

MAY 27, 2008
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

The City Commission of Dade City, Florida, met in the City Hall Annex Commission Chambers in a regular City Commission meeting on this 27th day of May, 2008, at 5:35 p.m. The following members were present: Mayor Scott Black and Commissioners Camille Hernandez, Steve Van Gorden, Eunice Penix, and Curtis Beebe. City staff members present included City Manager William C. Poe, Jr., City Clerk/Finance Director James D. Class, Deputy City Clerk Joanna Akers, City Attorney Karla Owens, Police Chief Raymond Velboom, and Administrative Services Director Laura Beagles.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Black, and invocation was given by Commissioner Penix, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag.

PRESENTATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-0986

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
DADE CITY, FLORIDA EXPRESSING ITS GRIEF TO THE FAMILY
OF ROBERT MELVIN "MEL" CASE UPON HIS PASSING.

Mayor Black asked the Case family to come up to the front of the room. City Clerk James D. Class read the Resolution in full. A motion was made by Commissioner Van Gorden to approve Resolution No. 2008-0986. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously. Mayor Black presented copies to Mrs. Case and family. (Resolution No. 2008-0986 in its entirety is on file in the City Clerk's office.)

A proclamation recognizing Mr. James Walmer was noted and will be presented at a later time.

Mayor Black called the members of Pasco Middle School Pirates for Peace up to the front of the room. City Clerk James D. Class read the Proclamation and Mayor Black presented the Proclamation to Principal Lane, club members, and Faculty advisors.

Two (2) proclamations recognizing Pasco High School Coach Ricky Giles and Pasco High School Pirates Baseball Team were noted and will be presented at a later time.

The April 22, 2008 Regular City Commission Meeting minutes were approved as individually read. The minutes of the May 8, 2008 Commission Workshop and the May 13, 2008 Regular City Commission Meeting were distributed.

CONSENT

The following memorandum dated May 20, 2008 was noted:

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
From: William C. Poe, Jr., City Manager
Subject: Emergency Purchase of a control panel for Sunset Ave. lift station
(Entire memorandum can be found in the City Clerk's file)

The memorandum noted that the lift station control panel on Sunset Avenue has been malfunctioning, thus resulting in sewage spills from that station and area manhole. Utilities Manager Mike Mulholland was able to obtain two (2) quotes and A.L. Covell Electric, Inc. was selected. The cost of the new control panel is \$9,400.00 and monies were previously budgeted for rebuilding a control panel. A motion was made by Commissioner Van Gorden to approve the City Manager's decision of the emergency purchase to buy the control panel on the Sunset Avenue lift station. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously, as part of the consent agenda. Commissioner Beebe wanted to make sure that this information had been passed onto the residents in that area. City Manager Billy Poe and City Attorney Karla Owens confirmed that it had.

OLD BUSINESS

City Engineer Jose Gil discussed fencing around the retention area for the Howard Avenue Drainage project. Although fencing is not required under existing codes, staff recognizes that it would provide additional safety at the site. Preliminary quotes put the cost of the fencing over the limit for purchasing without a bid. Commissioner Van Gorden made a motion to authorize staff to request bids for fencing around the retention area for the Howard Avenue Drainage project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously.

City Engineer Jose Gil discussed the City ordinance that prohibits the drilling of private water wells. With the City's main wells located in a close proximity in the downtown area, staff is concerned about maintaining the safety of the City's water supply if private wells were allowed. Staff will continue to investigate this issue and report back to the Commission.

The following memorandum dated May 21, 2008 was noted:

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
From: Karla S. Owens, City Attorney/Community Development Director
Subject: Commission Meeting Format
(Entire memorandum can be found in the City Clerk's file)

City Attorney Karla Owens noted that the Commission has discussed updating the format of Commission meetings to move public comment to the beginning of the meeting. The current order of business and other items related to Commission meetings are listed in the Dade City Code and would need to be amended by an ordinance. It was the consensus of the Commission to review the sections of the Code for discussion at the next meeting. In

addition, Mayor Black requested that City Attorney Karla Owens review these sections of the Code for changes from a legal standpoint.

City Clerk/Finance Director Jim Class discussed the request by an employee to exchange comp time for the purchase of cemetery lots. Employees could be paid for their time, taxes would be deducted, and the balance could be applied toward the purchase of cemetery spaces. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Beebe to allow 60 days for City employees to use their comp time to purchase cemetery lots. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Van Gorden, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney Karla Owens noted that Commissioner Penix had named Monica Russ as her appointment to the Architectural Review Board. Ms. Owens noted that the urgency to make the appointments to this board was due to a project at 37924 Pasco Avenue that is awaiting review by the board. Commissioner Beebe made a motion to waive the requirement for review by the Architectural Review Board for the current project at 37924 Pasco Avenue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Van Gorden, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney Karla Owens requested that the discussion on the appointments to the Land Development Board be withdrawn at this time.

The following memorandum dated May 21, 2008 was noted:

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
From: Karla S. Owens, City Attorney/Community Development Director
Subject: Employee Grievance Process
(Entire memorandum can be found in the City Clerk's file)

City Attorney Karla Owens reviewed that the new charter requires the City Commission to establish a comprehensive employee grievance process. Ms. Owens provided the Commission with information to clarify what the existing process is, what has occurred in the past, and examples of what other cities/counties are doing. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to have staff investigate an ordinance for a hearing officer with our labor attorney and to bring that information back to the Commission at a future meeting.

The following memorandum dated May 19, 2008 was noted:

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
From: Karla S. Owens, City Attorney/Community Development Director
Subject: Downtown Parking for Trolley Loading/Unloading
(Entire memorandum can be found in the City Clerk's file)

City Attorney Karla Owens requested that this item be withdrawn from the agenda for further discussion at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

City Clerk Jim Class noted that on May 13, 2008, the Commission approved an extraordinary rate increase for solid waste collection under the contract with Central Carting, Inc. Staff is requesting direction from the Commission as to whether to recover this additional cost by increasing the rate the City charges residential customers. It was the consensus of the Commission to take no action at this time.

The following memorandum dated May 19, 2008 was noted:

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission
From: Karla S. Owens, City Attorney/Community Development Director
Subject: Larkin Property Purchase for Cemetery
(Entire memorandum can be found in the City Clerk's file)

City Attorney Karla Owens noted that this item is for discussion and not approval since there are still issues to be resolved. Ms. Owens noted that Bob and Jo Larkin own approximately 7.08 acres of property abutting the north end of the existing cemetery which they are willing to sell to the City for future cemetery expansion. Commissioner Beebe asked if there was an expiration on the Sprint tower lease that had been proposed as a possible source of payment. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to continue this item until after the budget is determined.

Mayor Black noted the Resignation of Lee Brown from the Fire Pension Board. He stated that Mr. Brown was one of the two City-appointed members and wanted the Commission to give some thought as to a replacement. Staff will send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Brown for his service on the board.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Mayor Black received a letter from the Mathes family in appreciation for the City's show of support during the funeral of Sgt. Mathes. He also noted the article in the St. Petersburg Times recognizing Ed Gorecki and Mariarose Kussler for their efforts in obtaining and placing memorial flags in the Dade City Cemetery.

Commissioner Van Gorden also noted the article about the memorial flags and referenced the discussion at the workshop held before the Commission meeting.

Commissioner Beebe noted that he will be attending a meeting tomorrow afternoon with residents to discuss the proposed Terrace Park project.

Commissioner Hernandez noted that she graduated from Leadership Pasco and hoped the Commission would continue to budget funds to send someone to the next class. She also discussed the vandalism of the bathrooms at Price Park and inquired about the City obtaining a purchasing card that could be used to buy movies for Movie in the Park night.

NOTED ITEMS

Administrative Services Director Laura Beagles gave an update on requesting bids for Information Technology (IT) Services. She has contacted Frank Hagy from the Florida League of Cities to help us in our search since they have previously assisted us and are familiar with our system. They would help us through the whole process, including analyzing the system, preparing and distributing the Request for Proposals, doing the interviews, etc. Commissioner Beebe stated that he is also willing to assist with the evaluation process.

CITY RELATED BOARD MINUTES

The following City related Board Minutes were noted: the Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for February 4, 2008; the Historic Preservation Advisory Board Minutes for March 20, 2008; and the Youth Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2008.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Shive commented on the non-permitting of wells within the City limits and wanted to point out that the size of the wells can be regulated. He also wanted to know if the City can plan to resurface some roads each year. He noted that some of the roads that have been resurfaced, such as 10th Street, were not completed all the way and requested that each of the Commissioners drive down and inspect 10th Street.

Bill Killoren wanted to make staff and Commission aware of some issues with the playground equipment at Price Park. A motion was made by Commissioner Van Gorden to accept some photographs submitted by Mr. Killoren. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hernandez, and on a vote the motion passed unanimously. He stated that on the main piece of equipment, there is a space where a safety bar is missing and in the smaller playground, there is an area where some big bolts are exposed on the ground. He is very concerned as these are safety hazards for the children. City Engineer Jose Gil stated that he was aware of those issues and they are due to be fixed tomorrow.

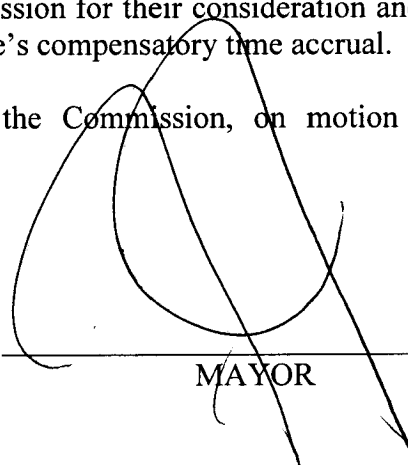
George Barth wanted to know if the City could determine how much the material would cost for the retention pond fence and have employees put it up. City Manager Billy Poe stated that we are looking into that option.

Lucy Avila presented Commissioners with a request to waive the rental fees for First Baptist Church to use the American Legion Hall every Sunday afternoon to provide meals for homeless people. Staff noted that the rental rules did not exempt churches from paying rental fees and that the Commission had set a policy to not allow standing reservations of rental facilities on weekends. The Commission suggested considering a week night for the project, but took no action on the request.

Robert Avila asked if the City could take on the project of feeding the homeless and then waive the rental fees. Regarding the IT issue, he wanted to know if there is a date for beginning the bid process, as he works for Ricoh and would like for them to be considered. He also stated that he frequently walks by Price Park in the evenings and tries to keep an eye out for any vandalism, but has noticed that the bathrooms are not being locked. The Commission thanked him for his help in monitoring the area and suggested that he notify the Police Dept. if he finds them unlocked in the future.

Joy McKinney wanted to thank the Commission for their consideration and approval of purchasing cemetery lots with City employee's compensatory time accrual.

There being no further business before the Commission, on motion the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CLERK