

January 19th, 2016
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, Interim Public Works Director McCulloch, Fire Chief Campfield, Deputy Clerk Jackson, 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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

MAYOR'S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Advised that he had received an e-mail from County Attorney Lyn, which indicated the Land Exchange will be before the County Commission on January 26th., 2016, and back to us soon thereafter.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 01/05/16
 - Recommendation – Approval

Councilman Ryan motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10)a) Institute of Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO) Recognitions were presented by City Manager DiGiovanni to Councilwoman Linda Bega and Councilman David Ryan for completing the advanced course of the Institute of Elected Municipal Officials by Florida League of Cities. Every member of the current Council has completed the advanced course.

10)b) Land Lease Renewal - Pleasant Grove Road was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni, who advised that this property is located at the 581 Water Plant and Ground Storage Tank, and bordered by Pleasant Grove Elementary School. The city has leased undeveloped property on 581 to Charles Dean for many years, to use primarily for grazing cattle. He noted how the lessee (tenant) is to maintain fencing and generally work the property which removes the expense from City Government. The city does not have an immediate or foreseeable need for this property and the agreement remains beneficial to both parties.

Councilman McBride motioned to accept the 2016 Lease Renewal between Charles Dean and the City of Inverness for use of the identified available City property, and authorize the Council President execute the document. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried unanimously.

10)b) Fire Fighter Grant was addressed regarding a grant submittal involving normal purchases for launching the Inverness Fire Dept. and how those purchases can be reimbursed back to City government through the grant. He spoke of the submittal and that it involves a Class A Pumper for approx. \$198,000, which will not be immediately purchased. A point of the grant is to offset existing expenditures now in the appropriated budget for the Fire Dept. No action by City Council is necessary, but wanted to keep everyone informed. City Manager stated that we are in a good position to receive this as we are submitting for the first time as a start-up entity.

10)c) Memo of Understanding (MOU) – EMS was addressed. City Manager DiGiovanni explained that Statutory requirement partly govern and mandate that the City maintain a Memorandum of Understanding with an Emergency Medical Service (EMS) provider, operating within the City's jurisdiction. He spoke to a longstanding cooperative relationship with Nature Coast EMS (NCEMS). The agreement fulfills that statutory obligation and we will agree to continue to provide space at the Inverness Fire Station for NCEMS operations. NCEMS has agreed to participate in a shared approach to replenish and piggy-back purchase EMS supplies utilized by both parties.

Councilman McBride questioned what the MOU is based on. City Manager stated that Nature Coast EMS has entered into the same agreement with Citrus County, and Chief Campfield had a similar document he previously used.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to move forward with the MOU with NCEMS and authorize the Council President to execute the document. Seconded by Councilman Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.

10)e) Supervisor of Elections Agreement & Election Resolution was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni with regard to the City Charter and Council adoption of a resolution recognizing a forthcoming election. An inter-agency agreement is included in this item to manage and conduct the election for the City of Inverness. A Resolution is also included per City Charter, 4.05(a) Schedule and Notice of Election, called for the Election, setting the dates, and designation of seats.

Councilman Ryan motioned to read the Resolution 2016-01 by title only, calling for the November 8th, 2016 City Election. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried

RESOLUTION 2016-01

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE 2016 CITY ELECTION; SETTING THE DATES FOR SAID ELECTION(S); SETTING THE DATES FOR EARLY VOTING; DESIGNATING SEATS TO BE VOTED UPON; PROVIDING FOR FORM OF BALLOT; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATIONS OF NOTICE OF ELECTION.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-01, 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.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to authorize the enclosed Inter-Agency Agreement between the City of Inverness and the Citrus County Supervisor of Elections for serviced for the November 8th, 2016 Election. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried unanimously.

10)f) Council Meeting Venue Change – Elections/Early Voting-City Manager DiGiovanni explained that due to Early Voting & Elections for the Presidential Primary, Primary, and General Elections, the City Council Chambers will be occupied, and we will not have access for the Council meetings which falls on Tuesday, March 15th (Presidential Primary Election Day) & November 1st, 2016,(Early Voting).

The Presidential Primary Election Day (Tuesday, March 15th, 2016), will prevent the City from conducting our regularly scheduled meeting, but per City Charter, the meeting will be held the following day, Wednesday, March 16th @ 5:30pm, in the Council Chambers, and requires no action by Council. Early Voting will occupy the Council Chambers on November 1st, 2016 (and all week), and we will conduct this meeting in another location; i.e. the Historic Courthouse or the Valerie Theatre.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to move the Council meeting date of November 1st, 2016 to the second floor of the Historic Courthouse or the Valerie Theatre, at 5:30pm. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried unanimously.

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

Kudos to Fire Chief Joe Campfield, Eric Williams, Scott McCullough and Public Works in their efforts regarding the Fire Department. We have hired Firefighters and there are also volunteers coming forward. He noted that the Fire Engines will be out front for viewing after the meeting. There are steps needed to be taken for change and things are being done a level which make the community proud.

As the County has been moving out and the City moving in, a mold infestation has been discovered on the second floor of the Inverness Fire Station, which is something not to be ignored. Waiting to hear the Citrus County Fire Chief as to what their reclamation program will be. Caution must be used before introducing new staff into this environment. This may interfere with our ability to get in by the end of month. Council President Hepfer commented on how harmful mold is and we will do what is needed. There was discussion that the County would be responsible for this issue as they have been in the building for many years.

There has been no payment from the County on the tax amount due to the CRA to date. Notification was made to County regarding payment and penalties are prescribed by State Statute.

He referenced today's Chronicle and the article of Senator Dean's last year in office, with one of his major initiatives being volunteer fireman credentials and certifications in rural parts of the state. Volunteerism is what make for a community rich in virtue and should be promoted. County government has taken steps to be involved in the effort as well.

4 Cities Tourism program was launched a couple of weeks ago regarding the value and potential of the program. People in marketing, restaurants, bicycling, etc. are excited, and over the next six month things will begin to take shape.

CGI in Rochester, NY deliberation is moving forward to bring video marketing to the City website. Community marketing is a positive thing, though more work will be involved than we first thought.

Impact Fees meeting called by County Government was a positive meeting with a different approach addressed that the City of Inverness, Crystal River and the County join together with an understanding as to how the impact fees would be used.

Inverness Rotary was addressed at a prior meeting and spoke of the great support by the Rotarians of the City with both labor and monetarily.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted spoke to all of the exciting things happening here. Mayor asked if we will have a bell or horn at the Inverness Fire Department signaling an emergency. City Manager noted there is not an immediate plan, but can be looked into. He spoke of Ft. Cooper's DAR event on January 30, the Swing Band at the Valerie and Zephyr Street.

Councilman McBride stated the MLK walk was very well attended and probably the biggest crowd yet. Dave Ryan filled in for Mayor and did great job. He spoke of today's MPO meeting and the financial benefit of trails. MPO Director could possibly come to make a presentation on that. He noted a presentation of the cost of repairs on the trail of about 46 miles, with a total cost of about \$8M. Some segments are more needy than others, and Mr. Dix could make that presentation as well. The trail is important for entire region. Andy Houston, new councilman for Crystal River was appointed to the MPO.

Councilwoman Bega spoke to the TDC and the City of Crystal River purchasing property at the entrance to 3 Sisters Springs. A video was made recently for German tourists and members of the TDC will go to Berlin to market the area. Publicly thanked Senator Dean regarding his focus on the training for Fireman and volunteers.

Councilman Hinkle announced an upcoming meeting of the Citrus County Community Charitable Foundation. He actually saw a fire in Inverness on a light pole. He spoke to the 50 years he has enjoyed living in Inverness. Councilman commended Commissioner Carnahan for his involvement working together with the City.

Councilman Ryan was honored to do the presentation at the MLK Walk and thanked staff for the preparation for him. He spoke of the free events put on by the City. Rotary efforts are beneficial to the City, and helped the Boys & Girls Club last weekend, and is always nice to have volunteers.

Mayor Plaisted announced this Friday, January 22 is the 43rd anniversary of Rowe vs. Wade where he will be MC and his wife will be the keynote speaker.

Council President Hepfer was sorry to miss the last meeting due to a medical procedure, and sorry to have missed MLK walk also. She spoke of the early talks about the Fire Department and it would be a disservice for her not to jump on board and support this for the best of the residents. As council president, she will represent the City at the Community Elected Leadership Summit on January 28th.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Tom Wolfe stated we do have a siren, which was taken off of the water tower before it was removed.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:14pm.

City Clerk

Council President