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CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES  
MARCH 24, 2016

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Invocation by Pastor Terry Hull, High Springs Church of God.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Byran Williams – Present  
Vice Mayor Gloria James – Present  
Commissioner Jason Evans – Present  
Commissioner Scott Jamison – Present  
Commissioner Sue Weller – Present

Staff Present: Ed Booth, City Manager  
Jenny L. Parham, City Clerk  
Angela Stone, Assistant City Clerk  
Scott Walker, City Attorney  
Courtney Johnson, Assistant City Attorney  
Joel Decoursey, Police Chief  
Antoine Sheppard, Police Lieutenant  
Amanda Rodriguez, CRA Executive Director

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mayor Williams stated there was a need to move Item #9 to Item #1 under New Business.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the agenda with the move of New Business Item #9 to New Business Item #1.**

**Second Commissioner James.**

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion Commissioner Evans to approve the minutes of March 10, 2016 Commission Meeting.**

**Second Commissioner Weller.  
Motion Carried 5 -0.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2016-02, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS  
ADOPTING A CITIZEN PETITION FORM; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY;  
PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION.**

Attorney Walker read Ordinance 2016-02 by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing for public input.

With no one coming forward Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing.

**Motion Commissioner Evans to approve Ordinance 2016-02 on second and final reading.  
Second Commissioner Weller.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**CITIZEN REQUESTS AND COMMENTS – FOR ISSUES NOT ON AGENDA (PLEASE  
STATE NAME FOR THE RECORD – LIMIT COMMENTS TO 5 MINUTES)**

Dave Johnson spoke of the owner of the residence where he lives moving because of fear of his neighbor, Bill Richards. He spoke of Mr. Richards' harassment, having the city come out to tell them that they need to pull weeds in the garden. Spoke of having the Police called on them numerous times.

Elaine Gudbransen commended Mr. Booth and Mr. Kearney for going around working on abandoned properties. She spoke of the vacant lot behind Alice's Parkside Restaurant and the debris building up on this lot. She spoke of the need to clean up this lot. She spoke of the problem with the address change and not receiving mail. Mr. Booth stated that he will look into the lot and put it on our list to clean up.

Donald Gudbransen spoke of the new addresses and the GPS system. Commissioner Evans stated that the two major companies have been notified of the new addresses.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER PLACING ADVERTISEMENT IN GAINESVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**MAGAZINE.**

Derek Brady, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce spoke of the Gainesville Economic Development Guide. He spoke of this being a yearlong ad.

Commissioner Evans asked how many copies were published last year. Mr. Brady stated 10,000. Commissioner Evans asked if there is website visibility with the \$4,900. Mr. Brady gave an overview of the website visibility that we would receive.

Commissioner Jamison stated that this could maybe be something that the CRA could do, and suggested speaking to Amanda Rodriguez, CRA Executive Director.

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2016-03, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, RELATING TO THE REZONING OF LESS THAN TEN CONTIGUOUS ACRES OF LAND, PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION Z-0569 BY THE PROPERTY OWNER OF SAID ACREAGE, UNDER THE AMENDMENT PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 163.3161 THROUGH 163.3248, FLORIDA STATUTES AS AMENDED; PROVIDING FOR REZONING FROM RESIDENTIAL-1 (R-1) TO COMMERCIAL-2 (C-2) OF CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT.**

Attorney Walker read Ordinance 2016-03 by title only.

Mr. Booth stated that this went before the Plan Board and was recommended for approval.

Attorney Walker stated that this is a quasi-judicial matter, and all parties speaking on this item will need to be sworn in.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Ordinance 2016-03, as read into the record, on First Reading.**

**Second Commissioner Evans.**

Attorney Walker swore in Paul Barcia. Mr. Barcia spoke of his plan to put RV and Boat storage on this property.

Attorney Johnson asked the commission if there was any exparte communication. No one from the commission had any exparte communication.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2016-04, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 82 ARTICLE III “TREE REMOVAL” OF THE HIGH SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES; REQUIRING A PERMIT FOR TREE REMOVAL OR TRIMMING; REQUIRING TREE SERVICE PROVIDERS CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN HIGH SPRINGS TO OBTAIN THE CITY’S OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE; DESIGNATING A CANOPY TREE PROTECTION ZONE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION.**

Attorney Walker read Ordinance 2016-04 by title only.

Mr. Booth advised that the Ordinance would give us the ability to look at trees before they are cut down, if it is over 8” in diameter.

Commissioner Evans asked when the Tree Board would get involved. Mr. Booth stated they will determine the Canopy area and Arbor Day and such.

Mr. Booth stated we do not want it to be cumbersome for a citizen.

Commissioner Weller asked how do we get the information about the general rules out to the businesses and citizens.

Commissioner Jamison asked about a fee for the permit. Mr. Thomason stated it is \$35.00 for the first tree and \$15.00 for each additional tree.

Commissioner Jamison stated he would like for the fee to be waived for dead trees.

Scott Thomason, Building Official, stated that if they have a lot of trees they have been capping at \$50.00. He added that the fee is not to make money, but to cover the cost for staff to go out.

**Motion Commissioner Evans to approve Ordinance 2016-04 on First Reading with the mentioned Changes.**

**Second Commissioner Weller .**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2016-05, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS RELATING TO THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY; PROVIDING FOR A COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT.**

Attorney read Ordinance 2016-05 by title only.

**Motion Commissioner Evans to approve Ordinance 2016-05 on First Reading.  
Second Commissioner Weller.**

**Roll Call:**

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

**Motion carries 5-0.**

Mrs. Stull asked how much would need to go into the Trust. Mr. Booth stated the full amount.

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO NEGOTIATE PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION & FIRST RESPONSE EMS/RESCUE SERVICES BETWEEN ALACHUA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS.**

Mr. Booth stated that he and the Fire Chief would like to negotiate this agreement.

Chief Gillingham stated that they have been working with the City of Newberry to be a united front. He states we would like to have a letter drafted to terminate the current contract.

Commissioner Weller asked what we would do if negotiations do not go well. Chief Gillingham stated he has spoken to Chief Buckner from Newberry regarding being backup for one another.

Commissioner Weller would like to see the upfront costs to know what we would need. Chief Gillingham stated they are currently working on this.

Chief Gillingham stated we have to give the county our intent by May 31, 2016. He stated the City of Melrose received an increase.

Chief Gillingham stated we need to have the letter drafted just so we do not get stuck another year because we did not give the county our intent by for May 31, 2016.

Attorney Walker stated we are not renewing the current contract, not necessarily canceling the contract.

**Motion Commissioner Evans to authorize City Staff to negotiate proposed agreement for Fire**

**Suppression & First Response EMS/Rescue Services between Alachua County and the City of High Springs and have the attorney's draft a letter for the current agreement termination.  
Second Commissioner Weller.  
Motion carried 5-0.**

**DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PURCHASE OF VEHICLE FOR THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND CODES DEPARTMENT FOR USE BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.**

Mr. Booth advised that if approved we would need to do a budget amendment.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to purchase the vehicle for Planning Development and Codes Department for the Building Official for \$19388.00.  
Second Vice Mayor James.**

Commissioner Jamison stated he will not vote in favor only because he thinks that it should be planned for and a budgeted item.

**Motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Jamison opposing.**

**REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 2016 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.**

Mr. Booth advised that the departments are right in line.

Commissioner Jamison asked about the Recreation Grants. Ms. Stull spoke of first going out for bid for the construction of the equipment. Mr. Booth stated that we are moving ahead.

Commissioner Jamison asked about the budget amendment and setting aside cash into reserves.

Mr. Booth advised that we would like to change the Ordinance to read two months operating cash, not fund balance.

Discussion on Reserve Funds.

Mrs. Parham stated we typically hold a budget workshop prior to the amendment.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2016-E, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA, DECLARING NW 231ST STREET IN THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS TO BE DESIGNATED WITH THE HONORARY DESIGNATION AS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE; AUTHORIZING A BROWN HONORARY STREET SIGN BE PLACED BELOW THE OFFICIAL STREET SIGNAGE TO STATE "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE"; REPEALING ALL RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to table Resolution 2016-E to the April 28, 2016 meeting.  
Second Commissioner Evans.  
Motion carried 5-0.**

**CONSIDER APPOINTING MEMBER TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD.**

**Motion Commissioner Weller to appoint Richard A. Daughtery to the Parks & Recreation Board as an alternate.**

**Second Commissioner Jamison.**

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE**

Attorney Walker -Nothing at this time.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE**

Starting April 11th he and Mr. Benton will start working on Friday, alternating Fridays, during the Water Line Project. He will knock on doors to let them know of the upcoming construction.

Advised that from April 7th-10th he will be in Dallas, TX and will appoint someone in-charge.

Mr. Thomason stated that ScubaNation will be in town next Thursday and Friday filming.

**COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:**

**COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Evans wished everyone a safe and happy Easter.

Commissioner Jamison- Nothing at this time.

Commissioner Weller- Nothing at this time.

Vice Mayor James- Nothing at this time.

**MAYOR**

Mayor Williams spoke of a Workshop by FLC in Kissimmee on How to Deal with an Active Shooter, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Noble is looking for sponsorships for the scholarships. Chief Decoursey gave a background on Noble.

Reminded of the Community Cleanup April 16th & 17th in the Douglas Community.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to adjourn.**

**Second Commissioner Evans.**

**Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.**