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CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
JUNE 22 , 2017

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

Invocation By: Pastor Byran William, Mt. Carmel Church

Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Staff Present: Ed Booth, City Manager
Jenny Parham, City Clerk
Angela Stone, Assistant City Clerk
Scott Walker, City Attorney
Courtney Johnson, Assistant City Attorney
Jennifer Stull, Finance Director
Antoine Sheppard, Deputy Police Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Motion Vice Mayor Evans to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 Commission Meeting.
Second Commissioner Williams.
Motion carried 5-0.**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**Motion Vice Chair Evans to approve the agenda removing the Presentation on the Modification of School Concurrency and removing Item #2 under New Business Consider Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement With American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees (AFSCME) For A Three-Year Period.
Second Commissioner Williams.
Motion carried 5-0.**

CONTINUED BUSINESS

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DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM WCA FOR A 2.2% CPI INCREASE IN RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES.

Mr. Booth advised he and staff met with WCA, a week ago, regarding concerns we have. He stated that WCA had reorganized their organization somewhat, and had new drivers. He states they understand what our concerns are and that we are going to watch for improvement. We will relook at this in 60 days.

Attorney Walker states that this is not an automatic increase. He states that we cannot unreasonably deny the increase, we must give them substantial reason for not granting the CPI increase. He states that this additional time will let them have the opportunity to address our concerns.

Commissioner Jamison spoke of his concern with them going back to same problems.

Mr. Booth advised that one of the issues we have had, but the City is helping to correct, is with bulk pick up; staff will keep an eye out for bulk items and make sure it gets called into the garbage company.

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

Nancy Linkous, Back in Balance, spoke of renting a room in another business in town. She spoke of the Multiuser Fee, she is asking for a reconsideration on a case by case basis for this ordinance.

Sharon Tugman, owner of Wisteria Cottage, asked if it is the policy of the City Manager and the Commission to not respond to email. She spoke of sending this email out in May. She spoke of her building only having one toilet and being charged a multiuser fee. She spoke of another business in town, Talented Cookie, having three businesses in it and only being charged one fee.

Sue Weller gave an update on the Rails to Trails project. She advised that the County Commission will be looking at acquiring the corridor at the next Tuesday County Commission meeting. She stated that if the Commissioners are available it would be beneficial for them to attend.

Commissioner Jamison requested there be a letter of support written to the County Commission regarding the Rails to Trails.

Nancy Linkous spoke of Barber's Automotive still running a trucking business. She urged that the city have a Code Enforcement Officer.

Commissioner Jamison asked the timeline on this. Mr. Booth advised that we will be going out soon for a RFQ for the magistrate and we will also be doing a personnel action next month for the Code Enforcement. Mr. Booth advised that citizens can contact himself or Chief Gillingham regarding code issues until we have a Code Enforcement Officer.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS REQUEST FOR A WAIVER IN CONNECTING TO CITY SEWER FROM LEDA

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CARRERO.**

Vice Mayor Evans states he would like to see something from the Florida Department of Health and/or legitimate doctor. He stated that even if we did grant the waiver she should have to pay the fees associated with it.

Commissioner Jones stated she has done some research on this. She states that she agrees that we need more information and documentation.

Mr. Booth advised that speaking to staff and engineers they have come up with a way to vent the fumes for this system.

Commissioner Jamison stated that in 2007 Ms. Carrero signed an easement. He states there is not an exemption in the ordinance but we can work with her, and vent the system or she can pay the ready to Serve Fee and not put it in.

Commissioner Evans stated even if she could produce documentation within 60 days from a credible Medical Doctor, preferably from the Florida Department of Health, as to why she cannot have this system she would still need to pay. He stated that if she cannot produce the documentation we should proceed with this engineered venting system.

Attorney Walker stated there is no exemption within the Ordinance. He states that if the Commission would like to proceed with the exemption under Florida Statutes than we would need to implement a procedure for that.

Attorney Johnson states the Ready to Serve fee is not a waiver, and you are still obligated to connect.

Commissioner Williams stated the Florida Statue states that it has to be medically necessary and she should provide medial documentation.

CONSIDER AWARDING BID TO REPAVE PARKING AREA AT THE HIGH SPRINGS CIVIC CENTER.

Mr. Booth advised that we went out for bid for the repaving of the parking area at the High Springs Civic Center. He advised that we received 7 bids for this project. He states that it is staff's recommendation to accept the \$29,450.00 bid from Wilks Site Prep.

Commissioner Jamison asked the time frame. Mr. Booth advised that soon as it is approved we will have them start as soon as they are available.

Motion Commissioner Jamison to award the bid to Repave Parking Area at the High Springs Civic Center to Wilks Site Prep in the amount of \$29,450.00.

Second Commissioner Jones.

Motion carried 5-0.

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CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2017-J, 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, 2017; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Attorney Walker read Resolution 2017-J by title only. Attorney Walker read the rates in Appendix A.

Chief Gillingham stated they have noticed everyone at \$112.00.

Commissioner Jamison asked the current rate. Mr. Booth advised that it is \$93.00.

Chief Gillingham states this is setting where you want to go, but what rate you pass tonight we can go below, but cannot go higher

City Clerk Parham stated the final resolution would come before them in August.

Commissioner Jamison stated this money is specifically designated to Fire. He asked what would we have to do for the citizens not to see an increase in their taxation. Mrs. Stull stated that you could go with a roll back rate, but if the values go up you may not see a decrease.

Chief Gillingham advised the increase is per year, for clarification.

**Motion Vice Mayor Evans to approve Resolution 2017-J with the rates in the \$112.00 Residential Rate Box of Appendix A, Section A-2.
Second Commissioner Jamison.**

Roll Call:

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

Motion carried 5-0.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT/UPDATE

Attorney Walker states they have nothing at this time.

CITY MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE

Advised that the Attorney and himself will look at the ordinance in regards to multiuser.

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Advised that we have received a letter from the NCFR Planning Group that they would like us to appoint a non-voting member to the council. He states that staff will come up with a recommendation.

Advised that the City received a bid for \$66,000.00 for the City owned house and we have received a check.

Advised we have received two more properties that taxes were not paid on. He states that we may get push back on one; there is an elderly woman that lives in one home and the home is probably only worth about \$20,000.00. He advised the other property is on our Code Enforcement list and needs to be torn down.

Advised he is in the process of appraising the High Springs's Spring.

Advised that we are doing an RFQ for an Environmental Engineer to do the High Springs's Spring project. He states that he has a commitment from the SRWMD for up to \$400,000.00 on this project.

Advised that the Fire Department will do a prescribed burn at the High Springs' Spring location to remove overgrowth and ticks.

Advised that the parks will be inspected twice a week, as there is not enough attention given to the parks.

Advised that he went to a census meeting and the census will kick off in 2018. He states that this will be different than in the past and is a large project that staff will work on. He states after this project there will no longer be an appeal process.

Advised that we have been given a request by the City of Newberry for us to take over their School Resource Officers, but they will do the crossing guards.

Advised we have had a request from Lacrosse for our Fire Department to take over their Fire Department. He advised that it is not possible, and we offered that they could come train with our department.

Advised that within the next two weeks he will send out a letter to the property owners that will be effected by Phase A-1 sewer connections.

Advised that we are going out for a RFQ for a magistrate and personnel action for Code Enforcement.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Jones- Nothing at this time.

Commissioner Jamison-Nothing at this time.

Commissioner Williams wants to make sure there is Handicap Parking at the Civic Center Park.

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Mr. Booth stated that the LDC covers that and it will be marked appropriately. Commissioner Williams asked about the RV storage. Mr. Booth advised that this is one of the files we are reviewing. Chief Gillingham stated they are currently working on this to make sure everything is in line and will bring to the City Manager once all information is collected. Commissioner Williams asked about the Jackson property and Chief Gillingham advised that a letter has been sent.

Vice Mayor Evans stated that with the issue with the multiuser ordinance, he would like it to come back and be revisited. He states he is not too happy with some of the results. Mr. Booth stated he will sit down with the attorneys and compare to other areas.

MAYOR

Mayor James stated she noticed that we are getting some new lights in our street lights. Mr. Booth stated the new lights will use less energy.

**Motion Vice Mayor Evans to adjourn.
Mayor James adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.**