



City of Crescent City

3 NORTH SUMMIT STREET
CRESCENT CITY, FLORIDA 32112-2599

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MINUTES

City Commission Regular Meeting

January 12, 2017- 7:00 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 12, 2017 at City Hall. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brett Peterson.

Students of the Month. Leonardo Cruz and Nataly Huerta were selected as the January Students of the Month from Middleton-Burney Elementary.

Approval of Minutes. Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Scholl, to approve the Minutes of the City Commission Meeting of December 8, 2016. Roll call vote – all ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 16-03 -- SECOND READING. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRESCENT CITY (CITY) AUTHORIZING A THREE YEAR EXTENSION TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CRESCENT CITY AND THE PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (COUNTY), AND AMENDING THE AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE LEASE PAYMENTS DURING THIS THREE YEAR PERIOD AND TO CLARIFYING THE SPACE THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner West, to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 16-03 as presented. Roll call vote – all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

Culver Meeting Room at Crescent City Library. Nancy Taylor, 101 Oakwood Street, explained that in early September the after-hours use of the meeting rooms across the county was discontinued. This policy change was later rescinded and will be reviewed at the Library Board meeting in Interlachen on January 23rd.

Commissioner Scholl pointed out this room was donated by Alta Culver and would like to see the room continued to be used for the intended benefit to the community. Commissioner Banks suggested contacting Commissioner Pickens and encouraging him to support keeping meeting rooms open.

Proclamation 17-02 Arbor Day. Mayor Peterson read the proclamation aloud. Patrick Kennedy added that an Arbor Day celebration would be held at Middleton Burney Elementary School on Friday, January 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner School, to accept and approve Proclamation 17-02 as presented. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Ordinance 17-01 -- First Reading. AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CRESCENT CITY SETTING THE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING TIME TO 6:00 PM ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH; PROVIDING FOR THE EXCEPTION REQUIRED BY CITY CHARTER FOR ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS THAT FOLLOW AN ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Patrick Kennedy pointed out that the new start time of 6:00 p.m. will begin February 9, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner West, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 17-01 as presented. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Selection of FDOT Project Engineering Firm. Patrick Kennedy reported that he met with Mai Engineering and FGU consultants today. The budget, including engineering, has already been approved. Phase 2 of the project will be relocating the line under Dunns Creek and is expected to be put out to bid in the next 3 to 4 months depending on the completion of the design phase.

Proclamation 17-01 National School Choice Week. Mayor Peterson read the proclamation aloud and presented it to Robert DeFranco, co-owner of Stepping Stones Learning Center.

Motion by Commissioner Hardy, second by Commissioner Scholl, to accept and approve Proclamation 17-01 as presented. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Consideration of Putting Auditing Services and Solid Waste Collection Services out for Bid. Patrick Kennedy began the discussion by confirming satisfaction with services but believing that after 10 years a review would be appropriate.

Moats & Associates has been our auditing service and it might be in our best interest to wait for another year to put out to bid due to the upcoming Natural Gas Line Relocation Project. The funding process from DOT can get complicated and their experience with this process will be helpful. Mayor Peterson called for a vote to retain Moats & Associates for another year. All ayes.

The 5 year Waste Pro contract is due to expire this September. Commissioner Scholl is pleased that their operations are based in Putnam County and are providing jobs for local people. Also she is satisfied with the current service and contract. Commissioner West added that Waste Pro also supports the community with contributions and scholarships.

The proposed Toter system and number of weekly pick-ups was discussed which would require a change in our current contract. A quote was received and showed a slight increase with the Toter system for a once a week pick up. Patrick Kennedy reported that the survey results were half in favor of keeping the current service and half in favor of changing to the Toter system. Citizens in the audience were encouraged to comment.

Michael Frank was in favor of once a week pickup but would still like to see the contract put out to bid.

Lisa DeVito was concerned about any potential price increase with a change of system and is also concerned with a weekly pickup during the summer heat.

Chris Coleman has used the Toter system and feels it keeps garbage neat, presenting a better look for the community and believes a twice a week pickup would be better.

Commissioner Banks was concerned about senior citizens pulling the Toter uphill.

Diane Sykes asked if other size cans would be available for smaller households. Patrick Kennedy responded that he was not sure but thought the proposal would have all customers with the same size can.

Commissioner Hardy spoke that he initiated the Toter system review because he felt that twice a week pick up was not being utilized enough and a Toter would not only hold enough for one week, but would be uniform throughout the city and limit empty cans in the roads on pick-up days.

A show of hands from the audience was split on the Toter system.

Motion by Commissioner Scholl, second by Commissioner West, to renew current services with Waste Pro without the Toter system. Roll call vote – Commissioner Banks, aye; Commissioner Hardy, no; Commissioner West, aye; Commissioner Scholl, aye; Mayor Peterson, aye. Motion passed by a vote of 4 to 1.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application – Provide a Match or Attempt Full Funding.

Patrick Kennedy explained that the application is for resurfacing Bay Street, finish paving Clemmons Lane and repairing drainage in both areas. Application points can be increased by being shovel ready, having engineering completed and applying for a match grant. Engineering costs are estimated to be \$60,000. Fred Fox, of Fred Fox Enterprises, believes the application has enough merit without expending any funds. Patrick Kennedy recommended moving forward with the application without upfront expenditure.

Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Scholl, to approve the application for a fully funded CDBG Grant without any match. Motion passed - all ayes.

Nominees for Municipal Pension Board. Patrick Kennedy explained that this Board is for City employees and is more of a standard retirement program which requires an overview meeting annually. Al Simmers was nominated by Commissioner West.

Motion by Commissioner West, second by Commissioner Scholl, to approve and accept the appointment of Al Simmers. Motion passed – all ayes.

Nominees for the Fire Fighters Pension Board. Lawrence Edwards was nominated by Commissioner Banks. Motion by Commissioner Scholl, second by Commissioner Banks, to approve and accept the appointment of Lawrence Edwards. Motion passed – all ayes.

Nominees for Vacancy on Planning & Zoning Commission. Patrick Kennedy reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission is in need of a member and an alternate. Helen Brown was nominated by Commissioner West and Tate Hardy was nominated by Commissioner Banks. Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner West, to approve and accept the appointment of Helen Brown as the full-time member and Tate Hardy as the alternate. Motion passed – all ayes.

Nominees for the Code Enforcement Board. Chris Coleman was nominated by Mayor Peterson and Leroy Moore was nominated by Commissioner West. Motion by Commissioner Banks, second by Commissioner Scholl, to approve and accept the appointment of Chris Coleman as the full-time member and Leroy Moore as the alternate. Motion passed – all ayes.

Monthly Police Report – Chief Angelo Damiano. Chief Damiano reported that 2016 was a year of accomplishments for all the staff. He outlined program improvements made to be more effective and efficient and thanked all the citizens for their support to the department.

Ongoing priorities for the coming year are staffing, equipment and training. Re-evaluation of the compensation, retirement and vehicle package is needed and essential to remain competitive in recruitment

while competing with other local departments. Two vehicles have been replaced and the goal is to replace the remaining four by mid 2017. Advanced training programs will be scheduled throughout the year.

Chief Damiano presented a Unit Commendation to the members of the department for their role in the three month investigation and apprehension of 3 three suspects involved in 4 robberies and 2 burglaries in Crescent City.

Governor Rick Scott awarded the department a Disaster Response Medal for their efforts during Hurricane Matthew.

Asked about funding for additional vehicles, Chief Damiano responded that the first two were purchased with funds from a Department of Agriculture 75/25% Grant and the next two have been added to the first grant. Funding will be sought for the remaining two needed.

Commissioner Hardy asked if it would be possible to explore a sponsorship to hire local qualified applicants for a two year commitment of service. Chief Damiano answered that many options will be reviewed to draw possible applicants to fill the current vacancies.

Monthly Code Enforcement Report. Michael Frank reported that the yearly recap totaled 128 cases with 95 closed and 33 remaining open. 39 liens were filed with 4 resolved. Lien administration fees and fines collected were \$22,561.10.

City Manager Updates. Patrick Kennedy reported that the tennis court at Eva Lyon Park will be concrete instead of asphalt due to the original concrete foundation discovered during excavation. The electric is going in today, the playground is in and the permit for the gazebo was issued yesterday.

VISITOR AND CITIZEN COMMUNICATION.

Diane Sykes asked about the baby swing for the playground. Patrick Kennedy said he'd look into it.

Demolition on the Central Avenue building will be starting next week.

Lisa DiVito reported that she has seen many people driving in the park and is concerned about the safety for all using the park. Patrick Kennedy said this has been an on-going problem and hopes the new parking improvements will be a solution.

McKinley Evans Jr. said people are parking and driving in the Harry Banks Park also. He also asked if there could be "no smoking" signs installed. Patrick Kennedy responded that he had looked into signs and was informed that it is actually illegal to prohibit smoking outdoors.


Diane Sykes suggested that future investments in our parks should be suspended until a solution to the expensive vandalism is found.

Ashton Mac Kenzie suggested that a neighborhood watch for parks be formed.

There being no further business and no other visitor or citizen communication, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

APPROVED this 9th day of February, 2017.


Brett W. Peterson, Mayor


Patrick Kennedy, City Manager