

November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Inverness met on the above date in Regular Session at 212 W. Main Street with the following members present:

President Hepfer  
Vice President Ryan  
Councilwoman Bega  
Councilman McBride  
Councilman Hinkle  
Mayor Plaisted

Also present were City Manager DiGiovanni, City Attorney Haag, Asst. City Manager Williams, Community Development Director Day, Project Director Malm, Interim Public Works Director McCulloch, Finance Director Chiodo, Event Director Skeele-Hogan and City Clerk Davis.

The Invocation was given by Councilman McBride and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. The motioned carried.**

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**4)a) Park Ordinance Change(Final Reading)** was address by President Hepfer asked to have the Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

**Councilman McBride motioned to have City Clerk Davis read Ordinance 2015-712 by title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried.**

ORDINANCE NO. 2015 -712

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE FOR A SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT PROCESS FOR THE ALLOWANCE OF ALCOHOL IN CERTAIN PARK AREAS; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**The Public Hearing was opened.**

**There was no one speaking for or against the Ordinance**

**The Public Hearing was closed.**

**Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Ordinance 2015-712 on the second reading, by roll call vote. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman Ryan, yes; President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**4)b) Final Budget Amendment – FY2015** was addressed by President Hepfer.

**Councilwoman Bega motioned to have City Clerk Davis read Resolution 2015-18 by Title Only. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.**

**RESOLUTION 2015-18**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA AMENDING THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2014 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, AMENDING THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND, UTILITY FUND, CEMETERY FUND AND IMPACT FEE FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager DiGiovanni stated that this has to do with the prior year's budget general ledger entries regarding reconciliations. As the elected body appropriates and approves all expenditures, this is brought to the public's attention for transparency and approval of general ledger adjustments.

**Public Hearing was opened.**

**There was no one who spoke for against the Resolution.**

**The Public Hearing was closed.**

Councilwoman Bega questioned if the majority of funds moved from reserves in the adjustment were for the Theatre and Whispering Pines Park Project?

Finance Director Chiodo explained that Whispering Pines Park Projects were reduced to cover those costs. You will see in the amendment that is reducing reserves, but those projects were not completed during the year. It was determined adequate reserves existed vs. financing(debt) to complete construction of Valerie.

**Councilman Ryan motioned to adopt Resolution 2015-18 by roll call vote.**

**Seconded by Councilman McBride. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman Ryan, yes; President Hepfer, yes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

Wes Bradshaw, Attorney for Citrus County School Board spoke regarding exclusive ordinance and the Waste Franchise agreement, and noted he would be available when the subject was addressed.

**SCHEDULED APPEARANCES**

None

**MAYOR'S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

None

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

None

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Councilman Hinkle motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried.**

- a) Bill Listing\*
  - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 11/03/15
  - Recommendation – Approval

## **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

**10)a) Board Member Appointments/Resignations** was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni. He advised the **Mr. James Devine**, board member on the **Planning and Zoning Commission**, recently tendered a letter of resignation, upon the acceptance of City Council.

**Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept Mr. Devine’s resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.**

City Manager DiGiovanni advised that **Janice Devine** has submitted an application to fill the vacancy of Mr. James Devine, on the **Planning and Zoning Commission**. He advised that Janice Devine is duly qualified to serve as replacement for her husband Jim, who is unable to continue service.

**Councilman Hinkle motioned to appoint Mrs. Janice Devine as a volunteer member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Inverness. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried unanimously.**

**10)b) Christmas Parade –Road Closure Approval** was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni noting the correspondence from the Chamber of Commerce which requires City Council confirmation and approval by FDOT for the closing of Main Street (Hwy 44/41) through Inverness, and takes place Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. **Councilman Ryan motioned to acknowledge that the City will host and accommodate the parade on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, on the FDOT 41/44 roadway through town and accordingly support a temporary closure of the road for this purpose. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.**

**10)c) HD Supply Piggy-Back Contract Renewal OUC** was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni. He explained that the City of Inverness joined the Orlando Utility Commission (OUC) bid program in 2010, which has worked well to control cost and leverage the resources of HD Supply. City Council is asked to support an extension to the existing piggyback bid agreement to keep us compliant with the OUC bid process.

**Councilman Hinkle motioned to continue with the Orlando Utility Commission bid with HD Supply by extending piggy-back bid provisions, and authorize the City Manager to execute purchase agreement documents and provide letters of commitment by the City of Inverness to continue participation in this program. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.**

**10)d) Merry Building – Encroachment** – City Manager reviewed previous actions regarding this issue, including a potential lease for \$1,000/mo. for a 5 year term. He spoke to the property owner’s idea of rooftop dining for the building. The issue is an approximate 3 ½ foot of space that spans the length of the building adjoining the Plaza area. We received correspondence from Attorney Stillwell and will sit down with owner and discuss this to come to a conclusion, possibly after the New Year. **No Council action requested or necessary.**

**10)e) School Board Correspondence: Waste Franchise Agreement** was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni. He noted that the City of Inverness has franchised the entire community and entered into a very favorable agreement with Waste Management of Central Florida many years ago. This agreement has brought a high level and quality service to this community by a company that excels in safety, etc. City Manager spoke of going out to bid a few years ago for waste disposal location. At the time it went to bid, we hoped to stay with County, however they held at \$45/ton. Therefore we went with the low bid of \$ 35/ton with Heart of Florida. It then became known that the County offered \$35/ton to the City of Crystal River. He spoke of Heart of Florida’s purchase of Goodfellows Hauling Company, which is now competing with the City of Inverness. School Board understands they could break from the City Franchise agreement and put out there waste service to bid to lower the cost. The situation in front of us is that people we do business with are competing with us. The City is affected as we have largest concentration of school activity in Citrus County. Residents benefit from commercial service through the franchise, when part is removed, it creates a gap. If the School Board comes to an agreement outside the franchise we will have to come back to Council to discuss a budget adjustment to keep the residential service funded.

**Council President Hepfer** expressed concern with the relationship through Heart of Florida.

**Councilman McBride** questioned if the School Board opts to utilize another business do we have legal recourse, with **City Attorney Haag** stating we do not. **Councilman** wondered if this plays out, would we eventually have to begin billing for our solid waste pick-up. **City Manager** stated that we would have to work with the budget to eliminate passing a cost on to the residents.

**Councilwoman Bega** questioned if we lowered the rate for School Board would they stay with us, with **City Manager** recommending not to consider that.

**Attorney Bradshaw** stated the School Board has home rule powers and has the ability to bid out the garbage service & award a contract. He also stated it’s simply about economics.

**City Attorney Haag** stated the only other entity that could opt out of the franchise would be the County, which would likely not happen.

**No action at this time.**

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

- CGI Communications, out of Rochester New York, is a company that develops promotional videos for cities to place on their websites. A video was shown and staff will be looking into this for our City.

- Recapped recent events of Festival the Arts, the Veterans Day parade, and the upcoming Friday Night Thunder and the 2-day Grand Prix event.
- Working with County in future and serving on the fire services committee.
- City of Inverness started the first youth competitive swimming program in the early 80s, and hosts and accommodates the school's program with use of the Whispering Pines Park pool. There were discussions with the School System of improvements to the pool to remain compliant for the varsity swim program. While that didn't happen, we recently discovered the school system's sizable contribution directly to the YMCA for construction of a pool in Lecanto area.

### **COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS**

**Mayor Plaisted** spoke of Thanksgiving and the Feeding Alliance. He spoke of his letter to Chronicle re: inaccuracies. He recited a letter sent to him by Joanie Welch.

**Councilman Hinkle** was sorry to have missed the Veteran's Day Parade and prays for our country. We need to encourage youth to succeed and do the best they can.

**Councilman Ryan** spoke of the Festival of Arts, Veterans Day Parade, and the Veteran Celebration at Cornerstone Church, which was humbling with veterans up to 95 yrs. old. Looking forward to Grand Prix events.

**Councilman McBride** stated the Veterans Day Parade was great, being able to thank the veterans. Festival of the Arts proved we have very talented youth in the area. Hernando Citrus MPO will encourage FDOT's potential actions regarding the trail and cost to fix up trail, as it is important to our community. Encouraged all to attend the Grand Prix.

**Council President Hepfer** spoke of Veteran's Day Parade, great to see so many youth at it. Presented Cooter Kudo and proclamation to VFW Post 4337 Eugene Quinn, 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with Mayor Plaisted. Grand Prix is very exciting to watch.

### **CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA**

**Jerry Spilatro** 409 Wright Street, new resident from Clearwater, spoke to the Cooter Festival, Art Festival, and other events. Chronicle has kept him informed as to area events. Impressed with recycling program, spoke to Community Development Dept. and how helpful they have been. Spoke of need for traffic calming on Wright Street off of Highland Avenue.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.**

---

**City Clerk**

---

**Council President**