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CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 24, 2015

Mayor Weller called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Invocation by Pastor Angel Cuesta, St. Madeleine Catholic Church.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Byran Williams– Present
Vice Mayor Gloria James – Present
Commissioner Sue Weller – Present
Commissioner Scott Jamison–Present arrived at 6:37 p.m.
Commissioner Jason Evans – Present

Staff Present: Ed Booth, City Manager
Jenny Parham, City Clerk
Angela N. Stone, Assistant City Clerk
Antoine Sheppard, Police Lieutenant
Jennifer Stull, Finance Director
Courtney Johnson, City Attorney
Amanda Rodriguez, CRA Executive Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Weller would like to add an item to the agenda regarding a check for \$8,420.00 to Rowe Well Drilling.

Motion Commissioner Evans to approve the agenda with the addition of the item to discuss a check to Rowe Well Drilling for \$8,420.00.

Second Vice Mayor James.

Motion carried 4-0.

PROCLAMATION HONORING TOWN MARSHAL GEORGE LASONRO BRYANT

Mayor Williams read a proclamation honoring Town Marshal George Lasonro Bryant who was the first Law Enforcement Officer killed in the line of duty in Alachua County and the only Law Enforcement Officer killed in the line of Duty in High Springs.

PRESENTATION ON THE NORTH FLORIDA SPRINGS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER BY DIRECTOR DR. ROBERT KNIGHT AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR HEATHER CULP.

Dr. Robert Knight stated that they are relocating their office to High Springs. They will have exhibits about the springs that will be informative exhibits on the attractions around the area. Spoke of wanting to put a mural on the wall for people to see coming in from US 27.

Commissioner Weller introduced Amanda Rodriguez, CRA Executive Director, and explained that she may be able to assist with the mural idea through the CRA.

Commissioner Weller stated that Testa Styles, Wes Styles daughter, has come across some photos that she will lend to the museum for the public to view.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2015-14, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2014/2015 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Johnson read Ordinance 2015-14 by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing; with no one coming forward, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing.

Commissioner Weller asked if these are the changes from the first reading. Finance Director Jennifer Stull explained that it is.

Mrs. Stull explained the biggest change was the last bill came in from CCC.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Ordinance 2015-14 on Second and Final Reading.
Second Commissioner Evans.**

Mayor Williams questioned the uniform budget in the police department. Mrs. Stull explained that they received grant funds for vests and the expenditure is there, but the grant funds is under Revenue, Intergovernmental. She states we did have to put in some funds, it was a matching grant.

Roll Call:

**Commissioner Jamison – yes
Commissioner Weller – yes
Mayor Williams – yes
Commissioner Evans – yes
Vice Mayor James – yes**

Motion carried 5-0.

CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Yvonne Andrews stated she had a problem with drainage to her yard. She stated they came today and dug a ditch to help with the drainage and she thanked the city.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW RETAIL SALES OF NEW UTILITY AND EQUIPMENT TRAILERS, BOTH OPEN DECK AND ENCLOSED, ON THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED, AS FOLLOWS: PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 00256-001-000.

Attorney Johnson stated that this is quasi-judicial process and gave an overview of the quasi-judicial process.

Attorney Johnson asked if the commission has had any exparte communication. The commission did not have any exparte communication.

Mr. Booth gave an overview. He stated that Plan Board has recommended this for approval.

Mayor Williams open the Public Hearing for public input; with no one coming forward Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing.

Attorney Johnson read to the commission the section of the Land Development Code that outlines the general standards for granting a Conditional Use Permit.

Commissioner Weller asked the location of the property.

Attorney Johnson swore in George Barnett. Mr. Barnett stated the property will be located next to the Honeysuckle Cottage. He stated they are applying for building permits to put a building on the property and it would be 5,000 sq. ft. This building will be used for the trailer sales. They will also have a fenced in area in the back. He advised that they are currently located at Archie's Welding, but they are moving for more visibility to the public.

Motion Commissioner Evans to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Tax Parcel 00256-001-000 and that the use is in compliance with the standards.

Second Commissioner Weller.

Motion carried 5-0.

CONSIDER A REQUEST BY OLEN BARBER FOR USE OF THE CIVIC CENTER

Mr. Booth advised that they have been using this all year and they would like to continue the use of the Civic Center. Mr. Booth states that staff recommends the approval of this request.

Olen Barber stated that they have built a really good crowd. He added that they would like to keep this going.

Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the use of the Civic Center in 2016 for the

**Monday Night Music for Seniors program at no charge.
Second Commissioner Evans.
Motion carried 5-0.**

**DISCUSSION ON REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR AN EPISODE ON
SCUBANATION TELEVISION.**

Vice Mayor James stated she put this on the agenda. She was hoping that someone would be here to give further detail.

Mr. Booth stated that this may be something we can get assistance with from Visit Gainesville.

Commissioner Weller stated she went online and looked at this Scubanation Television. She states that they not only show where they are diving but they also show the surrounding town.

APPOINT CRA CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

**Motion Commissioner Jamison to nominate Commissioner Evans for the Chair of the CRA.
Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to nominate Commissioner Jamison for Vice Chair.
Second Commissioner Evans.
Motion carried 5-0.**

REVIEW DRAFT LETTER TO CITY ATTORNEY APPLICANTS.

Mr. Booth stated that he and Mrs. Parham worked on the letter with the salary range and benefits to go to the twelve applicants.

Commissioner Evans states he would like to strike through “generous” on the paid time off.

Commissioner Weller stated she would like for it to say “ and represent the City in legal claims and complaints.” She added that she would also like it to say “address Human Resource issues as necessary.”

Commissioner Jamison asked if we can be more specific on the Human Resource issues. Attorney Johnson recommended using Employment not Human Resource issues, investigations, update and review employment policy and procedures. She stated she would also reference the unions.

Attorney Johnson suggested adding to the letter that the city would pay for continued legal education for the attorney.

Motion Commissioner Evans to approve the letter with the recommended amendments and send out after being reviewed by the city attorney.

Second Commissioner Weller.

Motion carried 5-0.

Consensus to have the commissioners come back at the December 10th meeting with their top Five candidates.

Commissioner Jamison would like to have brought back the exact cost for an in-house attorney, including everything they will need.

DISCUSS AND APPROVE A CHECK TO ROWE WELL DRILLING.

Mr. Booth advised that this was considered an emergency with the issue of the water, and this was to take well #1 offline and clean it.

Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the check to Rowe Well Drilling in the amount of \$8,420.00 as an emergency.

Second Commissioner Jamison.

Motion carried 5-0.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE

Attorney Johnson states they have nothing at this time.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE

Advised of the dedication for Marshal Bryant on December 3rd.

Advised of the December 8th Plan Board Meeting.

Advised that December 10th is a Commission Meeting.

Advised December 12th will be the Christmas Parade.

Advised December 17th is the Employee Appreciation Dinner.

Advised that they have looked at the budget to see if there is money to give a gift to the employees. It is recommended to pay 10 hours pay for part-time and 20 hours for full-time. It will be placed on the December 10th agenda.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Evans stated in regards to the Historic Preservation Board he does not want it to be a hindrance, and if they go with it that it is a streamline process. He stated he wants it to

be friendly in High Springs. Mr. Booth stated that the applicants for the grants would have the certificate of appropriateness before they come before the CRA Board.

Commissioner Jamison stated that it is a pleasure to serve with this commission and thanked them for their dedication.

Commissioner Weller –nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor James asked about water quality and asked that when she gets a call she can say the issue has been cleaned up. Mr. Booth stated that it has met the EPA and DEP requirements.

MAYOR

Mr. Booth advised he will be out of town from November 26th thru December 3rd.

Mayor Williams had nothing at this time.

Motion Commissioner Weller to adjourn the meeting.
Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.