

CITY OF HAMPTON
Minutes, Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, July 16th, 2019, 7:00pm
5784 Navarre Ave., Hampton, FL 32044

ANYONE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING ANY TOPIC ON THIS EVENING'S AGENDA IS REQUESTED TO COMPLETE A COMMENT CARD AND RETURN TO THE CITY CLERK. PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES.

Meeting Facilitator: Dale Wiseman, Mayor

Invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL – City Clerk: Councilwoman Dorothy Shealey, Councilman Frank Bryant, Vice Chairman Doug Williamson, Mayor Dale Wiseman, and Chairman Bill Goodge. Councilwoman Lillian Sams was absent (excused). Also present were City Clerk/Administrator Mary Lou Hildreth and City Attorney Will Sexton.

Public Comment - Please limit comments to 3 minutes and restrain from personal attacks, using an individual's name or making political statements.

1. Public Hearings:

2. Resolutions:

3. Proclamations:

4. Presentations:

- A. Report on Water and Streets – Josh Davis, Swamp Cutters – Everything is going well, had someone “help” mow one day at City Park (cut too low, missed spots, grass blown all over), he was able to identify the individual and thanked him but requested he cease in the future. They changed out some meters that weren't providing accurate readings. Repaired a leak on Factory and had some line repairs on 325. Pressure washed water tank, that will need some painting as well. Fixed the check valve in the water yard. Whenever they did the pipe configuration the valve that needs to be changed is our protection point so the only way to change the valve is to drain the tank and pressure it off. He and Mr. Carter are working on a plan. Also the piping and stand needs repainted. They used biodegradable products to do the pressure washing to avoid killing any grass.

B. Clerk/Admin Report –

- FDOT SCOP grant – Held a successful pre-conference meeting with the contractor, FDOT representatives, the CEI and the EOR. She and Mr. Davis represented the city. Working on entering into the contract with Hipp Construction. Some roads will need to have their right of ways cleared and grubbed – including one major oak tree. The grant will cover that cost.
- Army Corps of Engineers called on 7/3/19 to advise we were funded for \$150,000 to do the flood/drainage study. Next step will be to have a scoping meeting to include engineers, SRWMD, Bradford County and ACOE.
- CDBG – One applicant withdrew and one did not have the required documentation. We are now accepting additional applicants. Advertised on the back of the water bills this month. So far she has received three more.
- Transition finally completed between Capital City and Ameris Bank. All Capital City accounts are now closed.
- RIVER Grant is still in the review process. However, they have requested additional information twice so she is hoping that it's a good sign.
- DEO Technical Assistance grant – we did not get awarded the funding to update the LDRs. Funding is limited on a state wide basis. Will attempt again next cycle.
- Due to the legislative session starting in January, we have already received the appropriation application from Representative Payne. We will apply again for sidewalk funding.
- Municode has submitted the proof for the codification of our ordinances. She will be working on that next week.
- She and Ms. Hornick met with the auditor and the CPA firm (Beauchamp). Mr. Beauchamp came out to City Hall to review our needs. He was to submit a proposal to “clean up” our chart of accounts and provide journal entries as well as yearly audit preparation. However, he called last week to say that given his client load and the distance from their office (Chiefland) he cannot take us on as a client at this time. He had no other firm to recommend. She asked him if they could at least do the one time “clean up” and he will consider it and submit a proposal.
- FLC QC Magazine article “Hampton Undergoes Transformation” - She was contacted by FLC regarding the narrative she wrote for the “City Spirit Award” and was told they would use it for a city spotlight. She feels this is even better than winning an award as it is a two page spread in a publication that receives statewide circulation to all municipalities, elected officials, city managers, etc. and she received many congratulatory calls and emails. It's nice to have positive recognition for the city.
- She applied for the Florida League of Mayors/Florida Business Grant again. It was another short advertisement time frame. She applied for drinking fountains for the parks. We have received 3 out of 4 grants attempted.
- She attended the FDOT workshop on SCOP compliance and received information on new invoicing and reporting requirements.
- She will be attending the Florida League of Cities conference in Orlando in August.
- Ms. Hildreth advised that someone came in the office to inquire about the property on the bend on Railroad Avenue. This property is owned by the Rails to Trails Conservancy, based out of Washington D.C. (and has been since 2001). She contacted their Florida field office to inquire as to what they intended to do with it. In speaking with their representative she learned a great deal about potential leftover funding through the

state. \$25 million is allocated per year and only \$16 million was allocated and that leaves \$9 million unallocated. He suggested a few people to contact to pursue this funding to get the trail done quicker than is currently planned. This is a great opportunity to accelerate the construction of the trail. She will be following the leads provided.

5.

CONSENT AGENDA

ALL MATTERS UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA AER CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION IN THE FORM LISTED BELOW. THERE WILL BE NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY. BACKUPDOCUMENTAION AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON THESE ITEMS.

A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes from 5/21/19

B. Financials/Account Payables for May/June, 2019

Motion made by Chairman Goodge to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Bryant. Passed 4 - 0

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Swamp Cutters Contract

City Clerk/Attorney

Mr. Sexton provided information on the contract documents presented. He stated the main issue of the previous contract was the lack of clarity regarding the outside contract services so he focused on clearly spelling out the parameters/costs.

This is a continuing services agreement and can be terminated with 60 day's notice by either party. Mayor Wiseman asked to clarify that we had requested a weekly log to be kept and presented to the council monthly (it was in the invitation to bid). Mr. Sexton advised we can add that language to the contract.

Vice Chairman Williamson discussed the definition of "main street right of ways". He wants the local side streets done as well. Brooker has this done in their town. Ms. Hildreth pointed out that Brooker hires a company to do lawn service only and they only mow every two weeks. He then inquired about mowing of the ROW from SR 301 to the railroad. Ms. Hildreth stated that the county mows that area and CR 221 but they do not do it weekly.

Vice Chairman Williamson reiterated his concern about the side streets and the vacant lots/properties that nobody mows - not only do they not mow up to the street they don't mow at all. Ms. Hildreth advised him to identify the properties and she would notify code enforcement, but again, Bradford County only has one code enforcement officer for the entire county. Ms. Hildreth reminded council that she added the four zone vegetation clean out proposal in the contract to help alleviate this. The city will be divided into four quadrants and one will be done each quarter. We can look at the results and adjust as needed. . Mayor Wiseman does share the feelings of Vice Chairman Williamson, however he feels that some people take care of their properties and some people don't, if people would just take a little pride in what they had it would help the city as a whole

Motion made by Chairman Goodge to approve the contract with the addition as stated regarding the log, seconded by Councilman Bryant. Passed 3 – 1 (Williamson nay).

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CPI for 2019/Water Rates City Clerk/Admin

Ms. Hildreth presented the updated water rates effective 8/1/19. Pursuant to the 2017 ordinance we are to raise the rates annually by the CPI (Consumer Price Index). Last year it was 2.9%, this year it is 1.8%. A customer that uses the average of 3000 gallons currently pays \$36.86, will now pay \$37.51 – an increase of .85. She reminded council this policy is the minimum recommended by both SERCAP and our auditor. She stated that without the SRWMD grants we would not be able to afford to maintain our system. The water fund is an enterprise fund and it needs to be self-sustaining. The city's costs are affected by the CPI as well.

Motion made by Councilman Bryant to approve the new rates, seconded by Chairman Goodge. Passed 4 - 0

B. FY 19/20 Millage Rate City Clerk/Admin

Ms. Hildreth advised it was budget and TRIM time again and she needs to file the tentative millage. She discussed the history of the rollback rate and that after many years we finally raised the millage from .32 to .50. These extremely low rates are usually seen in very affluent communities. That still only brings in \$4,000 per year which is equivalent to \$8.60 per resident per year. Mr. Sexton pointed out that in reality the amount paid is variable and she agreed but was just averaging to make a point. Ms. Hildreth and Mr. Sexton advised out that there will be two budget hearing (9/3 and 9/17) and we can always go down on the rate but we cannot go up. This rate will go on the tentative tax notice.

Motion made by Chairman Goodge to set the tentative tax rate at .75, seconded by Councilwoman Shealey. Passed 4 - 0

8. City Attorney Report

Will Sexton

None

9. Council general announcements/discussions

None

10. Adjourn

IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL NAY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THIS SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETING, THEY WILL NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS BASED. OTHER MATTERS OF CONCERN NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE DISCUSSED AS DETERMINED BY CITY COUNCIL. EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS (SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS LOBBYING OR INFORMATION GATHERING) BETWEEN A COUNCIL MEMBER AND OTHERS WHERE THERE IS SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION REGARDING A QUASI-JUDICIAL DECISION BY THE CITY COUNCIL MUST BE DISCLOSED BY THE COUNCIL SO THE PUBLIC MAY RESPOND TO SUCH COMMENTS BEFORE A VOTE IS TAKEN. ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE AUDIO TAPED.

By:

Dale Wiseman

ATTEST:

Mary Lou Hildreth, City Clerk/Administrator