

**MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT MEADE  
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Fort Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. via Zoom Virtual Meeting.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Watts.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Mayor	James Watts	Present
Vice Mayor	Richard Cochrane	Present
Commissioner	Samuel Berrien	Present
Commissioner	Petrina McCutchen	Present
Commissioner	Robert Elliott	Present

**Staff Present**

City Manager	Danielle Judd	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Melissa Cannon	Present
Finance Director	Breanna Smith	Present
Public Works Director	Jackie Cannon	Absent
Fire Chief	Roc Eiland	Present
CMHP Manager	Pat Wickersheim	Present
Library Director	Jacqueline Rose	Present
HR Director	Beisy Hernandez	Present
Community Center	Tory Dewdney	Present

Also, present PCSO Sgt. Warren Burgess.

**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**

- A. Add item 8.I. Authorization to issue Purchase Order for Peace River Park Resurfacing on Main Roadway.

**Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to add item 8.I. to the agenda.**

**Motion to add item 8.I. to the agenda passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

5. **PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS**

6. **PUBLIC FORUM:**

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

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

8. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval of Revised Job Description – Electric Line Helper I – *Beisy Hernandez*
- B. Approval of Revised Job Description – Electric Line Worker Apprentice – *Beisy Hernandez*
- C. Approval of Revised Job Description – Senior Electric Line Worker – *Beisy Hernandez*
- D. Approval of Revised Job Description – Billing/Customer Serv Mngr – *Beisy Hernandez*
- E. Approval of Revised Job Description – Senior Customer Serv Rep – *Beisy Hernandez*
- F. Approval of Revised Job Description – Customer Serv Rep I – *Beisy Hernandez*
- G. Approval of Revised Job Description – Accts Receivable Clerk – *Beisy Hernandez*
- H. Approval of Agricultural & Labor Program, Inc. (ALPI) Agreement for Energy Assistance Programs – *Danielle J. Judd*
- I. Authorization to Issue Purchase Order – Lowest & Responsive Bidder for Peace River Park Resurfacing on Main Roadway. – *Danielle J. Judd*

**Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to approve the consent agenda.**

**Motion to approve consent agenda passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Request for Proposal (RFP) #20-01 Bid Award – Multifunction Copier - *Mary Dimitroff, Breanna Smith*

**Motion Commissioner Cochrane, second Commissioner Elliott to follow staff recommendations to allow City Staff to issue its Notice of Intent to Award a bid and respond to any Bid Protests. If no protest is filed, City Staff recommends awarding the bid to Sissine's Business Solutions for RFP #20-01 Multifunction Copiers.**

**Motion to follow staff recommendations to allow City Staff to issue its Notice of Intent to Award a bid and respond to any Bid Protests. If no protest is filed, City Staff recommends awarding the bid to Sissine's Business Solutions for RFP #20-01 Multifunction Copiers passed by a unanimous vote of 5-0.**

**B. Request for Reduction of Code Enforcement Lien & Fines: 822 S French Ave – *Marvin Haynes***

Code Enforcement Officer, Marvin Haynes gave an overview of the code case on 822 S. French Avenue.

Commissioner Berrien asked how a commercial property on Hwy 17 paid less of a lien than the residential property in question.

Ms. Judd stated that the request for lien reduction of the commercial property on Hwy 17 is what sparked the need for a lien policy. The lien policy was adopted after the lien reduction of the commercial property.

**Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to follow the adopted lien policy reducing the lien to 18,695.63.**

**Motion to follow the adopted lien policy reducing the lien to 18,695.63 passed by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Berrien opposed.**

**10. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:**

Attorney Cloud stated there has been no word on the mediation proposal that was to be set on the PRWC.

Attorney Cloud stated that in the coming months we will have the opportunity to look into a couple of options to work with the City of Bartow and there will be some agreements forthcoming.

Attorney Cloud stated that it is likely that by the end of June the Governor will let the requirement of virtual exception to a quorum lapse, meaning we will be in the position of having live meetings again. Attorney Cloud stated he will present an omnibus ordinance and resolution to ratify all actions taken during this time of crisis.

**11. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Ms. Judd stated that she has been sharing the obituary and procession plans of former Fire Chief Gunter.

Ms. Judd stated that regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks show a decision needs to be made as to whether to cancel the show. Polk County is still under a burn ban, and most of the cities in Polk County have cancelled their fireworks show.

Commissioner Cochrane stated that he feels it is important that we do have the fireworks show and not have a festival. Commissioner Cochrane is in favor of continuing with the fireworks show.

Commissioner Elliott stated we need to consider the County burn ban.

Commissioner Berrien stated he has had concerns from citizens of having mass gatherings.

Commissioner McCutchen stated she believes some of the logistics need to be worked out concerning parking and the location of the show. Commissioner McCutchen stated she does not feel Patterson Park is the safest place to have the fireworks show and suggested looking at moving the location back to Peace River Park.

Ms. Judd stated with all the other cities cancelling their fireworks, the city will be bombarded with non-residents adding to the concerns of traffic control and parking issues. Ms. Judd stated that a decision will need to be made by the next meeting of June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**12. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

**A.** Commissioner McCutchen stated that she has had several residents come to her with concerns of residential flooding issues and asked if this is the concern of the homeowner or the city. The locations of some of the flooding issues are on Hwy 98 E. and N. Hendry Ave and NE 1<sup>st</sup> Street at N. Hendry Ave.

Ms. Judd stated that Hwy 98 E. is a FDOT road and she will contact them in the morning.

**B.** Commissioner Berrien stated that he received an anonymous email concerning protocol for a firefighter's funeral.

Ms. Judd stated that Fire Chief Eiland had a request from the family to have a fireman's funeral and the city sent a wreath in remembrance and will make a donation to the fireman's association in his name.

Commissioner Berrien stated he desires to seek out information or a possible lead to enhance smart city capabilities. Commissioner Berrien stated he knows a person who is passionate about bringing these capabilities to rural communities and would like the support of his fellow commissioners.

Commissioner Berrien stated that his opposition to the lien reduction was not about the policy but rather about a commercial property given a break and not giving a break to the residential property on the south side.

- C. Vice Mayor Cochrane asked if anything has happened with the issues with the Gargus family and the Fresh Choice Market.

Commissioner McCutchen stated that she walks passed the area of the dumpster several times a day and does not smell the garbage but rather the neighbor directly in front of the Gargus family has a foul smelling garbage cart with no lid and a lot of garbage in it.

Commissioner Elliott has been by several times and has not smelled anything offensive.

Commissioner Berrien has also been by several times and only twice he has smelled something.

- D. Commissioner Elliott - None

- E. Mayor Watts went over the upcoming meetings reminding everyone of the Virtual Community Workshop for the DEO Grant on June 15, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Elliott stated he would be out of town on that date.

### 13. STAFF REPORTS

Building Department – *Lisa Bolin*  
Code Enforcement – *Marvin Haynes*  
CMHP – *Pat Wickersheim*  
Library – *Jacqueline Rose*  
Sheriff's Office – *Jennifer Crews*  
Electric Department – *Jan Bagnall*  
Community Center Recreation – *Tory Dewdney*

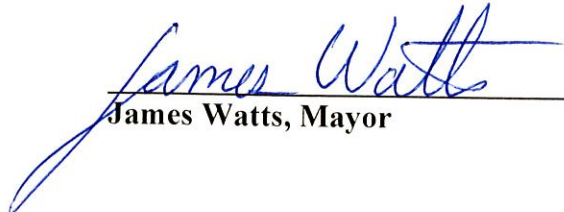
### 14. ADJOURNMENT

**There being no further business to conduct, Motion Commissioner Elliott, second Commissioner Cochrane to adjourn the Regular Commission meeting of June 9, 2020 at 7:15 P.M.**

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

ATTEST:

  
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Melissa Cannon, Deputy City Clerk

  
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James Watts, Mayor