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

Shirley Groover Bryant, Mayor  
Jonathan Davis, Vice Mayor, Commissioner-at-Large 1  
Tamara Cornwell, Commissioner-at-Large 2  
Harold 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  
Scott Tyler, Chief of Police  
Amber LaRowe, Assistant City Clerk

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

Sharon Hillstrom and Max Stewart, Economic Development Council (EDC), made a presentation to the Commission on Economic Development 101. A copy of the presentation is attached and made part of the minutes. Ms. Hillstrom stated that the primary focus of the EDC is business recruitment, business retention and expansion, and high impact companies. The EDC targets advanced manufacturing, corporate operations, distribution and logistics, information technology, life sciences, and sports performance companies. She discussed the resources provided for businesses that choose to relocate to Manatee County. The EDC's five-year strategic plan was also discussed to include a target of 60 businesses to expand and/or relocate to Manatee County, creation of 4,000 new jobs, eleven new startups, and \$460 million in capital investment.

1. ORDINACE 2018-11 LIVESTOCK AND FOWL

Karla Owens, Development Services Director, stated that since 1975, the last time this section of the Code was updated, the City has become more urbanized and residential density has increased. Over the last few years, the City has received several calls regarding loud noises and/or smells emanating from properties where chickens and/or roosters are being kept. Unfortunately, the language in the existing Code section does not give staff any authority to address these issues.

The attached Ordinance revises the existing Code sections to re-establish the City as a bird sanctuary but eliminates the nuisance abatement procedures regarding starlings and excludes chicken and roosters from sanctuary protection. In addition, Section 6-31 has been amended to create restrictions and regulations regarding the keeping of hens in certain residential areas. A maximum of six hens will be permitted and must be maintained in a completely enclosed coop structure that must be located at least 20 feet from the closest neighbor. Roosters will no longer be allowed within City limits and all existing roosters must be relocated within 90 days of the effective date of this Ordinance, if adopted.

In regards to the setback of 20 feet as previously stated, Commissioner Williams questioned if that meant from fencing to fencing, door to door, property line to property line? Mrs. Owens stated that it can be written to mirror the setback that is written in the Accessory Structure Ordinance which has a five foot setback from the rear lot line. Commissioner Varnadore would like language inserted that identifies that coops are not allowed in the

front or side yard. Mrs. Owens and Attorney Barnebey will work together to create language in the Ordinance to allow for grandfathering of existing structures that house hens that are not a nuisance.

Commissioner Cornwell expressed concerns with the Ordinance affecting those in the City that are raising and showing hens at the fairgrounds. Mrs. Owens can incorporate language regarding hens raised for competition are exempt.

Commissioner Smith requested information regarding the complaints of roosters in the City.

Commissioner Davis questioned what will happen for other fowl that are not hens or roosters but make noise. Mrs. Owens and Attorney Barnebey will work together to broaden the definition.

This item is on the 7:00 agenda for a first read.

## 2. RESOLUTION 2018-14 PARK OPERATING HOURS

This Resolution adds operating hours for the cemeteries; all parks remain the same as previously approved.

Discussion ensued regarding the hours for Riverside Park East being 24 hours. Commissioner Williams opined that it should be closed 30 minutes after sunset like some of the others. Discussion continued regarding Riverside Park East and West. Mrs. LaRowe asked for the focus of tonight's discussion be whether they agree or disagree with the cemeteries and vote to adopt or deny at 7:00 p.m.; staff can prepare something regarding other parks at a different time and present that for discussion.

This Resolution is on the 7:00 p.m. agenda for formal adoption.

## 3. ORDINANCE 2018-07 PARKING VIOLATION SCHEDULE OF FINES (A. LaRowe/S. Tyler)

*Due to the time, this item was not discussed and will be moved forward to the next Workshop meeting.*

Mayor Bryant adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes approved: April 16, 2018

*James R. Freeman*

James R. Freeman  
City Clerk