CITY OF HAWTHORNE

COMMISSIONERS:

DeLoris Roberts, Mayor Eleanor Randall, Vice Mayor John Martin Terry Knowles William Carlton CITY MANAGER: Chad M. Shryock, City Manager Donna R. Mayes, City Clerk **CITY ATTORNEY:** Patricia Carter

MINUTES SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING September 29, 2005 @5:30 PM

Present at the Special Commission Meeting included the Board, City Manager Shryock and City Clerk Mayes.

Commissioner Martin gave the Invocation and Commissioner Carlton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved to approve the Agenda for the September 29th meeting. Motion – Commissioner Martin Second – Commissioner Carlton Vote – 5-0

Item 1. Final Plat Approval –Hawthorne Business Park

Mr. Eddie Higginbotham introduced his Attorney Mr. Kenneth Davis who explained they were requesting the acceptance of the Final Platt for the Business Park. They will have all signatures on the plat for certification along with the City's Attorney.

Moved to accept the Final Plat for the Hawthorne Business Park contingent upon all signatures approved by the City Attorney.

Motion – Commissioner Martin Second – Vice Mayor Randall Vote – 5-0

Item 2. Set Pay Raises

City Manager Shryock informed he was not familiar with the procedure of the Board being involved with staff raises. The Board allocates the money in the budget and the City Manager is responsible for disbursing the raises to the staff.

Mayor Roberts advised the Board should allow the City Manager to handle that as part of the administrative policy.

Commissioner Carlton alleged this was one more step in cutting the elected officials out of governing the City.

Commissioner Martin and Vice Mayor Randall agreed that whether this was policy or not this was the responsibility of the City Manager as the Chief

Administrative Officer. Who knows better how the raises should be applied so let him do his job.

Commissioner Carlton and Knowles voiced that they were elected by the people who should have a say considering the City's financial state. Commissioner Martin injected they did by setting the budget on what could be spent.

Mr. Eddie Martin, a former commissioner who served on the Florida League of Cities, stated that Hawthorne employees had always been underpaid. He added that the City had good employees and in order to keep them they should be paid according and that should be based on their evaluations done by the City Manager.

After a lengthy discussion motions was made.

Moved that the salaries of the non-chartered employees be set by the City Manager within the framework budgeted by the City Commission on a yearly basic.

Motion – Commissioner Martin Second – Vice Mayor Randall

Discussion - Commissioner Knowles inquired who non-chartered was. Commissioner Martin explained that the chartered staff was those directly hired by the Board such as the City Manager, City Attorney and City Auditor, others would be the non-chartered.

Vote – 5-0

Moved to direct staff to bring back proposed amendments to the budget reflecting a 4% increase in funds allocated for salaries.

Motion – Commissioner Carlton Second – Commissioner Martin Vote – 5-0

Mayor Roberts reported that in looking at the population of other cities and their salary range for a City Manager, Hawthorne is very low and recommended a raise for that position. The Board decided they would like more information on the basis of salaries other that the population. Mayor Roberts related she would do more research and bring this issue to a workshop for discussion.

Item 3. Residual Disposal Agreement

The Board discussed alternatives for the future of displacing the sludge other that paying GRU such high prices but conceded that at this time the City had no choice.

Moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the agreement with Gainesville Regional Utilities.

Motion – Commissioner Martin Vote – 5-0

Second-Commissioner Knowles

Item 4. Planning Council Agreement

The Board was very adamant in agreeing that a representative from the Planning Council attend the meetings where there is an issue concerning the Land Development Regulations and directed staff to request their presence. Moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to sign the Agreement for services with the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

Motion – Commissioner Martin Vote – 5-0

Citizen Comments

Inquiries were made concerning the bathrooms at the City Park to which City Manager Shryock informed he would bring information to the November Meeting.

Item 5. Reports

- a) Mayor Roberts announced the October 3rd monthly meeting and also the October 22nd Town Meeting at Shell Elementary. Also a Workshop at 12:00 noon on the 6th of October.
- b) Commissioner Martin asked about the MSTU mail out, which City Manager Shryock replied would be discussed on Monday.
- c) Commissioner Knowles mentioned the lights for the City Park. City Manager Shryock informed they had been looked at just waiting for the contractor to schedule the day. The lights in the Reservation have not been looked at yet adding he had been out of town on a conference.

Moved to adjourn Motion – Commissioner Martin Unanimous

Second – Commissioner Carlton