

23718 US HWY 27
High Springs, Florida 32643



Telephone: (386) 454-1416
Facsimile: (386) 454-2126
Web: www.highsprings.us

CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

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

Invocation By Pastor Mark Swaisgood, High Springs Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mayor Byran Williams – Present
Vice Mayor Gloria James – Present
Commissioner Jason Evans – Absent
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 Department Lieutenant
Jennifer Stull, Finance Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the Agenda as presented.
Second Vice Mayor James.
Motion carried 4 -0.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2016 Commission Meeting.
Second Vice Mayor James.
Motion carried 4-0.**

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO VOLUNTEERS LEDA CARRERO, CAROL PRATT AND HARRY PATTERSON FOR THE MEMORIAL GARDEN CONSTRUCTED AT THE HIGH SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Williams presented Certificates of Appreciation for Leda Carrero, Carol, Pratt, Harry Patterson Lowes of Alachua, Griffis Lumber, and Grandiflora for their contributions to the Memorial Garden Constructed at the High Springs Fire Department.

Commissioner Weller spoke of the many hours that Ms. Carrero has put into helping High Springs and all she has done for the community.

BUDGET

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2016-X, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA; DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF AND FIXING THE FINAL RATE OF AD VALOREM TAXATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016/2017; AND PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2016-X in its entirety.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Resolution 2016-X as read in its entirety.
Second Vice Mayor James.**

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2016-08, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2016/2017 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS, FLORIDA; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Attorney Walker read Ordinance 2016-08 in its entirety.

Mayor Williams opens the hearing for Public Input, with no one coming forward Mayor Williams closes the public hearing.

Commissioner Weller stated that she feels that the City Manager has addressed items that needed to be addressed.

Commissioner Jamison stated we are finally getting vehicles and equipment that we need, but we are not financing, which is important.

**Motion Commissioner Jamison to approve Ordinance 2016-08 as read by its entirety.
Second Commissioner Weller.**

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried 4-0.

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

Leda Carrero spoke of the citizens in the community that also helped with donations to make the Memorial Garden possible.

Jess Irby, running for Alachua County Clerk of Court, wanted to come and introduce himself and gave a background of his career.

NEW BUSINESS

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2016-W, A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MONTHLY SALARY
FOR THE OFFICE OF CITY COMMISSIONER AND MAYOR; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
DATE.**

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2016-W by title only.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Resolution 2016-W as read by title only.
Second Vice Mayor James.**

Mr. Booth stated it appears that it is an increase for the Commission, but it is just bringing it back to what it was in the past.

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried 4-0.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2016-Y, A RESOLUTION INCREASING AND IMPLEMENTING
RATES FOR SOLID WASTE SERVICES, FOR COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS TO REFLECT**

**WCA BILLING FOR COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT;
SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2016-Y by title only.

Commissioner Jamison asked for clarification. Finance Director Stull stated this will offset what we pay WCA. She stated this makes it so we are not paying more to WCA than we collect from the customer.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Resolution 2016-Y as read by title only.
Second Commissioner Jamison.**

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried 4-0.

**DISCUSSION ON REQUEST FOR PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE
DEDICATION OF FUNDS FOR WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN NORTH AND
CENTRAL FLORIDA.**

Nick Loffer, Stand up North Florida, thanked the commission for putting this on the agenda. He spoke of the need for the dedication of funds for Water Conservation Projects in North and Central Florida. He states that we need to send a message to the legislature. He would like for the commission to adopt the resolution to band together with the other communities in North and Central Florida.

Commissioner Weller asked if we could adopt the presented resolution. Attorney Walker stated that the Commission could adopt the presented resolution and he could read the resolution into the record with the City of High Springs information as needed.

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2016-Z as read by title only.

**Motion Commissioner Weller to approve Resolution 2016-Z as read into the record.
Second Vice Mayor James.**

Attorney Walker asked for clarification on the resolution and purchasing of land south of Lake Okeechobee. Mr. Loffer spoke of the Amendment One money being planned to be spent on the purchase of the property south of Lake Okeechobee.

Mr. Loffer stated they are trying to educate the public and local communities with Stand Up North Florida. Attorney Walker asked who funds or backs Stand Up North Florida. He states that they are Not-For-Profit Organization.

Commissioner Weller stated that if there is a concern with language of the Resolution, she is open to bring it back. She states that this is just trying to make sure the Amendment One money is spread evenly throughout the State.

Attorney Walker suggested the commission table and bring back at the next commission meeting, in order for staff to do more research.

Commissioner Weller withdrew original motion.

Motion Commissioner Weller to table this item until the next regular Commission Meeting, for staff to bring back additional information.

Second Vice Mayor James.

Gene Levine asked, if this goes through, what happens to the drinking water here. Mr. Loffer stated if there is an issue and funds are needed for a drinking water project, there would not be funds available.

Motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDER CODE BOARD MEMBER KRISTEN RUBIN'S REQUEST TO BE ASSIGNED TO THE PLAN BOARD.

Attorney Johnson stated that you have to have seven members on your Code Board, and there is a Code Board Meeting tomorrow, and if this is done tonight we would not have a seven member board for that meeting.

Motion Commissioner Weller to table item until next Commission Meeting.

Second Vice Mayor James.

Motion carried 4-0.

CONSIDER RETIREMENT/SURPLUS OF K-9 AGGIE AND AUTHORIZE THAT SHE BE GIVEN TO K-9 HANDLER ETHAN PRESNELL.

Chief Decoursey stated that Officer Presnell and Aggie have served our community well. He presented a plaque to Officer Presnell and Aggie for their dedication and service.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE

Nothing at this time.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE

Advised that the Recreation Director has found a matching grant for Walter Howard Park to go along

with the FRDAP Grant.

Advised that there is a Code Enforcement Board Meeting tomorrow.

Advised we will need to sell the house the City has obtain soon, and we can use this money to help with dilapidated homes in the community.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Jamison- Nothing at this time.

Commissioner Weller- Advised that there are no smoke detectors or fire alarms in City Hall. She stated that she would like to have this looked into and for the City to install fire alarms where city employees work or the citizens may be present.

Vice Mayor James- Spoke of getting calls at the Chamber about handicap accessible hotels, or places to stay. She stated she called around and only the Econo Lodge in Alachua has two rooms.

MAYOR:

Questioned if the trash issue got resolved. Mrs. Parham stated that she did receive a response and the company is working on the issue.

Announced that October 23rd he will be getting married at a private ceremony and they will have a reception at the Civic Center.

Motion Commissioner Weller to adjourn.

Second Vice Mayor James.

Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.