

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. at the Fort Meade CMHP Activity Center, 1046 SE 2nd 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	Absent
Commissioner	James Watts	Present
Commissioner	Barbara Manley	Present

Staff Present

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Cannon	Present
Public Works Director	Jackie Cannon	Present
Finance Director	Breanna Smith	Present
Employee Relations	Sheryl Williams	Present
Library Director	Jacqueline Rose	Present
Water/Wastewater	Shane Coulter	Present
Fire Chief/Parks	Roc Eiland	Present

Also present: Polk County Sergeant Burgess.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Pastor Bill Whitener led the invocation. Mayor Cochrane led the Pledge to the Flag.

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

4.A. Add Item 5.D. Chamber of Commerce Presentation

**Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Manley to
approve adding Item 5.D. to the agenda.**

Motion to approve adding Item 5.D. passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

5. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS

5.A. Florida Municipal Electric Association

Mayor Cochrane presented the City of Fort Meade Electric Line Workers with a Historic Community's Award for extraordinary efforts and dedication to restore power in emergency situations from the Florida Municipal Electric Association.

5.B. Proclamation proclaiming August 26, 2018 as Line Worker Appreciation Day.

Mayor Cochrane read a proclamation proclaiming August 26th as Line Worker Appreciation Day and presented it to the City of Fort Meade Electric Line Workers.

5.C. Employee of the Quarter Award: 1st and 2nd quarter

Ms. Sheryl Williams requested that each Department Head present their respective awards:

Employee of the 1st Quarter presented to Mr. Lester Campbell. Mr. Roc Eiland, Parks Supervisor presented a plaque and a check to Mr. Campbell thanking him for his job well done.

Employee of the 2nd Quarter presented to Ms. Linda Young. Ms. Jacqueline Rose, Library Director presented a plaque and a check to Ms. Young thanking her for her energy, enthusiasm and dedication, stating that Ms. Young is very impressive.

5.D. Chamber of Commerce Presentation

Mr. Bill Whitener, Chamber representative presented the commission with a copy of the Chamber's current budget.

City Manager, Hilliard asked Mr. Whitener if the Chamber was planning on remaining at the Historical Society or are they going to relocate. Mr. Whitener stated they are looking to relocate if possible.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 24, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Watts to approve the Minutes of July 24, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of July 24, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

7. PUBLIC FORUM:

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

Mr. Anthony Russell, 723 S. French Ave. Fort Meade, FL. addressed the commission to make a complaint about an incident that happened with his brother Cedric Wright and the Sheriff's office on July 19th. Ms. Wright, Mr. Russell's mother, came to the City requesting any information or reports that would help her understand why her son was physically beaten upon his arrest.

City Attorney Cloud stated that this will fall under the purview of the Sheriff's Office and the City should not get in the middle of a complaint that should be addressed to the Sheriff's Office.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.A. City Attorney Cloud read the title to Resolution R18-12 Final Stormwater Assessment.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF STORMWATER SERVICES; IMPOSING STORMWATER SERVICE ASSESSMENTS AND STORMWATER FEES AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF FORT MEADE; FINALLY APPROVING THE STORMWATER ROLL FOR STORMWATER SERVICE ASSESSMENTS AND THE STORMWATER FEES; CONFIRMING THE INITIAL STORMWATER RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Cochrane opened the Public Hearing.

The Commission discussed the letters that were presented in opposition of the stormwater assessment.

Mayor Cochran closed the Public Hearing.

Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Watts to approve Resolution R18-12 Final Stormwater Assessment.

Motion to approve Resolution R18-12 passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9.B.** City Attorney Cloud read the title to Resolution R18-13 Non-ad Valorem Assessments for demolition and lot clean-up costs and fees.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS; APPROVING AND ADOPTING A NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR DEMOLITION AND LOT CLEAN-UP COSTS AND FEES; SPECIFYING THE AMOUNT OF THE ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Cochran opened the Public Hearing.

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Cochran closed the Public Hearing.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to approve Resolution R18-13 Non-ad Valorem lot clean up.

Motion to approve Resolution R18-13 passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9.C.** Consider closing alley between S. Poplar Ave. and S. Oak Ave. and between SE 8th St. and SE 9th St.

Mayor Cochran opened the public hearing.

Angela Wandrey, 311 SE 9th Street, requested to vacate the alley along her property that has not been maintained for the 20 + years she has lived there. Mrs. Wandrey stated that all of the adjacent property owners have agreed to have the alley closed with the exception of one property owner. Mrs. Wandrey presented pictures of the alley showing the accumulation of trash and the overgrowth of vegetation. Mrs. Wandrey stated that some of the property owners on the West side of the alley have already erected fences 5 feet into the alley and she would like to put her fence abutting theirs to close the gap.

Mr. Jerrell Vaughn, 501 SE 9th Street, who owns the property at 825 S. Oak Ave., stated that he is opposed to closing the alley.

Mr. Cory Wandrey, 311 SE 9th Street, stated that the fact of the matter is that there are existing fences already in the alley and they are not permitted to build in the alley, the only recourse is to request the City to close the alley to improve the property. Mr. Wandrey stated they are stuck between a rock and a hard place with this alley being unsightly and nobody maintaining it and they only want to improve the area by cleaning the alley and putting up a fence.

Mayor Cochrane closed the public hearing.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Manley to follow the Planning and Zoning Board's recommendation to deny the request to close the alley.

Motion to deny closing the alley passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Commissioner Watts directed staff to have the alley cleaned and maintained.

9.D. Approve Ordinance 18-07 amending the CRA Budget Allocations.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to approve Ordinance 18-07 CRA budget amendment on 1st Reading.

Motion to approve Ordinance 18-07 passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

9.E. Consider Agreement to extend contract with Polk County Fleet Maintenance.

Motion Commissioner Watts, second Commissioner Elliott to approve the Fleet Maintenance Agreement with Polk County.

Motion to approve Polk County Fleet Maintenance Agreement passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

9.F. Approve Resolution R18-14 Ratifying emergency purchases.

Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Elliott to approve Resolution 18-14 Ratifying certain emergency purchases. 2nd Reading August 28, 2018.

Motion to approve Resolution 18-14 passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9.G. Approve Ordinance 18-08 Disbanding and Repealing the Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to approve Ordinance 18-08 Disbanding and repealing the Board of Adjustments and Appeals. 2nd Reading August 28, 2018.

Motion to approve Ordinance 18-08 passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

- 9.H. Consider Interlocal Agreement for Tourist Development Tax Funding for the development/construction of the Historic Fort Meade Outpost Project

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to table the Interlocal Agreement for Tourist Development Tax funding for the development/construction of the Historic Fort Meade Outpost project for clarification of the parcels that were not included in the list until the August 28, 2018 Commission Meeting.

Motion to table the Interlocal Agreement passed by unanimous vote of 4-0.

10. **CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

- 10.A. City Attorney Cloud stated that he has drafted an agreement for extended employment for the City Manager as requested.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to accept the agreement.

Motion to approve the agreement passed by a vote of 3-1 with Commissioner Manley opposed.

- 10.B. Mr. Cloud stated that the Law Judge issued an order denying the motion to dismiss filed by the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority and the Water Management District so the county's and the co-op's law suits are going forward. Mediation is expected in October and the hearing for February.

11. **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

11.A. Mr. Hilliard stated that he has spoken with US EcoGen and they and Duke Energy have come to an agreement and they will not be building their facility in Fort Meade however, they would like to look at other options for the property.

11.B. Mr. Hilliard stated that the Planning and Zoning Board has approved the Site Plan Review for the Valmont Project and they will initiate construction shortly.

12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

12.A. Commissioner Manley

Ms. Manley stated that she has spoken with Richard Cason, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Board about the property on East Broadway about the zoning change. Mr. Cason is not happy about changing the zoning to such an intense commercial zoning.

Mr. Cloud stated that the zoning was not approved and that they were to present a detailed, engineered site plan back to the planning board to discuss the zoning.

12.B. Mayor Cochrane

Mr. Cochrane asked Mr. Hilliard to look into the stormwater runoff at the Stegall property on Highway 17 S.

Mr. Cochrane asked if there was an active Code Enforcement Officer and how to get in touch with them. Mr. Hilliard stated that Mr. Casey Riley was the CE Officer and he could email him or call.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of August 14, 2018 at 8:18 P.M.

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

ATTEST:



Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk



Richard Cochrane, Mayor

