

CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES  
July 12, 2012

Mayor Dean Davis called the meeting to order at 6:53 P.M.

Invocation by Pastor Terry Hull, High Springs Church of God

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mayor Dean Davis – Present  
Vice Mayor Bob Barnas - Present  
Commissioner Sue Weller – Present  
Commissioner Linda Gestrin – Present  
Commissioner Scott Jamison – Present

Staff Present: Jeri Langman, City Manager  
Jenny L. Parham, City Clerk  
Steve Holley, Police Chief  
Helen McIver, Finance Director  
John Morrison, City Engineer

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to amend agenda to table item #3 (Ordinance 2012-10) until the July 26, 2012 meeting, add request to follow up on resolution 2012-H requesting City Manager prepare cover letter for Mayor, move item #7 in New Business to item #2. Commissioner Gestrin stated for the record the agenda has been amended three times since Monday. Got items yesterday and today. Impossible to review all the information to be prepared. Need to table some items in lieu of not having enough time to review. Will table when items arise.**

**Motion to move #7 up to #1B under new business and to add an item #8 in reference to 2012-H. Amended to exclude tabling item #3  
Second Commissioner Jamison.  
Motion carried 5 – 0**

Mayor Davis passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Barnas and left the meeting at 7:09.

**PRESENTATION OF THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT  
EXPANSION ALTERNATIVES BY TIM NORMAN OF MITTAUER &  
ASSOCIATES.**

Mrs. Langman stated the Commission had received this information approximately 10 days ago and was advised it would be on this agenda.

Tim Norman of Mittauer & Associates reviewed the report and stated there is approximately 10 years left on the current plant, states plant is in good condition but recommended timers on the blowers to save money. Presented the evaluation of the WWTP and provided three alternatives for the expansion; #1 expand existing WWTP with parallel package; 2) convert existing WWTP to an integrated fixed film activated sludge (IFAS system with moving bed biological reactor (MBBR); 3) convert existing WWTP to an activated sludge Biomag WWTP. Mr. Norman stated that based on economic and non-economic factors, #1 & #2 tied for the highest ranking with #1 with a lower capital cost but a higher O & M cost.

Mr. Norman then presented the cost for each alternative.

Mr. Norman recommended delaying the expansion as long as possible, increase customer base, implement the aeration system modification and sludge dewatering, continue public education of grinder pumps, continue to evaluate O & M costs associated with grinder pumps, investigate possible debt refinancing of RD and bridge loans, review previous agreements/commitments with developments, re-implement impact fees and establish a policy that no capacity is reserved unless impact fees paid, and investigate whether its existing impact fees can be utilized for its current financial situation with the wastewater system.

Thomas DePeter asked what is the DEP criteria on flow, what is the point where an expansion plan is required. Mr. Norman, if no part of Phase 4 is done and only have 2-1/2% growth it should be 10 years when reaching capacity so construction would have to begin 3 years prior to reaching capacity.

J C Lazon, 215 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, stated he went to the DEP class, when you reach 50% capacity, then you start planning at 65% from the 240 you start breaking down. Spoke in favor of utilizing gravity system not grinder pumps.

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue, spoke concerning the daily flow used for calculating capacity, feels they may be low, questioned the future availability of money, have city attorney review developers' agreement.

Commissioner Jamison had questions regarding agreements from a liability standpoint.

Tim Linkous, 425 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, asked if the study to determine reason for grinder pump failure was a separate issue. It is.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE DEP WASTEWATER PERMIT RENEWAL**

Mr. Norman of Mittauer & Associates presented a proposal for preparing 5 year permit renewal. Fee from Mittauer to prepare permit fee \$4,000.00. The application fee is \$3,000.00. Will try to get the reduced fee of \$100.00 instead of the \$3,000.00.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to expend up to \$7,000 for the DEP permit renewal and fees.**

**Second Commissioner Gestrin**

**Motion carried 4 - 0**

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2012-10, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF BOTH YEAR-ROUND WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES AND TEMPORARY WATER SHORTAGE RESTRICTIONS; PROVIDING FOR RECOGNITION OF RELATED RULES OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; REPEALING ANY INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Mr. Ivey states he removed the imprisonment penalty.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to table until the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting as Alachua County EPA will make a presentation. Motion withdrawn. Motion Commissioner Weller to continue discussion of item until the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Second Commissioner Gestrin.**

**Motion carried 4 – 0.**

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY LANDSCAPING PLAN FOR THE POCKET PARK.**

Mrs. Langman presented the preliminary landscaping plan.

For the record Commissioner Weller asked if the cost of \$29,970 included trees, shrubs, ground cover, irrigation, light fixture and design fees. It does.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the preliminary landscaping and lighting.**

**Second Commissioner Jamison.**

**Motion carried 4 – 0.**

**DISCUSS ESTABLISHING A REGISTRATION FEE FOR ABANDONED REAL PROPERTY.**

Commissioner Weller suggested the city consider charging fee (\$100.00 residence \$150.00 commercial) for not meeting the property maintenance code. Staff to review abandoned property and report at the next meeting.

**REVIEW AND DISCUSS AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMISSIONERS' RULES OF PROCEDURE.**

**Motion Commissioner Gestrin to table  
Second Commissioner Weller  
Carried 4 - 0**

**CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS**

Suzie Clark, 115 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, placed string left at the park by the contractor on the dais, stated this was a safety issue. Vice Mayor Barnas asked Ms. Clark to remove herself from the chamber for throwing the string on the dais.

Break until Ms. Clark left the chamber. Meeting called back to order by Vice Mayor Barnas.

Thomas DePeter encouraged the city's desire to hold an orderly meeting. He is also a big supporter of the public's right to attend meetings. The public is welcome to attend, read rules regarding public stating she left the podium as requested.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2012-I, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA; RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA; ESTABLISHING THE ESTIMATED ASSESSMENT RATE FOR FIRE SERVICES ASSESSMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2012; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to place item on the July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 agenda and change from workshop to special meeting.  
Second Gestrin  
Motion carried.**

**DISCUSS AND DETERMINE ACTION TO BE TAKEN REGARDING THE CITY  
MANAGER'S POSITION**

Commissioner Jamison states it doesn't feel right to advertise for a position while someone is already in the position.

Commissioner Gestrin states the workshop was suppose to be a special meeting to vote on this item.

**Motion Commissioner Gestrin to table until the next meeting.  
Second Commissioner Weller for discussion.**

Vice Mayor Barnas stated he would drop this item and leave it up to another Commissioner to put on a later agenda.

Motion fails due to tie vote with Commissioner Jamison and Commissioner Weller voting.

**Motion Commissioner Gestrin to drop from agenda.  
Second Commissioner Jamison.**

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue, spoke concerning the tabling of items to special meetings, nothing gets done, the charter calls for meetings twice a month we are having too many meetings.

**Motion carried 4 – 0.**

**CONSIDER ADOPTION OF CHARTER AMENDMENT ORDINANCES ON  
FIRST READING.**

Ordinance 2012-11 was read by title only by Attorney Ivey.

Thomas DePeter did the commission have it in time, this is an ill advise decision, no problem with canvassing board doing their job.

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue, seconded what Mr. DePeter stated. Both are ill advised, the canvassing board is charter officer and they now want to inject a political person.

Commissioner Weller states she does not feel this makes any sense as there have never been problems with the canvassing board.

Commissioner Gestrin stated we represent the citizens.

**Motion Commissioner Gestrin to approve ordinance 2012-11.  
Vice Mayor Barnas passed gavel to Commissioner Weller and seconded the motion.**

**Roll call vote:**

**Vice Mayor Barnas - Yes**

**Commissioner Weller - No**

**Commissioner Gestrin - Yes**

**Commissioner Jamison - No**

**Motion to approve failed due to tie vote.**

Ordinance 2012-12 was read by title only by Vice Mayor Barnas.

Vice Mayor Barnas called a 5 minute recess. Meeting called to order.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to withdraw ordinance 2012-12  
Second Commissioner Jamison**

Thomas DePeter spoke against limiting debt. Better to vote up or down and taken off the table.

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue, second last comment. Spoke against limiting debt.

**Commissioner Weller to withdraw her motion.**

**Second Commissioner Jamison.**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to adopt Ordinance 2012-12.**

**Vice Mayor Barnas passed gavel to Commissioner Weller and seconded the motion for discussion.**

Billye Dowdy, 230 NE 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, states ordinances can be amended.

Thomas DePeter spoke against passing this ordinance, states city attorney should be giving advice. Again strongly ill advised.

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue, spoke against this ordinance and states he speaks as a citizen not an attorney. Strongly ill advised.

**Motion on the floor to approve Ordinance 2012-12.**

**Roll call vote:**

**Vice Mayor Barnas - No**

**Commissioner Weller - No**

**Commissioner Jamison - No**

**Commissioner Gestrin - No**

**Motion failed.**

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EZ911 CAD SOFTWARE AND LICENSING PERMIT.**

Mrs. Langman presented a proposal to purchase software for the police dispatch. Cost would \$39,200 with initial deposit \$19,600 due at signing of contract and final payment \$19,600 due at the completion of the installation EZ911 CAD Software.

Commissioner Weller questioned where this would be funded from.

Mrs. Langman stated this purchase was not a budgeted item. Mrs. McIver read a portion of the State Statute concerning amending the budget.

Vice Mayor Barnas asked if funds from contingency could be moved for the purchase and amend the budget at the end of the year.

For the record Vice Mayor Barnas stated they don't get enough information.

Mrs. Langman explained this needed to bring dispatch back, states the contract was received Monday morning and could not get to the commission before then.

**Motion Commissioner Gestrin to table item as it was added later.**

**Vice Mayor Barnas passed gavel to Commissioner Weller and seconded the motion.**

Commissioner Jamison asked how we would pay for future items if we have to pay this out of contingency.

Tim Linkous, 425 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, commission wants dispatch back but not how to pay for it, beating staff up for not being able to find the money.

Paul Regensdorf budget did not include dispatch, statutes states can't make expenditures that are not in the budget.

Thomas DePeter, one should be able to look at budget to see what is in it.

John Manley, 21309 NW 200<sup>th</sup> Avenue spoke against proceeding with dispatch. Need to build up the fund and then another look at it.

**Motion carried 3 – 1 to table with Commissioner Jamison voting no.**

**CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSED BUDGET WORKSHOP/MEETING DATES.**

Attorney Ivey suggested a CPA come in and be presented these questions.

Chief Holley stated there is a timeline. Three people are going to Tallahassee to take the test to certify themselves as dispatchers, the further this gets pushed back the more difficult it becomes.

Tuesday is a special meeting. Vice Mayor Barnas asked Mrs. Langman to find a CPA firm to come to first few meetings to answer questions, and will add to this to agenda for Tuesday. Vice Mayor Barnas suggested the company that performed Hawthorne's budget and will send information to Mrs. Langman.

Budget presentation change July 26<sup>th</sup> day. Helen will be out that day and will need to be moved to the 25<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>, or over the 31<sup>st</sup>. Vice Mayor Barnas available 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. August 15<sup>th</sup>. Helen off on the 14<sup>th</sup>. All other dates are correct.

General consensus to approve dates.

Ron Langman, 16455 NE 257<sup>th</sup> Drive, there are so many meetings, workshops, so many special meetings. How can staff possibly prepare for all these meetings.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE LINE OF CREDIT DRAW FOR FINAL PAYMENT ON OLD SCHOOL PROJECT.**

Mrs. Langman stated the city and the CRA approved at the beginning of the budget year applied for an \$85,800 loan to be repaid to line of credit to drawn on to complete the old school renovation project. That loan was approved by the Board and by the bank. The document was never closed and signed by the Mayor and it is now at the point that we are over in the CRA because we now have to take out that loan. The last draw put us into where we will have to go into this \$85,000. There is \$58,269.91 left to pay on the old school renovation. The \$85,800 line of credit was passed with the intention of repaying that loan with the CRA funds in the 2013 budget. The last two draws will have to be paid out of that line of credit.



**Motion Weller to approve the credit draw for the final payment of \$27,530.09 for the completion of the old school.**

Mrs. Langman stated this was already approved by the prior commission and not sure it needs approval, mayor needs to sign loan.

**Commissioner Weller withdrew motion.**

John Manly stated what are we going to do with the old school? We put \$85,000 into it. We need money for dispatch.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to table until further information is presented.  
Second Gestrin. Carried 4 – 0.**

**DISCUSS AND DETERMINE ACTION TO BE TAKEN REGARDING BIKE RACKS.**

Vice Mayor Barnas brought this up at the CRA meeting, discussion was to remove the one by the chamber. There was discussion about the blue one. Vice Mayor Barnas doesn't want the bike rack at the chamber building and wants it taken away and put on private property.

Commissioner Weller, there was discussion on moving the bike rack back further against the building between the newsstand in order to get it out of the way. Mr. Morrison states this is a conflict point.

Dot Harvey, 425 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. The racks belong to the CDC. The one by chamber is on public property; the option to move the paper boxes and put it by the building is a very viable choice. They have made the commitment to make it safe. If the commission wants the one at the chamber moved, let them know in writing and they will move. Arrangements are being made to fix the problem.

Paul Regensdorf, 420 NW First Avenue. I looked at the bike rack. Just because a lawyer said they will file a suit on part of one of the commissioners who allegedly fell over the bike rack you want to take them out?

Thomas DePeter you should table it.

Dot Harvey willing to compromise, move blue heron and put in a safer place, would prefer to make the one at the chamber office safer but if the commission wants it moved, they will move it.

Commissioner Jamison asked what the stand on this is legally.

Mr. Morrison looked at the standards for bike racks, in his opinion; they are yard art and are at risk of injuring someone.

Commissioner Weller asked if there was somewhere else around the Chamber that it could be moved out of the way.

**FOLLOW UP ON 2012-H**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to direct City manager to prepare transmittal letter to be signed by the mayor to send to entities.**

**Second Gestrin**

**Motion carried 4 - 0**

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE**

Spoke to William Mack, no success in resolving issues.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE**

Has an appointment next week with Regions Bank regarding extension on Bridge Loan. Will be able report on that on Tuesday evening.

Outsourcing verses city providing services is being worked on by staff. All other will follow up in a memo tomorrow.

Jamison has questions on outsourcing.

Workshop on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 to discuss outsourcing.

**COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Mrs. Langman presented a request from Ms. McWatters for sponsorship for daughter on Santa Fe Babe Ruth team qualified to play in North Carolina. July 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sponsorships starts at \$100.00 to \$250.00. They would like for the City to sponsor.

Commissioner Jamison asked regarding CAD what the earliest time we can come up with funding for dispatch so we won't come up with the same problem on each item. With timeline and money problems we can still go back and wait a year.

HIGH SPRINGS  
COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 12, 2012  
PAGE 11

Commissioner Gestrin – none.

Commissioner Weller – none.

Vice Mayor Barnas asked why we can't ask if sheriff will reconsider not changing our addresses and increasing population to 10,000. Will do motion on Tuesday. Mrs. Langman to ask.

Commissioner Gestrin stated the need to check legislation to make sure we can bring it back.

Vice Mayor Barnas thanked Ray Ivey for service. Asked if Mr. Ivey would mind if we placed an ad while he is still with us.

**MAYOR**

Not present.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to adjourn.**  
**Second Commissioner Gestrin**  
**Meeting adjourned at 10:59**