
COMMISSIONERS:

Terry Knowles, Mayor
Eleanor Randall, Vice Mayor
John Martin
DeLoris Roberts
William Carlton

CITY MANAGER:

Chad M. Shryock, City Manager
Donna R. Mayes, City Clerk

CITY ATTORNEY:

Steve Lee

**MINUTES
REGULAR COMMISSION
AUGUST 21, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Present was, Mayor Knowles, Vice Mayor Randall, Commissioners Carlton and Martin. Absent: Commissioner Roberts. Staff Present was, City Manager Shryock, City Clerk Mayes, Intern Planner Dougherty and Attorney Lee.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved to approve the agenda

Motion – Vice Mayor Randall

Second – Commissioner Martin

Commissioner Carlton voiced that he did not vote for the Fire Assessment or Police Department as stated in the Minutes.

City Manager Shryock informed this was approval of the agenda only, not the Consent Agenda in which the minutes are located.

Vote – 5-0

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Todd Henson of SE 65th Lane inquired about the annexation referendum's the City is doing and asked if this process could be explained. City Manager Shryock and Commissioner Martin expounded on this procedure adding this was done to keep from creating pockets or enclaves. Mr. Henson was informed that a vote would be taken of people in that specific area, at a called election, and the annexation referendum must pass by a majority vote.

Jane Box stated it was her understanding that the people should be notified of any meeting discussing this issue and inquired how it was noticed. City Manager Shryock explained that notices were posted at City Hall and different areas around town, advising that the people in the referendum area would get notification on final readings of Ordinances and election process.

Kathy Bruning of SE 225th Drive declared she did not see in the Urban Services Report what services the City intended to provide. She asserted that not all the people wanted to be annexed into the City and asked what the City could do

for them, especially if they had to pay out money to hook up to City utilities. Notification seemed to remain an issue and Mayor Knowles assured that the people would be notified. Attorney Lee inserted that the vote would be by the registered electors 90-180 days after the Ordinance was passed.

Elaine O'Halloran voiced her concerns about the unpaved road, stating she had been trying to get the County to pave it and wondered if the City would pave it if annexed in. City Manager Shryock informed that in time it would be but not soon.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Vice Mayor Randall

Discussion – Commissioner Carlton noted once again that he did not vote “yes” to the Fire Assessment and Law Enforcement. Mayor Knowles brought to his attention that the Minutes had recorded a roll call vote with Mr. Carlton’s “no” vote.

Vote – 5-0

PUBLIC HEARING – NONE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Interlocal Agreement For School Facility Planning

City Manager Shryock directed attention to the proposed agreement between the School District and the Cities of Alachua County, provided to the Board. He ascertained it had been negotiated by the school district staff and the staff of the cities in response to state legislation which requires Concurrency for School Facilities. This agreement is required under the legislation to be in place by September 1st; this giving the City a say in determining where new school facilities will be located.

Mr. Terry Tougaw, the School District's Director of Community Planning and Zoning was present and gave an overview of the School Concurrency Agreement. He defined School Concurrency as a new requirement that public school facilities needed to serve new residential development be in place prior to or concurrent with the impacts of the development. The current agreement is voluntary but will become mandatory; this revised agreement having to be adopted and sent to DCA by September 1, 2006

Moved to adopt and approve the Interlocal Agreement for School Facility Planning

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

2. Natural Gas Franchise Agreement - GRU

City Manager Shryock directed attention to the proposed franchise agreement, provided to the Commission, between the City of Hawthorne and Gainesville Regional Utilities. This agreement would allow GRU to operate a natural gas franchise within the City. Mr. Shryock noted this was a non-exclusive franchise which would allow the City to enter into other

agreements with competing gas provider's, however there is a condition in the agreement that the City of Hawthorne would not operate their own natural gas utility during the 30 year franchise agreement with GRU. City Manager Shryock allotted that the City does have the authority to require a franchise fee which is standard and basically compensation paid by the utility to the City for the right to use their right-of-way. The standard rate in Florida is 6% but can vary. Attorney Lee advised amendments to the Indemnification section, that the amount be increased, fill in blanks in the agreement and Rights to Audit section corrected. Mike Brown of GRU confirmed they were looking beyond the current project of Bella Meadow's and that they have also been approved to service the schools.

Moved to authorize the City Manager, City Attorney and Mayor to negotiate with GRU on a final agreement to be brought back before the Board

Motion – Commissioner Carlton

Second – Commissioner Martin

Vote – 4-0

3. Review Proposed Investment Policy

City Manager Shryock presented an overview of the investment policy before the Board, pointing out that the rate of return of the City's total investments at this time was approximately 1.00%. Failing to properly invest its idle funds, the City is missing out on a considerable amount of income. He pointed out on the spreadsheet the potential returns they could expect on the current market for a 90 day CD at 5%. The policy lists a number of investment vehicles which are authorized, however the majority of the investments will probably be Certificates of Deposits. Currently the City has over \$770,000 deposited in M&S Bank and if that bank were to fail only \$100,000 would be collectable under FDIC. The proposed policy would ensure greater security of City funds so that the City could collect on collateral pledges. He announced the City would gain revenue of approximately \$26,300 in a year's time based on current balances and projected interest rates. In time, Mr. Shryock advised, someone would be hired to function in the capacity of financial advisor for the handling of investment funds.

The Board was impressed with the concept and goal of City Manger Shryock and applauded him on the investment policy. Attorney Lee advised one change in the paragraph of Delegation of Authority.

Moved to approve the Investment Policy as presented by the City Manager with correction of wording in delegation of authority.

Motion – Vice Mayor Randall

Second – Commissioner Martin

Discussion – The question arose as to who would handle this policy until someone was hired. City Manager Shryock allowed that he and LaKeshia, the Accounting Clerk, would do the investments. He assured that he had complete faith in his staff.

Vote – 4-0

4. Proposed Visioning Process

Chris Dougherty, Planning Intern, informed that this would part of his Master's Thesis and published in the University of Florida Library System. He described

the visioning process as a tool used by cities and planners to get the community involved with the planning process. The City Planner and City staff will conduct visioning meeting with residents, asking their opinion on what direction the City should go in the future. With so much growth occurring and proposals for development the City has a rare opportunity to prepare for its future. His plan is to have the results ready to be unveiled during City Government Week celebration.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were several comments about the City looking good.

REPORTS

- a) City Attorney Lee reported an email from the County stating a decision would be made at next day's meeting on whether they planned to sue the City on other annexations. He has title reports on the Code Enforcement foreclosures but has not reviewed them yet. He disclosed the Cable TV Franchise needs work; the old dating back to the 1970's.
- b) City Manager Shryock reported the City's dump truck caught fire and burned. The Fire Department put it out but he assumed it was totaled, and trying to find a vehicle to use in the interim. When the insurance is settled a decision will be made on what direction to take in securing another truck.
- c) Mayor Knowles reminded everyone of the Town Hall Meeting on the 29th for the purpose of discussing Law Enforcement issues.
- d) Vice Mayor Randall had no report.
- e) Commissioner Carlton had no report.
- f) Commissioner Martin reported that the County had a stated policy they would not pave any unpaved roads. As representative on the MTPO, he had no update on the HWY 301 intersection. He reported a study was being done on Commission salaries from other cities and would be complete in about a month.

ADJOURN

Moved to adjourn the meeting of August 21, 2006

Motion – Commissioner Carlton Second – Commissioner Martin

Unanimous

These Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of August 21, 2006 are submitted for approval.

Chad M. Shryock, City Manager

Terry Knowles, Mayor

Donna R. Mayes, CMC/City Clerk