



City of Crescent City

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MINUTES

City Commission Regular Meeting

January 11, 2018 - 6:00 p.m.

Present. Mayor Brett Peterson; Commissioner Harry Banks; Commissioner Marcus Hardy; Commissioner Barbara Scholl; Commissioner Judy West; Patrick Kennedy, City Manager and Jay Asbury, City Attorney.

The regular meeting of the City Commission was held January 11, 2018 at City Hall. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Brett Peterson.

Approval of Minutes. Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Banks, to approve the Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of December 14, 2017. Motion passed - all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Scholl, to approve the Minutes of the City Commission Hearing of December 19, 2017. Motion passed - all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation 18-01 Arbor Day. Mayor Peterson read Proclamation 18-01 aloud. Patrick Kennedy added that this year, a 30 gallon size live oak will be planted at Fletcher Park on January 16th at 9:00 a.m. The Florida Forest Service provided the tree and will be handing out a variety of trees to the attendees.

Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner West, to accept and approve Proclamation 18-01 as presented. Motion passed - all ayes.

Proclamation 18-02 School Choice Week. Mayor Peterson read Proclamation 18-02 aloud and presented it to Robert DeFranco from the American College of Applied Science.

Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner Hardy, to accept and approve Proclamation 18-02 as presented. Motion passed - all ayes.

Recommendation of Award for Walnut Street Paving Project. Patrick Kennedy reported that the DOT SCOP grant was put out to bid resulting in Built Rite Construction coming in as low bidder. However, DOT is requiring a qualification standard that they believe BRC does not meet. A review is being conducted to evaluate a possibility of exemption.

Staff is recommending proceeding with Built Rite Construction. In the event BRC does not qualify, the contract be awarded to the next lowest bidder, Halifax Paving, subject to DOT approval. Both bids are under budget.

Motion by Commissioner Scholl, second by Commissioner Hardy, to award the paving project contract to Built Rite Construction subject to DOT approval and failing approval, contract with Halifax Paving. Motion passed - all ayes.

Recommendation of Award of Consulting Services to the University of Florida for the Second Deliverable under the DEO Assistance Grant. The first deliverable required was completed in-house and included the Hearing held on December 19, 2017. While the University of Florida was unable to assist with the first deliverable, they have agreed to perform the work required for the second and third deliverables for an amount not to exceed the grant award. They will conduct a public meeting to receive input on proposed CRA Plan updates, prepare a Plan update to reflect the expanded boundary, identify areas with critical needs for water and sewer upgrades and expansion, identify areas best suited for marina development, identify historic based tourism opportunities, develop a design concept for Central Avenue, consider planning and design for a boardwalk that links Sunrise Park and the business area, identify target uses for the "Miller" property and ensure that the CRA Plan continues to meet Florida Statute requirements. All work must be finished by June 1, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Scholl, second by Commissioner Banks, to authorize Patrick Kennedy to execute an agreement with the University of Florida to complete the second and third deliverables under the DEO Technical Assistance grant not to exceed the awarded amount. Roll call vote - all ayes.

CRA Expansion Hearing Report. Reviewing the Public Meeting in November and the Hearing on December 19th, Patrick Kennedy reported the expansion of the CRA boundary to the north and south is moving forward. Boundary adjustments were made at the hearing in response to public input and will include most of the Highway 17 corridor.

Mayor Peterson called for public input or questions. There being none, the meeting continued.

Resolution 18-01 Project Putnam. Mayor Peterson read Resolution 18-01 aloud. This Resolution supports Congressman Yoho's vision for Putnam County and his five Project Putnam Pillars: Recovery, Stability, Growth, Accountability and Engagement. Patrick Kennedy showed a presentation that was initiated by Congressman Yoho at public meetings in November and December.

Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Scholl, to accept and approve Resolution 18-01 as presented. Roll call vote - all ayes.

General Discussion of Fletcher Park Workshop. A Workshop was held on January 9th at Fletcher Park to determine what improvements are needed. Suggestions included a new sidewalk to replace the sidewalk that was destroyed in the 2004 hurricanes, cleaning the shoreline, leveling the grass areas, re-pave the parking lot, add a picnic table, install bulkhead around the dock and create a soft ramp for kayaks and canoes. Patrick Kennedy reported that a contractor to clear dead and damaged trees and underbrush on 290' of shoreline has been hired and will be partially funded by the Dog Park sponsor, Bob Spereno. The shoreline cleanup required a permit from Fish & Wildlife which has been granted. An estimate of \$9,000 to resurface the parking lot will be put out to bid and replacing the sidewalk from the parking lot to the dock and dog park is in process.

Commissioner Hardy suggested using the demolition concrete from the Walnut Street paving project for the shoreline. Mayor Peterson suggested stump grinding, especially on the edge of the parking lot.

Katie Berg suggested adding a grill and Mayor Peterson would like to see a picnic shelter. Commissioner Hardy proposed an expansion of the current dock to run parallel with the shoreline.

Police Chief's Law Enforcement Report. Chief Damiano reported in the last month there were 107 traffic stops resulting in 62 citations and 88 written warnings, 4 DUI arrests and 9 drug investigations.

There was a burglary of a ring from a residence; domestic battery with a stolen vehicle; child neglect; grand theft at Palmera's Restaurant parking lot; grand theft by an employee at Winn Dixie and trespass and resisting arrest at Gunby Court.

A mental health initiative was started with Stuart Marchman to streamline Baker Act cases. They will begin to accept mental health clients on 1/15/18 and provide initial and follow-up services for up to one year.

Two new police vehicles will be arriving soon. They are being paid 75% by a Federal Grant.

Commissioner Hardy asked if the Chief anticipated any problems with Sanctuary City rules on illegal immigrants. Chief Damiano responded that anyone arrested in Crescent City is transported to Putnam County where any possible federal involvement is determined.

Police Community Outreach Report. Chief Damiano reported that the Chief's Club is planning 6 events this coming year. Included are Cops, Kids and Kayaks; Pasta in the Park with a Movie after Dark; Donut with a Cop Day; National Night Out; Cops and Gobblers Turkey Shoot Fundraiser in conjunction with Kiwanis Club, Palatka PD, Palatka FD, Sheriff's Department, CCPD and CCFD and lastly, Hotcakes for Heroes in coordination with the Veteran's Day Parade.

The Woman's Club has donated three dozen teddy bears with CCPD patches sewn on that were distributed to local children.

Code Enforcement Report. Pamela Taylor reported that of the 91 year-to-date cases, 72 have been closed while 19 remain open. There are 9 Code Enforcement Board Cases. \$1,805.65 in Code Enforcement fines and Administrative fines have been collected in 2017.

Commissioner Banks expressed concern about the danger of abandoned houses followed by discussion of establishing a time limit on structures being boarded up and possible abatement of properties. City Attorney Jay Asbury pointed out that a court order granting permission to abate a property would be required.

Patrick Kennedy suggested an update on our housing code be done this year.

City Commission Comments and Questions. Patrick Kennedy was asked about any progress on efforts to have a bait shop at the City owned "old medical" building by Sunrise Park. He responded that the interested parties were looking for the City to rehab the building prior to moving forward.

Commissioner West noticed that there appears to be insufficient parking for parents by the children's playground at Eva Lyon Park. Patrick Kennedy responded that additional parking options could be explored.

Commissioner Banks is concerned about the Eva Lyon Park improvements not being able to withstand skateboarding in the gazebo and the court nets being torn down.

Lisa DeVitto, 108 S. Main Street commented that she has not seen any sign prohibiting skateboarding and was unaware that the park is closed at dusk since she sees people in the park well after dark.

Patrick Kennedy suggested she call the CCPD when she observes these activities.

Commissioner Scholl requested an update on the fuel tanks and system. Patrick Kennedy responded that they are still researching compatibility between the surplus equipment and the new software that would be required. A complete new system with tank is estimated to cost \$21,000.

Patrick Kennedy was unable to locate any information regarding retrofitting the park swing chains for additional safety.

Commissioner Scholl requested Attorney Jay Asbury report on his research regarding ordinances prohibiting sex-themed stores. He responded that his research indicated it would be illegal to prohibit this type of store but the City would be allowed to place parameters and/or restrictions on location. Attorney Asbury will research language that would legally outline restrictions and would need to be considered to change business zoning.

Commissioner Hardy asked if current zoning would allow a marijuana dispensary in the City limits. Patrick Kennedy responded that this type of business would fall under the same requirements of any pharmacy.

Responding to an inquiry on the progress of the fiber network, Patrick Kennedy said he is still waiting for details.

Mayor Peterson asked if the improvement projects at Harry Banks Park have been completed. Patrick Kennedy said that he is not happy with the asphalt and has been in contact with the contractor and they are working on a solution with their subcontractor.

Visitor and Citizen Communications.

Diane Sykes, 304 Chestnut Street regarding the courts at Eva Lyon Park, a suggestion was presented to have rackets, balls and possibly nets available for check out at the library. Patrick Kennedy has already inquired on the possibility with the library.

Lisa DeVitto, 108 S. Main Street is concerned with taking down the tennis net due to its weight and the need for specific tension. She suggested consulting with a tennis club for professional input.

There was discussion on finding another location for soccer to avoid further damage to the nets or fencing at Eva Lyon Park. Patrick Kennedy pointed out that while soccer fields are available elsewhere, court soccer is a

separate style of play requiring a concrete pad and possibly a fenced enclosure. He will talk to the regular soccer players to determine what type of soccer is preferred and explore possible solutions.

Commissioner Scholl asked for an update on the security camera at Harry Banks Park. Mayor Peterson responded that the camera is functional but has not captured any problems.


Lisa DeVitto, 108 S. Main Street announced that Rotary and MAGI, along with local businesses and citizens, has sponsored a Winter Classical Music Concert with the San Marco Chamber Music Society on January 28th at the Howe United Methodist Church.

There being no further business and no other visitor or citizen communication, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

APPROVED this 8th day of February, 2018.



Brett W. Peterson, Mayor



Patrick Kennedy, City Manager