
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 MEETING
December 4, 2006**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present was, Mayor Knowles, Vice Mayor Randall, Commissioners Carlton and Martin. Staff Present was, City Manager Shryock, City Clerk Mayes, City Planner Dougherty and Attorney Lee. Absent: Commissioner Roberts

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved to approve the agenda as amended removing Item E5-i & ii from the agenda

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Vice Mayor Randall

Vote – 4-0

1. Presentation of Certificate of Completion

Mayor Knowles presented Vice Mayor Randall with a Certificate of Completion for the 2006 Advanced Institute for Elected Municipal Officials.

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS – None**E. CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended to pull E5-iv, Ordinance 2007-08 the Newman Annexation off for discussion

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

City Planner Chris Dougherty directed attention to the map of the Newman Property indicating the two pieces of property being annexed. He explained this would result in the completion of all the Newman property inside the City of Hawthorne.

Moved to adopt on First Reading Ordinance 2007-08 approving Annexation A06-6 and A06-7 Newman Property

Motion – Commissioner Martin
Vote – 4-0

Second – Commissioner Carlton

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

G. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Charter Amendment to Change Election Dates – Supervisor of Elections

Ms. Pam Carpenter, Supervisor of Elections, presented several points to consider in moving the City elections to the November Ballot. She noted that the change would require Municipal Qualifying to be held at the same time as the State which is presently in July. A November Election would bring more cost oriented changes such as the Early Voting and Absentee process which would require more ballots, an increase in the size of the ballot meaning new design cost, printing and mailing costs. Adding the Municipal race would mean raising the number of poll workers and the training requirements. The election would be canvassed by the County Canvassing Board and not City Officials extending the certified results until at least ten days after the election. She communicated that the City could keep the current election date or move the date to coincide with a county-wide Municipal Election date. Ms. Carpenter stated she would like to meet with representatives from all of the small cities in the County either the first or second week of January to discuss the best possibility for all.

Moved to defer consideration of change of the Election Day until further meeting with other County Cities and Supervisor of Elections

Motion – Commissioner Carlton

Second – Vice Mayor Randall

Vote – 4-0

2. Discussion on Area Schools – Commissioner Martin

Commissioner Martin stated he was concerned about Hawthorne High being rated as a “D” Category School and more recently the Elementary also. He would like to alert the Board to the problem and ask if the City Commission has a role and what can be done. The Board was in agreement that the schools were in trouble and something needed to be done. The general consensus was the school situation could have a potential impact on the growth and development of the City.

Moved that the City Manager gather information on the current status of the Schools in Hawthorne, setting a meeting with the School Board for the Mayor and himself to discuss the school issues.

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

Mayor Knowles suggested after getting the dialogue started to have a town hall meeting. City Manager Shryock expressed that the City can act as a leader but cannot fix the problem; the community must push the issue and suggested inviting the City of Waldo and Micanopy to the meeting since children from those areas attend the Hawthorne schools.

3. Review Legislative Agenda – City Manager Shryock

City Manager Shryock reviewed the 2006 Legislative Agenda advising the Commission they should identify issues to include in the 2007 agenda. Items from last year include the expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is in progress, replacement of elevated water storage tank, City Streets, Downtown Redevelopment, Law Enforcement Funding, Park and Recreation Funding and support of the Florida League of Cities Legislative Priorities. Mr. Shryock recommended three additional issues be added to the 2007 Agenda, Property Tax Reform and its effect of small cities, Annexation of Enclaves, Pockets and City-Owned Property, and Annexation into Putnam County.

Moved to authorize the City Manager to prepare the Legislative Agenda to include previous year as well as additions he has proposed.

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Vice Mayor Randall

Discussion – Commissioner Carlton stated he opposed annexation of anyone's property against their will.

Vote – 3-1 Commissioner Carlton – No Vote

4. Review Annual Goals and Task – City Manager

City Manager Shryock reviewed the 2006 City Priorities and Annual Work Plan advising the Board to review last years attached plan and determine what issues they wish to include on a Work Plan for the upcoming year. The consensus was to hold a workshop and go over the plan in more detail.

H. CITIZEN COMMENT

Roy Carpenter, renting the Ledford Property, repeatedly pointed out that his business would in no way contain explicit adult material. There would be no alcohol, no smoking or drugs on the premises. His program, which is more of a social club, would be centered on elderly people from around 40 and up. The games will be played for tickets to be redeemed for prizes.

Brenda Newman requested that the Commission review the Adult Entertainment Ordinance 2002-5 and have legal counsel define some of the language.

Mayor Knowles made mention the request by Waste Pro to change the dates for yard debris pickup noting the citizens would be notified when this was effective.

I. REPORTS

a) Attorney Lee congratulated the Gator fans on their victory

b) City Manager Shryock reported he attended the School of Local Finance last month and obtained some good information. He also attended the Legislative Conference along with the Board. He expects to interview the Police Chief candidates in early January. He also stated the Mayor is picking up after the police cruisers from St. Petersburg on Wednesday. He is also working on the Developers Agreements with Elite Resorts and Silver Companies while Jerry Hawthorne waits until his zoning is changed before entering his agreement. Mr. Shryock informed he will bond for a portion of the funding. Although the City will hold off on the

Northern Annexation of Plum Creek and Horizontal they will go ahead with the Southern parcels.

c) Mayor Knowles reported the heating/air conditioning unit needed to be replaced in the City building, which is used by the Girl Scouts. He would like to see the community come together and raise the money to buy a new unit, which will cost about \$200.00. In line with the visioning process, he is working with Hoover Foods who is considering bringing a Wendy's to the City.

d) Vice Mayor Randall had no report

e) Commissioner Martin suggested the City hold a reception for the new representatives for the area, Senator Olerich and Representative Chestnut.

Moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to put together a reception for Senator Olerich and Representative Chestnut for the new Legislative Delegation

Motion – Commissioner Martin Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

f) Commissioner Carlton had no report

J. ADJOURN

Moved to adjourn the meeting of December 4, 2006 at 9:20 PM

Motion – Commissioner Carlton Second – Commissioner Martin

Unanimous

These Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of December 4, 2006 are submitted for approval.

Chad M. Shryock, City Manager

Terry Knowles, Mayor

Donna R. Mayes, CMC/City Clerk