

April 5th, 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 Ryan
Vice President McBride
Councilwoman Hepfer
Councilwoman Bega
Councilman Hinkle
Mayor Plaisted

Also present were City Manager DiGiovanni, City Attorney Haag, Asst. City Manager Williams, Community Development Director Day, Fire Chief Campfield, Deputy Clerk Jackson and City Clerk Davis.

The Invocation was given by Councilwoman Hepfer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motioned carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

MAYOR'S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

- a) Bill Listing
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 03/16/16

- Recommendation - Approval
- c) Proclamation – “National Prayer Day”
 - Recommendation – Approval

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

10)a) Fire Inspection Program – Ordinance was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni who explained this amends the Ordinance to create a safety and inspection program for the prevention of fire, or related mishap, at commercial and public facilities. The ordinance is structured to expand existing provisions and to establish and codify functions as directed by the City Manager, to inspect properties and respond with authority to non-emergency fire service and public safety calls.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2016-714 by title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-714

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 9 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED “FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION”, BY AMENDING ADDING SECTIONS, 9-1 THROUGH 9-9, ESTABLISHING POWERS AND PROCEDURES FOR FIRE INSPECTIONS AND CITATIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION AND, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

10)b) Fire Inspection Fees – Resolution was addressed. City Manager DiGiovanni advised that the enclosed was for informational purposes to address questions they may have. This Resolution will be submitted for action following adopting of the Fire Inspection Program Ordinance at the ensuing meeting of City Council.

No action necessary at this meeting.

10)c) Zephyr/Highlands Projects – Inspection Program – Piggy-Back was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni explaining these projects involve FDOT and local funding. Use of DOT project funds require an elevated level of inspections and the need to secure certified inspectors to ensure we meet the specifications. The appropriate level for inspections has been engaged through Osceola County, and we can take advantage of the existing contract with Osceola County to get a fair and reasonable cost.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to approve a piggy-back bid award of the Osceola County's Continuing Engineering Services Contract with SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc. and authorize that the City Manager executes a contract with SAI Consulting Engineers, Inc., for Construction Engineering Services, in the amount of \$27,869.79 for the Zephyr Street Project, and \$49,886.25 for the Highland Boulevard Project. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried unanimously.

10)d)Fire Department Grant for Volunteer Personnel was addressed. City Manager DiGiovanni explained that the SAFER Fire Services Supportive Grant Program is to secure assistance funds that may be used to recruit, retain, train and outfit, volunteer fire fighter personnel. The acronym SAFER stands for: Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, and is a program under the US Department of Homeland Security. The application is being performed by staff, and the receipt of awarded funding comes at a ratio of 100%, and no local match is required. Having volunteers is important to keep costs in check and a means to have good, adequate response personnel. A solid volunteer program is a way for the Fire Dept. to reach out to the community and create community support and knowledge. He noted a webpage included in the agenda packet to obtain more information. These grant opportunities are real and can greatly offset costs.

For information only, and no action of City Council is necessary this evening.

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

- Valerie Theatre performance this past Saturday with the string quartet was sold out and was tremendous. The theatre's acoustics are fantastic and has brought much change to the downtown.
- Fire Services mutual aid agreement is still in waiting of County response.
- Budget overview is this Thursday at 5:30 pm which will include service levels, programs, and state level issues that affects us locally, etc.
- Taste of Inverness this Saturday will be bigger and better, and will be sold out, so get your tickets.
- County Clerk announces Amnesty Day on April 15, Tax Day, with details on the handout provided.
- Hernando/Citrus MPO has had positive conversation on City projects to include becoming a bicycle community, etc. Mr. Dix is very impressed on what has been accomplished in the City. The City has reached out to the school system with regards to becoming a bicycle friendly community, including "safe routes to school". With the schools, nurseries, etc. we

want to make sure of connectivity, and will expand to church and medical community, as well as parks.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted congratulated Dave Ryan as Council President and commented on the building across the street on Tompkins and hopes it encourages others with being very colorful and adds a nice touch. He noted that Council volunteers for many things in community, and this is a minor part of what they do.

Councilwoman Hepfer is excited with everything we are doing and noted that every event at the Valerie has been a sell-out. Spoke of serving on Keep Citrus County Beautiful (KCCB) and invited all to their next meeting on April 18 at HPH Hospice at 12:30pm.

Councilwoman Bega spoke to the Big Bass Tournament having approximately 62 boats with 100 anglers and was a great event, with awards of \$1,000/hr.

Councilman Hinkle noted the Citrus Community Charitable Foundation is moving forward and there is work and a lot they can do. He was at Cinnamon Sticks on the weekend and is filled up with people riding their bikes and stopping to eat.

Councilman McBride attended the Big Bass Classic with his grandson and was a great time, and is looking forward to Taste of Inverness. Inverness is highly thought of by the Hernando/Citrus MPO Administration and how we “get it” regarding the MPO and their efforts. Hwy 41 N is still number one priority, but is at the mercy of DOT as to when it will begin. Looking forward to great weekend in our town.

Councilman Ryan enjoyed the Big Bass Classic and praised those involved, and will be at the Taste of Inverness this Saturday. In the future, wouldn't mind hearing from FDOT on the progress on 44/41 construction. Happy to serve on this Council and honored to be President.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm.

City Clerk

Council President