

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 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 7:00 PM by Mayor Watts.

2. ROLL CALL:

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|--------------|------------------|---------|
| Mayor | James Watts | Present |
| Vice Mayor | Barbara Manley | Present |
| Commissioner | Richard Cochrane | Present |
| Commissioner | Robert Elliott | Present |
| Commissioner | Maurice Nelson | 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 |
| Code Enforcement | Mary Jo Russell | Present |

Also present: Polk County Sgt. Casey Riley.

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

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

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of the September 13, 2016 1st TRIM Hearing Meeting, Minutes of the September 13, 2016 Regular Commission Meeting, Minutes of the September 20, 2016 2nd TRIM Hearing Meeting.

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

6. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS:

None.

7. PUBLIC FORUM:

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

Mr. E.J. King, 108 SW 3rd Street, Fort Meade, FL. on behalf of the Fort Meade Neighborhood Development Project, stated that they have joined the YMCA and Cornerstone Church to conduct racquetball clinics for residents wishing to learn the game. Mr. King stated that Mr. Hilliard came up with the idea of putting a gate up around the racquetball court to correct the problems of the courts with a lock and key they would need to be signed out. Mr. King stated that the group would also provide golf clinics as well and would like to work with the CMHP HOA to improve the golf course at the park.

Commissioner Nelson questioned how that would work with the construction of the basketball court. Mr. Hilliard stated that they would have to work around keeping the racquetball court and adjust where the basketball courts would be placed.

Ms. Sharon Steuerwald, 1042 New York Street, Fort Meade, FL. stated that she moved to the CMHP a few months ago and replaced a shed the was deteriorated on her property. Ms. Steuerwald stated it was not right that the permit costs almost as much as the shed.

Mr. Richard Greer, 1018 Wisconsin, Fort Meade, FL. stated that he had presented a hard copy of the 2017 FMMHP Plan to the Commission. Mr. Greer stated that several proposals have been done, a management firm offer, an RFQ for construction offer with nothing done to date. Mr. Greer stated that he would like to request the most recent audit report.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Attorney Cloud read the title to Ordinance No. 16-15 on Second Reading.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA;
AMENDING THE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR
2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING
FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott
to approve Ordinance 16-15 amending the budget allocations.**

**Motion to approve Ordinance 16-15 passed by unanimous vote
of 5-0.**

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Approve Surplus Property items.

Commissioner Cochrane requested the City logos be removed before being disposed of.

Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Manley to approve the surplus items to be disposed of.

Motion to approve surplus items passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

- B.** Approve Resolution R16-21 Authorizing submission of an application for a FRDAP grant.

Mr. Hilliard stated they would like to seek this grant to replace the aluminum bridge at Patterson Park for better access and to repair some of the erosion to the island. Mr. Hilliard stated there would be a Public Hearing on this on Thursday, October 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Manley to approve Resolution R16-21 authorizing submission of an application for the FRDAP grant.

Motion to approve Resolution R16-21 passed by unanimous vote of 5-0.

10. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

Mr. Cloud stated notice was received stating the City needed to adopt some amendments to the Floodplain ordinance and there would also be some amendments to the industrial pre-treatment ordinance at the next meeting.

11. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

- A.** US EcoGen update

Mr. Hilliard stated that we were working with US EcoGen testing water to see if its suitable for their boiler and come out and be discharged.

- B.** Fire Assessment Fee information

Mr. Hilliard met with the City Manager of Frostproof regarding the process they used for the Fire Assessment and they used GIS to do the evaluation. GIS is the company that Polk County used as well. Mr. Hilliard stated he talked to the City Attorney about piggy-backing with the County and would like to use GIS to get the process started.

Commissioner Manley requested better notification to the citizens.

Commissioner Nelson suggested having educational clinics to advise citizens of the proposed assessment.

Commissioner Cochrane stated he would take a day to sit at the park and answer any questions citizens might have.

Commissioner Cochrane stated that his plan was to reduce the ad-valorem taxes to offset the fire assessment fee if it goes through.

Mr. Cloud stated that the study would provide pro-forma, budgets, revenues and costs and comparisons of impacts to the city both before and after.

C. City Mobile Home Park proposal

Mr. Hilliard stated that he presented the proposal from Mr. Greer in electronic and hard copies to the Commission. Mr. Hilliard stated that is was missing a lot of detailed information such as a business plan or a budget before a judgement or decision can be made.

Commissioner Elliott stated that the CMHP was an enterprise fund that belongs to all the residents and questioned if they wanted to run that fund or make a purchase.

Mr. Cloud stated that he agrees there are a lot of missing pieces but states there is no real asks at this point.

Mayor Watts stated that he would like to see some of the items that are on the table pursued.

12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Manley inquired about Biosolids leaving town stating that she was headed North on Hwy 17 when a Biosolids truck pulled out from the facility and headed North and the smell was horrible.

City Attorney Cloud stated that they are supposed to be completely shut down by December of this year.

Commissioner Manley questioned who owns what property at the American Legion stating that there were some questions about a 25-year lease coming to an end.

Mr. Hilliard stated he would look for the lease.

Commissioner Manley asked where we were on the Peace River Park project stating that there were some concerns of losing the money from the county.

Mr. Hilliard stated that he was working with Sports Marketing and Hamilton Engineering on a contract so we can get started. Mr. Hilliard stated that we are on schedule and are in no danger of losing any money.

Commissioner Manley stated it was time for Mr. Hilliard's evaluation stating she would like to see another 360 as a follow up to last year.

There was some discussion of doing a standard evaluation and Ms. Manley stated she wanted staff to have input into it.

Mr. Hilliard was directed to find three entities that could provide that service and bring it back to the next meeting.

Mayor Watts stated he would like some of the items on in the CMHP budget to be at least started and to get with the CMHP HOA and find out what the asks are with the presentation.

Mayor Watts also commended staff for being on alert for Hurricane Matthew.

Commission Elliott stated this might tie to the CMHP that he noticed that Fort Meade was one of only a couple cities in Polk County that did not have a storm shelter. Mr. Elliott suggested looking into a grant to storm-harden the CMHP Activity.

Commissioner Cochrane asked if there were other options for the racquetball courts.

13. STAFF REPORTS

None.


14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Elliott second Commissioner Manley to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of October 11, 2016 at 8:00 P.M.

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

ATTEST:


Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk


James Watts, Mayor

