

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM by Mayor Manley.

2. ROLL CALL:

Mayor	Barbara Manley	Present
Vice Mayor	Richard Cochrane	Present
Commissioner	Robert Elliott	Present
Commissioner	Maurice Nelson	Absent
Commissioner	James Watts	Present

Staff Present

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Newman	Present
Public Works Director	Jackie Cannon	Present
Finance Director	Breanna Smith	Present

Also present: Polk County Sgt. Warren Burgess.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Manley led the invocation. Mayor Manley led the Pledge to the Flag.

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

4.A. Add Item 9.C.6 Resolution R17-06 adding a second monthly commission meeting.

5. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS:

6.A. Proclamation proclaiming the month of April as "Water Conservation Month".

No one was present to accept.

6.B. Proclamation proclaiming the week of May 7-13, 2017 as "Just Say No Week".

Mayor Manley read the proclamation and presented it to Mr. Ernie Cooper, Ambassador for the Just Say No campaign, who in return presented it to Ms. Sue Bazario, Lewis Annawoodbury Elementary School Principal.

6.C. Employee of the 1st Quarter

Mr. Hilliard presented Customer Service Representative, Brittany Naranjo with a plaque and a check honoring her as employee of the 1st quarter 2017.

6.D. Administrative Assistant/Employee Relations Manager

Mr. Hilliard introduced Ms. Sheryl Williams as the new Administrative Assistant/Employee Relations Manager for the City of Fort Meade.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

Citizen comments for items not on the agenda (3-minute maximum length).

Mr. Daryl Gargus, 104 SE 2nd St., Fort Meade, FL. stated that he was concerned about the activities going on at the abandoned ValuKing. He stated that the tractor-trailers parking there are conducting illegal acts as well as creating potholes in the parking lot where he helped a child who had fallen in one.

Mr. E.J. King, 108 SW 3rd St., Fort Meade, FL. presented the commission with a flyer for the Community Unity Day on August 26, 2017. Mr. King requested that the City aide in a community volunteer sports coaching clinic for the youth. Mr. King stated that the problem they have is that anyone who uses the baseball field has to have insurance and they can't afford it.

Mr. Richard Greer, 1018 Wisconsin Street, Fort Meade, FL. stated that he refuses to sign his lease agreement, stating that is not up to date and is incorrect.

Mr. Alan Davis, 1513 Brooke Rd., stated that he would like the commission to hear his side of the story about the reason he filed a written complaint on Mr. Hilliard. Mr. Davis stated that he was confronted by Mr. Hilliard stating that he yelled and repeatedly cursed at him about parking his personal truck behind the fence. Mr. Davis stated that he wanted to stand up for all the employees who are too scared to stand up for themselves.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7.A. Minutes of the March 14, 2017 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes of March 14, 2017.

Motion to approve the Minutes of March 14, 2017 passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8A.** City Attorney Cloud read the title to Ordinance 17-04 regarding amending budget allocations for FY 2016-2017 on 2nd Reading.

Mayor Manley opened the public hearing.

Mayor Manley closed the public hearing with no comments being offered.

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Watts to adopt Ordinance 17-04 on 2nd and Final Reading.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 17-04 on final reading passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9A.** Approve appointment of Sheryl Williams, Administrative Assistant/Employee Relations Manager to the PRM Property/Casualty and Group Health Trust Board of Directors.

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to approve appointment of Sheryl Williams to the PRM Property/Casualty and Group Health Trust Board of Directors.

Motion to appoint Sheryl Williams to the PRM Property/Casualty and Group Health Trust Board of Directors passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9B.** Establish time schedule to review the Fire Special Assessment Report prepared by Government Services Group, Inc.

Mr. Hilliard stated that he would schedule Ms. Sandy to meet individually with each commissioner to review the fire assessment project to explain how the process works. Mr. Hilliard stated Ms. Sandy would come to a public hearing after talking to the commissioners on May 9, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

- 9.C.** Authorize staff to advertise for professional service for each of the following projects:

9.C.1 Develop architectural and engineering plans for the expansion of the City Library for submission to the State for grant funding.

- 9.C.2 Develop architectural and engineering plans for the storm hardening and interior renovations to the Fort Meade Community Center. (USDA Project)
- 9.C.3 Develop architectural and engineering plans to storm harden the CMHP Activity Center and replace the existing recreational building, shuffle board courts, craft shack and laundry facilities with a multipurpose facility in the Fort Meade City Mobile Home Park.
- 9.C.4. Procure contract for engineer services for assistance with community projects.
- 9.C.5. Procure potential services to develop market study for equestrian project.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to authorize staff to proceed with advertising for professional services.

Motion to authorize staff to proceed with advertising for professional services passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9.C.6 Approve Resolution 17-06 adding an additional regular commission meeting.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to approve Resolution 17-06 adding an additional regular commission on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

Motion to approve Resolution 17-06 passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

10. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

10A. Thomas Cloud:

No comments.

11. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

11A. Polk Regional Water Cooperative Meeting March 16, 2017 in Winter Haven.

Mr. Hilliard stated that the discussion of this meeting will be to review the repayment options for Phase 1 the project.

11B. City Mobile Home Park

Mr. Hilliard stated that he has secured two of the mobile homes from the front of the mobile home park, he is in the process of eliminating one for non-payment of rent and is working on securing the relocation of the other two.

11C. U.S. EcoGen Project

Duke Energy has granted US EcoGen an extension to complete their financing.

11D. Cemetery Cleanup

Mr. Hilliard stated that staff will be conducting a cleanup of the cemeteries the second week of May.

The Commission requested notifying the residents via their utility bills and the city website.

12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

12A. Vice Mayor Cochrane

Commissioner Cochrane passed around a hand written utility bill that was given to him from 1941.

Commissioner Cochrane commented on City Hall stating that the new paint looks good.

12B. Commissioner Nelson

12C. Commissioner Elliott

Commissioner Elliott commented on the flags downtown stating they looked very nice and the street lights have been changed to LED and it is a nice upgrade.

12D. Commissioner Watts

None.

12E. Mayor Manley

Mayor Manley stated that she received a letter from Marc Ownsby, US EcoGen thanking the commission for their efforts in aiding with the extension from Duke Energy.

Mayor Manley commented on the new fire escape stating it looks good.

Mayor Manley stated she would like the commission to know when a new position is created and posted before someone is hired.

13. STAFF REPORTS

None.

14. UPCOMING MEETINGS

14.A May 9, 2017 Regular City Commission Meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

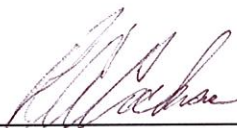
There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Cochrane second Commissioner Watts to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of April 11, 2017 at 8:15 P.M.

Motion to adjourn passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

ATTEST:



Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk

 FOR

Barbara Manley, Mayor