

**CITY OF FORT MEADE  
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. at the Fort Meade CMHP Activity Center, 1046 SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Meade, Florida.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Cochrane.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

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

**Staff Present**

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

Also present: Polk County Sergeant Burgess.

**3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Commissioner Campbell led the invocation. Mayor Cochrane led the Pledge to the Flag.

**4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS**

**None.**

**5. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS**

Mr. Rod Markin, Markin Consulting LLC. presented the feasibility study on the Fort Meade Outpost Project. The project focuses on an equestrian and event center, horse shows, fairs, exhibition areas, horse trail system, and a RV park area. Mr. Markin reflected on the economic impacts this project could have on the local economy stating that the total estimated impacts could be \$2,719,000 to \$4,128,000 per year

County Commissioner Bell stated that she would like it announced to the audience what the County is willing to invest in this project, 4.1 million dollars and the economic impact this will have on the local economy. Ms. Bell stated that the Polk County has outgrown the youth fair and stated that if you build it they will come. Ms. Bell thanked Mr. Markin for conducting the study.

Mr. Alan Rayl stated this was the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the project, next will be to identify where on the property this can be built. Mr. Rayl stated that maybe Semco could provide some estimated preliminary costs.

Commissioner Elliott asked Ms. Bell if there were stipulations in regards to how the money will be spent and Ms. Bell replied that it has been agreed upon to help with the engineering design costs to begin with.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Minutes of the March 13, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting and the March 27, 2018 Commission Workshop Meeting.

**Motion Commissioner Campbell, second Commissioner Watts to approve the Minutes of the March 13, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting and the March 27 Commission Workshop.**

**Motion to approve the Minutes of March 13 and 27, 2018 passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

7. **PUBLIC FORUM:**

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

Mr. Richard Greer, 1018 Wisconsin St., Fort Meade, FL. stated that in the packets he presented to the commission after the last meeting included the rules of the park and stated that he interprets the rules to allow homeowners in the park to purchase and set up mobile home to sell to generate revenue. Mr. Greer added that there would need to be some incentive for buyers such as a storm hardened building.

Mr. Perry Brokaw, CMHP HOA President, 1034 SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Meade, FL. 33841, stated that we all as a group should use the City Mobile Home Park as a successful business and some of these ideas should be taken into consideration. Mr. Brokaw stated that the only ones who are selling homes in the mobile home park are the residents, to family and friends looking to relocate. Mr. Brokaw stated that they would like to see the activity center storm hardened, the trees trimmed and the golf used as a golf course.

With no one else wishing to address the Commission, Mayor Cochrane closed the public forum.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 8A.** City Attorney Cloud read the title to Ordinance 18-02 CRA Budget Amendment on 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

Commissioner Manley asked which projects the money would be spent on and staff stated they would send a recommendation at the next CRA meeting.

Commissioner Manley asked to have a CRA meeting in June and the commission agreed.

**Motion Commissioner Campbell, second Commissioner Elliott to adopt Ordinance 18-02 on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.**

**Motion to adopt Ordinance 18-02 on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

- 8.B.** Fire Assessment Schedule

Mr. Hilliard presented a timeline of the events that need to take place to adopt the fire assessment. Mr. Hilliard stated the exemptions will include governmental properties, churches and non-profit. Mr. Hilliard stated that the proposed assessment is at 62%.

No action was taken.

- 8.C.** Consider Resolution R18-05 Initial Fire Assessment

**Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to approve Resolution R18-05 Initial Fire Assessment.**

**Motion to adopt Resolution R18-05 passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.A.** Consider RFP 18-02 IT Services award

**Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Watts to approve RFP 18-02 IT Services Data Integrity contract.**

**Motion to approve the Data Integrity contract passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

- 9.B.** Consider updating Mutual Aid Agreement with Florida Municipal Electric Association.

**Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Watts to authorize the mayor to sign the updated FMEA mutual aid agreement.**

**Motion to approve updating the mutual aid agreement with FMEA passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

- 9.C.** Consider City Mobile Home Park Appraisal Proposal

Mr. Hilliard stated that he should have something to provide from the proforma in May. It was discussed about doing a full-blown appraisal at the cost of \$3,000. Mr. Hilliard stated that the commission needs to decide if they want to stay in the Mobile Home business.

Mayor Cochrane directed staff to provide a pro and con comparison.

**Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to update that appraisal of the mobile home park.**

**Motion to update the appraisal of the mobile home park passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

**10. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

None.

**11. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

- 11.A.** Status report on Lewis Elementary easements.

Mr. Hilliard stated that the easements for Lewis Elementary have been completed.

- 12.B.** Polk Regional Water Cooperative Orientation May 16, 2018

Mr. Hilliard stated that Mr. Ryan Taylor is requesting attendees at the PRWC orientation on May 16, 2018 and to let him know how many commissioners would attend.

- 12.C.** Duke Energy

Mr. Hilliard stated that he had a gentleman approached him regarding the Peace River Park Duke Energy powerline easement and there being a deed issue. The easements will be revised and the poles changed out.

**12.D.** Mr. Hilliard announced that he is planning on retiring and has not set a date but was in the process of preparing his letter. Mr. Hilliard stated he wanted to let everyone know at the same time and didn't want to leave the City in a bad position.

**12.E.** Semco

Ms. Smith stated that the contract is in legal review and the we are waiting on finance options from two different banks.

Ms. Smith presented a capital list as requested by Commissioner Manley for future review.

Commissioner Manley asked if the money was still in the budget and Ms. Smith stated that there is no money in the budget because the money was used to pay for damages incurred by Hurricane Irma and has not been reimbursed.

**12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

**12.A.** Commissioner Manley asked how long for the financing. It was stated that staff is waiting on options from two banks.

**13. STAFF REPORTS**

None.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Watts second Commissioner Campbell to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of April 10, 2018 at 8:14 P.M.

**Motion to adjourn passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.**

**ATTEST:**

  
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Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk

  
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Richard Cochrane, Mayor

