

MINUTES
FORT MEADE CITY COMMISSION
8 W BROADWAY AVENUE, FORT MEADE, FLORIDA 33841
SPECIAL BUDGET SESSION
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020
9:00 A.M

CALL TO ORDER 9:24 AM

ROLL CALL – CITY CLERK

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

James Watts, Mayor
Robert Elliott, Commissioner
Richard Cochrane, Vice Mayor*9:24 am
Samuel Berrien, Commissioner**9:56

Via Zoom

Tory Dewdney, Community Center Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT:

Danielle J. Judd, City Manager
Breanna Smith, Finance Director
Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk
Beisy Hernandez

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Watts led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

PUBLIC FORUM: Citizen comments for items not on the agenda (3-minute maximum length)

NONE

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. Presentation by Outside Agency Funding Requests. *Breanna Smith, Danielle J. Judd.*
 - a. HELP of Fort Meade – *Pastor Cornelius, Board Chairman, Aisha Wright HELP Director*

Pastor Cornelius gave an update of the items HELP of Fort Meade were doing to continue to support the community, stating that they have received a 40% decrease in revenues and requested the City Commission continue the current contribution.

Ms. Judd requested that a funding agreement be executed between the City of Fort Meade and HELP of Fort Meade and it was agreed.

No changes requested.

b. FM Chamber of Commerce. *Suzie Whitener, Chamber Director, Retha Crawford, Board President*

Ms. Whitener and Ms. Crawford presented a budget and a COVID-19 report of the status of the Chamber. They identified the need to continue the current contribution from the City Commission.

No changes requested.

2. Wages and Benefits – *Beisy Hernandez, Danielle J. Judd*

Ms. Hernandez presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed wages and benefits for the new fiscal year.

Ms. Hernandez stated that the increase for health insurance this year is 6.5%. Ms. Judd recommended passing the increase on to the employee rather than the city absorbing the cost.

Ms. Judd recommended implementing the 2nd year of the wage study as presented by the consultants and for the employees that have less than 2 years of service to receive a onetime \$500.00 lump sum, which in most cases will cover the increase in health insurance.

Ms. Hernandez stated that 28 of the 47 employees are new to the organization.

The consensus of the Commission was to follow staff recommendations.

3. City Commission review of All Funds Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP). *Breanna Smith, Danielle J. Judd.*

Ms. Judd presented a handout prepared by Ms. Smith providing a summary of the capital requests and the unmet needs. Ms. Judd stated that there was discussion of other funding sources and requested guidance on pursuing them. There was discussion of installing red light cameras. Ms. Judd provided some suggestions of how it may operate.

The consensus of the commission was to proceed with gathering the information needed for red light cameras.

The commission recommended shifting all the ADA needs from each department to the CRA.

The commission recommended refinancing the current street paving bond to get a loan in the amount of the original bond.

The commission also recommended looking into General Fund reserves and electric bonds.

4. City Manager and City Attorney Reports and/or Correspondence.
5. City Commission Reports and/or Correspondence.

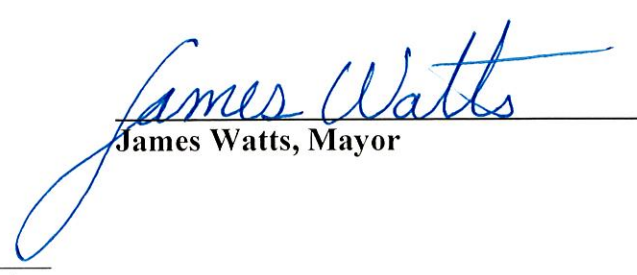
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to adjourn the Budget Workshop of August 20, 2020 at 11:44 pm.

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

ATTEST:


Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk


James Watts, Mayor