

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, at 6:00 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 6:00 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	Absent
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

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A.** Minutes of July 10, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting, Minutes of the July 10, 2018 Budget Meeting and Minutes of the July 17, 2018 City Commission Workshop.

- B. Motion Commissioner Watts, second Commissioner Elliott to approve the Minutes of July 10, 2018 Regular Commission Meeting, Minutes of the July 10, 2018 Budget Meeting and Minutes of the July 17, 2018 City Commission Workshop.**

Motion to approve the previous minutes passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

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

None.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- 8.A. Consider Amendment to the 14th Street Right-of-Way Agreement**

Commissioner Elliott recused himself from this item.

Motion Commissioner Watts, second Commissioner Campbell to approve the amendment to the 14th Street ROW Agreement.

Motion to approve amendment to the right-of-way agreement passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

- 8.B. Approve Final Proposed Millage Rate for FY 2018/2019**

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Campbell approve the proposed millage rate at 6.8704 for FY 18/19.

- 8.C. Consider Employee Benefits Package**

Mr. Hilliard stated that the health insurance rate for the upcoming fiscal year has increased 14% from the previous year for employees. Mr. Hilliard stated that this is a huge benefit to the employee and recommends the commission absorb the 14% health insurance increase and consider a COLA in lieu of a merit or salary increase for the upcoming fiscal year.

Motion Commissioner Manley, second Commissioner Campbell to absorb the health insurance increase for the employees.

Motion to absorb the health insurance increase passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

8.D. Consider Employee Compensation Package

Mr. Hilliard stated that they have provided options for a one-time COLA to the employees from 1% to 2.8%.

Motion Commissioner Watts, second Commissioner Elliott to approve a one-time COLA of 2.8% for full time employees.

Motion to approve a one-time COLA of 2.8% passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

9. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

None.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

None.

11. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

11.A. Mayor Cochrane

Mayor Cochrane stated that he has as Fred Hilliard to stay on and remain City Manager for an additional 6-12 months and he has agreed to it with an increase of salary. Mayor Cochrane recommended an increase of an additional \$30,000 a year. Mr. Hilliard stated this is not an ordinary city manager job, it is a difficult task but he is willing to stay on to help the commission. Mr. Hilliard stated that he will have the attorney draft an agreement to bring back to the commission on August 14th.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Watts to direct the City Attorney to draft a 6-month contract and approve a \$30,000 increase in salary effective immediately.

11.B. Commissioner Campbell

Ms. Campbell asked if we were getting outside help with the city manager search and where it was being advertised. Ms. Williams stated she has been talking with Mark Durbin who has given her some suggestions on other websites to use as well as the city's website, FLC, FCCMA, Indeed, etc.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Campbell, second Commissioner Elliott to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of July 24, 2018 at 6:36 P.M.

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

ATTEST:



Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk



Richard Cochrane, Mayor