
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
FEBRUARY 5, 2007**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Board present was: Mayor Knowles, Commissioners Carlton, Martin, and Roberts. Absent was Vice Mayor Randall. Staff present was: City Manager Chad Shryock, City Clerk Donna R. Mayes, Intern Planner Shane Laakso and City Attorney Steve Lee.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved to approve the agenda for the February 5, 2007 meeting

Motion – Commissioner Roberts

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

D. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Ms. Sarah Hagan Carter inquired if anything was going to be done about the ditch by her house. The water is blocked at the lake and needs cleaned out so it will flow through the culverts and the ditch needs to be weed eater. City Manager Shryock stated he had contacted ST. Johns Water Management District to ask their guidance considering the City does not own the ditch and it is on private property but he has not heard back from them. The water flows to Orange Lake so the problem must be solved before it gets to the lake; he will have Bill, the Public Works Supervisor, check out the culverts and make sure the water is flowing correctly. Attorney Lee advised the City must have an interest in the property before it can maintain it, stating the problem is not unique being a storm water problem it must be attacked as a system and not just one area or property.

Mr. Glen Molander had several questions on the Southern Annexation Ordinance and the Urban Service Report pertaining to services the City would provide and if it would be mandatory to hook up to the City's Water and Sewer System. City Manager Shryock explained that the Urban Service Report was just a plan of what the City will try and do to provide services to an area within a certain amount time. One would only pay if they receive the services. Mr.

Molander expressed that he understands the ordinance to state nothing will change as far as police service and that Alachua County Law Enforcement would continue to service his area. Mayor Knowles explained that the City would cover any annexed areas as soon as the City Police Department is established but at the time of the Urban Service Report there was no planned department. Mayor Knowles communicated to Mr. Molander that he would make himself available tomorrow afternoon to meet with him and go over some of the issues that he has, answer his questions and try to explain the referendum annexation better his understanding. Mr. Molander agreed to meet with the Mayor Tuesday afternoon.

1. Introduction – Police Chief Jack Donadio – City Manager Shryock introduced Chief Jack Donadio and his wife Lucille as the City welcomed them.

E. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda pulling off item number 1, Approval of Minutes 1/22/07 at the request of Commissioner Roberts.

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

E.1. Commissioner Roberts requested D.1. of the Minutes be changed to show that Alachua Today was not aware they were on the agenda and would like to reschedule when Ryan and Brian could attend the meeting.

Moved to approve the Minutes of January 22, 2007 with amended changes

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Roberts

Vote – 4-0

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

G. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Request for Funding – Museum – Ms. Jane Segal

Ms. Segal elaborated on the moving of the museum and establishing of the corridor for revitalization (CRA) explaining when the tax increment funds was first set up. She advised the building needs some maintenance and presented a proposal for pressure cleaning, seal, prime and painting of the building, ramp and tower requesting \$2,000 from these funds. City Manager Shryock explained that the CRA only included the moving and restoration of the museum and would have to be amended which would take too long and suggested finding the money elsewhere for the repairs. Commissioner Martin voiced they look at the CRA yearly for amendments and also make appropriations for routine maintenance as a regular part of the CRA. Mr. Shryock noted that new appointments need to be made to the CRA Board, the others have expired.

Moved to authorize the City Manager to find funding and bring a proposal back to the next meeting.

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Roberts

Discussion was that it would take extra time to get this done so the motion and second was withdrawn.

Moved the Board authorize the City Manager find and spend the money for repairs and do a budget amendment at a later date.

Motion – Commissioner Martin

Second – Commissioner Carlton

Vote – 4-0

2. Discussion – Commission Raises – Commissioner Martin

Commissioner Martin reported his research on board salaries in comparison with other cities showed Hawthorne to be low considering the time they put in working on projects and serving on committees besides the meetings they attend. His proposal on the raises for the Commission was \$400.00 per month, Vice Mayor \$450.00, and Mayor \$500.00, which would bring them in line with other cities. These raises would not take affect until July after the elections in June and funding would only be for three months of the current budget year. It was proposed to put the populations of the cities on screen along side the salaries. Commissioner Carlton suggested they should get the audit before giving raises. City Manager Shryock informed the audit was in progress, it just takes longer having to do Gasby but should have within a month or so. He noted the audit tells where you were six months ago not where you will be next year. Commissioner Roberts was in agreement with the raises, commenting there was a lot of traveling to do. Commissioner Martin declared if the board was in agreement they would have the City Attorney and the City Manager draft a Resolution for the next meeting agenda.

3. Discuss Workers Compensation Policy – Commissioner Carlton

Commissioner Carlton related he requested the General Fund Check Register and saw that an employee on workers compensation was still drawing a check. City Manager Shryock informed it was not fair policy to discuss an employee's health issues in an open meeting, but put the personnel policy on screen for discussion. Legal Counsel advised it was not wise to discuss the personal health of an employee but can discuss the policy. Commissioner Roberts voiced it was the City Manager's job to scrutinize these things. Mayor Knowles asked if Commissioner Carlton wanted to discuss the personnel policies but he was voiced he was fine with the policy.

4. Review (Approve) Neighborhood Revitalization Plan – City Manager

City Manager Shryock stated the revitalization project was forced to an early start in lieu of losing the Silver Company Project. A group of concerned stakeholders has met and discussed the blight conditions within the Holden Park Gateway. Over a series of three meetings, the group has prepared the plan the Board has been given for review and the City Attorney has drafted one ordinance recommended by the plan. Street lighting has been put in and Bill and his crew have been trimming low hanging branches from around the lights. Mr. Shryock informed the Sheriff's Office was noncommittal and does not look for law enforcement involvement until Chief Donadio comes on board. He is proposing three enforcement ordinances be looked at on drug paraphernalia, drug and prostitution nuisance abatement and a nighttime curfew ordinance.

Chief Donadio informed they could use probation officers by calling the Patrol Officer if someone is found where they should not be or out past curfew. After extensive discussion Commissioner Martin recommended that initial efforts should be to implement some things as they go before creating more laws and ordinances; in favor of the plan just not of the ordinances at this time. Mayor Knowles expounded that the people involved with this plan has prior experience in working with these projects and wanted the people to see some action on their part before meeting with the neighborhood. It is already lighter and brighter on Holden Park Road and 225th Drive. Mayor Knowles announced the Neighborhood Meeting at MT. Zion Church on Saturday, February 10th @ 10:00 Am, further stating that this plan of action will be used to clean other areas of the City. Commissioner's Carlton and Roberts voiced their approval of the plan for lighting and clean up.

H. CITIZENS COMMENTS - None

I. REPORTS

- City Attorney Lee reported that the foreclosure action would be filed the first of the week.
- City Manager Shryock reported that Monday the 19th was a holiday and City Hall would be closed; therefore he set the next meeting date for Tuesday, February 20, 2007 @6:30.
- Mayor Knowles reported that the Gainesville Sun exaggerated in the article they printed about the Pleasant Garden incident. He also expressed his appreciation to those who donated for the Girl Scouts air conditioner.
- Commissioner Martin welcomed Mrs. Kitching to the SHIP Committee. He asked if letters might be sent with the Mayor's signature, to the changing presidents of the Chamber; to Ms. Regina Potter thanking her and Ms. Carol Butler welcoming her. Mr. Martin also inquired if there was anything the City could do to help the tornado ridden area to the south or in conjunction with the League of Cities. City Manager stated he would contact the League. Mrs. Knowles suggested putting boxes at Hitchcock's to accept goods people might donate.
- Commissioner Roberts reported Pat Kitching, now on the SHIP Committee, would Chair the City Wide Clean up Day. She announced the Visioning and Planning Meeting for the 12th of February at the Library and also was anticipating the work to begin soon on the water lines at 214th Street.

J. ADJOURN

Moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2007 at 9:30 PM

Motion – Commissioner Carlton

Second – Commissioner Martin

Vote – 4-0

These Minutes of the February 5, 2007 Regular Commission Meeting are submitted for approval.

Chad M. Shryock, City Manager

Terry Knowles, Mayor

Donna R. Mayes, CMC
City Clerk