

CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
July 31, 2012

Mayor Dean Davis called the meeting to order at 6:30 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
Helen McIver, Finance Director
Steve Holley, Police Chief

CONTINUED BUSINESS

**DISCUSS AND AUTHORIZE FINAL PAYMENT TO ANGLIN
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE OLD
SCHOOL.**

Mrs. Langman informed the Commission we have paid \$27,000 out of CRA fund on last draw and will have a \$58,000 payment due when they CO.

For the record Mayor Davis stated last year he said not to spend any more money on the school.

CRA meeting scheduled for August 9th at 5:30.

Vice Mayor Barnas suggested the commission make a request for funds from the CRA.

Motion Commissioner Weller to dedicate \$5,000 remaining in Wild Spaces funds to the old school project. \$5,829.42.

Second Commissioner Jamison.

Motion carried 5 – 0.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to request the CRA pay the remaining balance to Anglin less the Wild Spaces money.
Second Commissioner Jamison**

Vice Mayor Barnas suggested to borrowing funds from CRA.

Thomas DePeter suggested to proceed with the previously approved loan.

Motion carried 5 – 0

BUSINESS ITEMS

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2012-13, AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS CHARTER SECTION 5 “GENERAL PROVISIONS”, TO ADD SECTION 5.07 “MUNICIPAL BORROWING”; RESTRICTING ADDITIONAL MUNICIPAL BORROWING TO ONE MILLION DOLLARS; DIRECTING THAT THIS AMENDMENT BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT OF THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT IF APPROVED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ordinance 2012-13 was read by title only by Attorney Ivey.

Opened to the public by Mayor Davis.

Elaine Gudbranson, 320 NW 3rd Street, states if this ordinance is passed, the city would not be able to proceed with the sewer system, concerned the burden for paying for the sewer would be on the shoulders of those who currently have sewer. Feels this is an unfair burden on the citizens who have it now.

Ross Ambrose, 230 SE 6th Avenue, feels this is rushed. There is merit to restricted spending. Feels the voters decided on charter review, encouraged charter review committee.

Thomas DePeter feels this is rushing, no basis, no research, pointed out conflicts in the ordinance; this ordinance is taking powers away from the commission. Suggested waiting until next year and have a review committee.

Commissioner Weller suggested changes to this ordinance. Delete section ii debt service since debt service is not mentioned in the ordinance itself. Also suggest the amount be raised to 3 million and that under section 5.07 a debt approval that language be added that the city shall incur no single debt exceeding \$3 million for operations which are financed

and operated in an independent self liquidating manner and recovered entirely through current collective user fees and charges. Barrowing limit is going to non-general fund sources.

**Motion Commissioner Weller
Second Commissioner Jamison.**

Roll call

**Vice Mayor Barnas - no
Commissioner Weller – yes
Commissioner Gestrin - no
Commissioner Jamison - yes
Mayor Davis - no**

Motion fails

**Motion Vice Mayor Barnas change dollar amount to \$2 million.
Second Commissioner Gestrin.**

General discussion.

Sylvia Newcomb, 16705 NW 222nd Street, spoke regarding remarks from the public.

Thomas DePeter stated that if fully researched, California requires referendums to get anything done.

Roll call

**Mayor Davis - yes
Vice Mayor Barnas - yes
Commissioner Weller - no
Commissioner Gestrin – yes
Commissioner Jamison - no**

Motion carried 3 – 2

**Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to approve ordinance 2012-13 as amended with the
dollar amount changed to \$2 million.
Second Commissioner Gestrin.**

Roll call

**Commissioner Jamison - no
Commissioner Gestrin - yes
Commissioner Weller - no**

Vice Mayor Barnas - yes
Mayor Davis - yes
Motion carried 3 - 2

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2012-14, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE
ADOPTED 2011/2012 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET OF THE CITY OF HIGH
SPRINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Ordinance 2012-14 was read by Attorney Ivey by title only.

Mrs. Langman presented some revisions to the amended budget.

Commissioner Weller suggested to not move forward with the dispatch and hire a part-time employee to answer the 1415 number and after hours transfer the calls to the sergeant's cell phone...feels we are not going to be able to afford it.

Commissioner Gestrin, it is a matter of priority, she can provide \$300,000 in cuts.

Commissioner Jamison, we are obligating future funds.

Vice Mayor Barnas, we could stay with the CCC and know what we are going to be charged next year, and if our population goes up we won't know what they are going to charge us but we know for the remainder of this year.

Mayor Davis opened the floor for public input.

Ross Ambrose, 239 SE 6th Avenue, unsure where the city is going to come up with the money other than eliminating other services beside police and fire.

Thomas DePeter how much taxpayers money are you willing to spend to prove that a decision to reverse course last year. You are spending more money this year to start up dispatch than spent on CCC all year. Feels this is a bad decision and should stick with the CCC at least another year.

Mayor Davis closed the public hearing and open the floor.

Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to approve 2012-14
Second Commissioner Gestrin

Roll call

Vice Mayor Barnas - yes
Commissioner Gestrin - yes
Commissioner Weller - no
Commissioner Jamison - no
Mayor Davis - yes

Motion carried 3 - 2

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE CONTRACT FOR MOTOROLA

Discussion on length of contract and interest rate.

Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to authorize the mayor to sign the contract for Motorola for a five year period.
Second Commissioner Gestrin.

Thomas DePeter asked why we are moving forward when you haven't seen the contract. What is revenue source to repay over the five years?

Robyn Rush compared the cost of paying the sheriff's office for equipment every year versus pay this for five years.

Ms. McIver clarified the Sheriff's office was not going to charge us the equipment charge. Will charge per call charge.

Motion carried 3 – 2. With Commissioner Weller and Commissioner Jamison voting no.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE EZ911 CONTRACT

Chief Holley presented the proposal for the purchase of the CAD system. Software that drives the dispatch center. The cost is \$39,000 and change, half now, half upon completion.

Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to authorize the mayor to sign EZ911 contract
Second Commissioner Gestrin.

Motion carried 3 – 2 with Commissioner Weller and Commissioner Jamison voting no.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to move item 6 above item 5
Second Commissioner Gestrin**

**CONSIDER AUTHORIZING MAYOR TO SIGN CLOSING DOCUMENTS FOR
LOAN TO M & S BANK FOR TWO POLICE PATROL VEHICLES**

Mrs. Langman stated the purchase of the vehicles were previously added into this years budget. We had made a resolution to order them.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to authorize mayor to sign loan documents with M & S Bank to purchase police vehicles.
Second Vice Mayor Barnas**

Ms. McIver requested the length of the loan be determined.

**Commissioner Weller amended motion to be for 5 years
Second amended by Vice Mayor Barnas
Motion carried 5 – 0**

Commissioner Jamison left the meeting at 8:18.
Mayor Davis recessed the meeting for 10 minutes.

**DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED FY 2012/2013 BUDGET AND PROPOSED
TENTATIVE MILLAGE.**

Mayor Davis explained this item is for discussion only and no action will be taken.

Mayor Davis opened the floor for discussion.

Commissioner Gestrin stated she is not for raising taxes.

Commissioner Weller stated she is not for raising taxes. The problem is how are we going to fund the budget. We are going to have a hard time finding the money.

Vice Mayor Barnas suggested a 32 hour work week for some in-house city employees. Talked about farming out water bills. Eliminating the tag agency. Closing down on Friday. Need to look at comp time. If we bite the bullet this year we can come back stronger in a year.

Commissioner Weller stated that having a 32 hour work week things will not get done.

Commissioner Jamison asked what the current millage rate is and was told 6.15.
Concerned with sewer rate.

Mrs. Langman explained the city has lost revenue in the sewer and in the water.

Vice Mayor Barnas addressed the sewer.

Vice Mayor Barnas left the meeting at 9:14 and returned.

Vice Mayor Barnas left the meeting at 9:32.

Thomas DePeter spoke concerning his belief that the preliminary fire assessment did not pass.

General consensus to put the resolution passing the preliminary fire assessment on Thursday's agenda.

Attorney Ivey pointed a procedural problem with the passing of Ordinance 2012-13 by its amendment.

**Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to reconsider ordinance 2012-13 to return to original advertised state of one million
Second Commissioner Gestrin**

Thomas DePeter stated rule 28 reconsideration shall be allowed at any meeting.

Motion withdrawn

**Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to suspend the rules
Second Commissioner Gestrin**

Motion passes 3 – 2 with Commissioner Jamison and Commissioner Weller voting no.

**Motion Vice Mayor Barnas to return ordinance 2012-13 to its advertised form of one million.
Second Commissioner Gestrin**

Roll call

Mayor Davis - yes

Vice Mayor Barnas - yes

Commissioner Weller - no

Commissioner Gestrin - yes

Commissioner Jamison - no