

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2012**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

2. ROLL CALL:

Mayor	Barbara Manley	Present
Vice Mayor	Rick Cochrane	Present
Commissioner	Bob Elliott	Present
Commissioner	Maurice Nelson	Present
Commissioner	Jim Watts	Present

Staff Present

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
City Planner	April Brown	Present
Finance Director	James (Mel) Parker	Present
Parks Director	Roc Eiland	Absent
Code Enforcement Officer	Frank Ramos	Absent
Recreational Director	Deena Ware	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Phyllis Kirk	Present

Also present: Polk County Sheriff's Deputy, Sergeant Riley.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Reverend Vince Price, First United Methodist Church of Fort Meade led the invocation. Mayor Manley led the Pledge to the Flag

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

None

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **City Commission Workshop Minutes, June 26, 2012, CRA Minutes, July 10, 2012, Regular Commission Minutes, July 10, 2012, Special Commission Minutes, July 24, 2012.**
- B. **Request to move Regular Commission meeting of September 11, 2012 to September 5, 2012 (1st Budget Hearing).**
- C. **Request to hold CRA Budget Meeting Prior to Regular Commission Meeting on September 5, 2012 at 5:55 PM. (Only budget meeting required for CRA).**

Motion Cochrane, second Watts to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried with all yeas.

6. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS:

A. Fort Meade Chamber Director Report

Chamber Director Perry invited the Commission to a dedication of a Habitat for Humanity House Warming for Mary Lou Williams on August 15, 2012 at 6:00 PM. The Fort Meade High School Alumni is looking into sponsoring a welcome sign for the entrance of Fort Meade declaring it "Home of the Fort Meade Miners" incorporated with Andrew McCutcheon's name. Ms. Perry stated that she would bring more information about the sign to later meetings. The Chamber is also partnering with the Small Business Council to help anyone that wants to start a business in Fort Meade and/or existing businesses that are struggling and need help to improve their business.

Ms. Perry praised the City workers for the completion of the restroom facilities at Patterson Park and offered her apologies for the vandalism that occurred shortly after opening.

7. PUBLIC FORUM:

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

There was no one wishing to address the Commission.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Approve Developer's Agreement between the City of Fort Meade, Hacklake Forests, LLLP and U.S. EcoGen Polk, LLC.**

- B. Adopt Ordinance 12-02 – Amending the city’s Comprehensive Plan, Amending the Future Land use Designation from Polk County Agriculture/Residential Rural to Fort Meade Industrial – US EcoGen Property – 2nd Reading.**
- C. Adopt Ordinance 12-03 – Amending Ordinance 97-2, Amending the Zoning Map for the US EcoGen Project – 2nd Reading**

Motion Elliott, second Watts to postpone Item 8 A – C until September 5, 2012 Regular Commission Meeting.

Motion carried with all yeas.

- D. Attorney Cloud read the title for Ordinance 12-06 – 2nd Reading.**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA; ANNEXING CERTAIN PROPERTIES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA, AND REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO INCLUDE SAID PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND FILING OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE WITH THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY AND WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion Cochrane, second Watts, to adopt Ordinance 12-06 on second and final reading as presented.

Mayor Manley opened and closed the public hearing as there were no comments.

Motion carried with all yeas.

- E. Attorney Cloud read the title for Ordinance 12-07 – 2nd Reading.**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA; ANNEXING CERTAIN PROPERTIES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA, AND REDEFINING THE BOUNDARY LINES OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO INCLUDE SAID PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AND FILING OF A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS ORDINANCE WITH THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY AND WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Elliott recused himself of voting and/or any discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Motion Cochrane, second Nelson, to adopt Ordinance 12-07 on second and final reading as presented.

Mayor Manley open and closed the public hearing as there were no comments.

Motion carried with all yeas.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve Tentative Millage Rate for FY 12-13

City Manager Hilliard recommended a tentative millage rate of 5.6484 as previously discussed in the July 26, 2012 Budget Workshop. He stated that over the past few years the city has tried to maintain the current millage rate. However with the decline in electric rates and the necessary maintenance and upgrading of City facilities and utilities, financial shortfalls in the General Fund are being realized. Currently the budget is \$172,884.00 short and even passing the current millage rate the City will still be \$6,898.00 short and will have to cut it from another department to balance the budget.

Motion Nelson, second Cochran to stay with the tentative millage of 5.6484.

Commission Cochran questioned if the rate was permanent. Attorney Cloud answered that the millage rate would not become permanent until the second Budget Hearing on September 15, 2012.

Motion carried with all yeas.

B. Mayor Manley read the title for Resolution R12-13.

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.

City Manager Hilliard stated that outside services would be hired to mow vacant lots next year in order to save the City's manpower and equipment. Assessments will then be charged based upon the fees being charged to the City.

Mayor Manley opened and closed the public hearing as no one wishing to address the Commission.

Motion Cochrane, second Watts to adopt Resolution R12-13 as presented.

Motion carried with all yeas.

C. Water Rate Study Proposal

City Manager Hilliard requested approval of GAI Consultant's Proposal to perform water and wastewater rate study. The lump sum proposal of \$26,500 is to evaluate the rate deficiencies the City is currently experiencing.

Motion Elliott, second Watts, approving GAI Consultants to perform water and wastewater study for a lump sum of \$26,500.00.

Mayor Manley questioned the start date of the study. City Manager Hilliard replied that the study would begin as soon as the contract was signed. Payment will not be made until the study is completed.

Motion carried with all yeas.

D. Approve the Sale of Electric Poles

City Manager Hilliard requested Commission approval for the sale of old utility poles which are stored in the Electric Department's storage yard. The poles would be offered to the public one Friday a month. Price: \$5.00 for a 10 foot pole and \$10.00 for a 20 foot pole.

Motion Elliott, second Cochrane giving approval for the sale of old utility poles.

Motion carried with all yeas.

E. Discussion of Repairs to Community Center.

Recreational Director Ware addressed the Commission on repairs that needed to be made on the Community Center that were discovered during a recent fire inspection. The fire alarm system does not work. A new fire suppression system needs to be installed before the kitchen can be used and the roof leaks whenever it rains. Since the Community Center hosts Elderly Service's daily meals the fire alarm system and fire suppression system needs to be updated and/or repaired immediately or the meal program will be canceled by Polk County. In addition, the air conditioning system is over 23 years old and needs replacing.

City Manager Hilliard stated that the proceeds from the East Coast Migrant's monthly rent of \$1,942.00 could be used to secure a finance package on these repairs. The amount would not exceed \$50,000.00

Motion Elliott, second Nelson authorizing the City to obtain a loan not to exceed \$50,000.00 to be used to cover the repairs on the Community Center.

Commissioner Elliott questioned whether the City could fund the repairs "in house" and use the rent payments of \$1,942.00 to pay the funds back.

City Manager stated that it might be a possibility and he would check and report back to the Commission.

Motion carried with all yeas.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Patterson Park restrooms were vandalized shortly after opening. Signs are being made posting the park's hours of operation so the Sheriff's Office can encourage people to leave at closing time. Video surveillance is being looked into at the outside entrance of the facilities.

Sergeant Riley stated that the Sheriff's Deputies would be happy to close and lock the gates at Patterson Park daily while on patrol.

Mr. Hilliard reported that there are vacancies on the Planning & Zoning Board and candidates will be needed to fill the positions. He encouraged the Commission to contact City Planner Brown with any recommendations.

A special thank you was issued to Commissioner Cochrane and Southern Salvage for finding, coordinating and delivering the 1,000 kilowatt generator from Mosaic.

11. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

None

12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Cochrane asked for clarification on the percentage of the year the current budget covers. Finance Director Parker answered with 83%. Commissioner Cochrane also thanked the Finance Director for the Building Permit Report received.

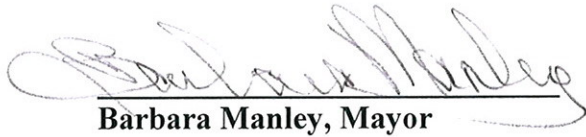
Mayor Manley stated that the FEMA Conference was an enlightening educational experience.

The Fort Meade Woman's Club is sponsoring a "Stuff the Bus" Campaign for collecting school supplies and/or financial contributions for same. The bus is located at the SW corner of Charleston and Broadway and

will be open on August 18th and 25th from 10:00 AM – Noon and 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM on August 23rd. Fort Meade's electric crew did an incredible job a week ago getting the power back on after a tree tore down three power poles by the First Baptist Church. The Mayor stated she believed they went above and beyond their duties.

A big thank you to Commissioner Cochrane for getting the generator for the City.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Elliott to adjourn the Regular commission Meeting of August 14, 2012 at 7:40 PM.



Barbara Manley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Phyllis Kirk, Deputy City Clerk