

June 21st, 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 Williams, Asst. City Manager Williams, Community Development Director Day, Finance Director Chiodo, 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 Hepfer motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motioned carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

6)a) Elaine Bamford – Citrus County Dementia Friendly America - Elaine Bamford addressed City Council, and introduced members from her team. She stated that one out of eight people over the age of 65 will have dementia, and in this county alone we have over 6,400 people with dementia Their Goals are to educate people and set up accommodations for families in crisis. They requested the City’s support and asked consideration in allowing them to utilize the Valerie Theatre for education – Dementia Awareness Month for an evening in November.

Galin Spinka clarified the contents and intent of a letter of support would support interviews of employees to determine their knowledge and determine the “fixes” for education.

Councilman Hinkle stated his support of a letter of support and making the Theatre available for their use in November.

Councilwoman Hepfer concurred and noted a most recent encounter in her family with this.

Heather Yates spoke of her father who has recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and we need to educate community on how to deal with this disease.

City Manager DiGiovanni noted that the IGC might be a better facility to hold this event regarding availability and there is a larger parking area here.

It was noted that this organization meets at the Sheriff's Office at 4:00pm on Thursdays.

MAYOR'S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 06/07/16*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- c) Proclamation – “Hispanic Heritage Month”*
 - Recommendation – Approval

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10)a) Sweetwater Pointe – Resolution was addressed. At the previous meeting of City Council, a Resolution was passed to establish the potable water project district in Sweetwater Pointe subdivision, located outside the City limits. To continue, the City is obligated to pass a second Resolution that sets a Public Hearing to be held August 2, 2016, at 5:30pm. A notice of the Public Hearing is additionally to be published in the local newspaper on two separate date prior to the Public Hearing and the City Clerk shall provide written notice to all affected property owners, setting the time and place for the Public Hearing and the amount of the assessment.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to have the Clerk read Resolution 2016-08 by roll call vote. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016 – 08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AS TO THE PROPRIETY AND ADVISIBILITY OF MAKING SPECIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREA DESIGNATED AS SWEETWATER POINTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT, SETTING FORTH THE COSTS THEREOF, MANNER OF PAYMENT THEREOF, AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST EACH PROPERTY SO IMPROVED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-08 by roll-call vote. Seconded by Councilman McBride. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Hepfer, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; President Ryan, yes. The motion carried.

10) b) Emergency Purchase Declaration – Lightning Path Study – City Manager DiGiovanni noted how on several occasions the City has suffered significant and costly damage to several critical facilities for potable water and wastewater treatment. Expert opinion advises that with each occurrence, protective elements of the system will continue to deteriorate and protection is failing at the 581 Water Plant and the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Corrective action requires that we proceed rapidly to improve the lightning protection that is barely working. The firm of Advanced Engineering Design, (AED) is able to provide what is necessary, and has the experience to accomplish what is needed in the quickest timeframe possible. We have secured a proposal from AED in the amount of \$42,617.24 to complete a Lightning Path Study, Infrastructure Protection Design and Construction Administration.

Council is encouraged to take action to declare an emergency condition exists, and waive the purchase system formalities to enable the finality of this corrective action. Currently the AED proposal to evaluate the entirety of the system and problem is \$35,000. This will be coming back to Council as the project advances. For clarification, everything will be reviewed and audited by the City's auditors.

Councilwoman Hepfer has no problem with this action, and time is an issue.

Councilman McBride questioned the emergency situation with City Manager speaking to the lightning strike that dealt with pipe. He noted how lightning has found a path, and the need for an analysis to be done to find a fix and this is quick way to get an analysis.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to declare an emergency, and waive the bid threshold purchasing requirements and authorize the City Manager to execute and proceed with the AED proposal to achieve corrective action. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried unanimously.

10)c) Inter-Agency Agreement for County Radio System & Dispatch – City Manager DiGiovanni explained that he met with Sheriff Dawsy regarding the County owned radio system. The conversation led to coming up with a way to pay for the system which they purchased. County Government would like it to be funded by who use it, as opposed to who it benefits, which should be a general cost of government, because an emergency radio system provides benefit to every piece of land in Citrus County. We are already taxed through general taxation, and is funded through that. It was noted that County government was going to unilaterally terminate a 40-year agreement, which they can't just do, and the Sheriff asked them to delay that action until a conversation occurred among the parties. This conversation has not yet occurred, but there seems to be a pathway in place. He spoke to the cost of the system and is asking Council to see what is reasonable and rational. We should not overlook that we are taxed and pay fully to school board, sheriff, etc., so why should we pay more as to where we live. City Manager referenced information received from Property Appraiser that property values have dropped again, and money will need to be cut from other services in order to pay for this. He spoke to details of the agreement with the Sheriff's Department currently and

what that involves. The City knows our goals and objectives and funds must be allocated to move the City forward. City Manager DiGiovanni spoke to Parks and Recreation and how Whispering Pines Park is being looked at as a solid venue for concerts in the future and how the high cost of the park is not what is in it, but the number of people using it. He asked that they discuss this radio issue and the amelioration of cost.

Mayor Plaisted questioned the type of system and if this was an upgrade or a new system. Councilman Hinkle stated this has been going on for 6 year regarding the Interlocal for Whispering Pines Park. This is part of doing business, not double taxing for what we already paid for. They need to give us a real cost and come to the table with information. Councilwoman Hepfer has dispatched before and the only thing that changes is the address. Has not seen any justification for the cost.

Councilman McBride was befuddled by this and is an unusual item to come to us. If we don't draw the line here, this will lead to other charges. Very disappointed and irritated!! Councilwoman Bega agrees with all comments and it seems like the County is looking for other avenues of revenue.

President Ryan questioned who came up with this, we can't answer that. Need County to talk to us without pulling numbers out of air.

Mayor Plaisted asked what steps can be taken at this time, legally or otherwise, with City Manager stating that without losing sight of history, we have never singled out on who come to events, etc. and we should not get into an argumentative posture. This is not for Council to worry how to challenge, but if County comes up with a cost we need to see what we must cut regarding what is paid to the County from the City's budget.

Councilman McBride feels he and people of the City would be cheated if additional fees are imposed for dispatch services and need to pursue this issue.

10)d) Sheriff/School Traffic Control Agreement – was addressed with City Manager DiGiovanni stating that we as a municipality are obligated to staff crossing guards where a qualifying intersections exists. This has a \$310 increase.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the agreement with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office for School Crossings through the 2017 School Year that will commence this August, and authorize that the Council President executes the documents. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried unanimously.

10)e)FLC Voting Delegate was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni who referenced attached agenda information by the Florida League of Cities for the upcoming Statewide City Conference. Council is asked to select one to serve as the representative voting delegate for Inverness at this year's League Conference. The selected party will be required to attend business meetings, participate in discussion and vote the interests of our City.

Councilman McBride motioned to appoint Council President Ryan to represent Inverness at the Florida League of Cities 2016 Annual Conference. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion passed unanimously.

10)f) Personnel Manual (verbal) City Manager stated that the new document is close to final and at a stage to be presented to Council. He noted that City Council has voted every one of the policies in this manual. Current document has been in place since 80's

with changes. City Council allows City Manager to interpret it administratively, but not change it. Intent of the document is understood, but suffers with disciplinary structure, etc. and is archaic. Spoke to collective bargaining and how it prevails in certain areas, and over course of many years how we make the manual work. City Manager spoke of so many changes in society and the workplace and how they are used now. At some point Council will receive document to read, and a workshop will be set to ask questions and eventually vote the document. Look for a meeting on this sometime in September/October.

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

- Finance Director Chiodo's participation last week at a statewide government accounting conference brought forward that the City of Inverness was used by a presenter to display fiscal stewardship in a very proactive manner. This is not only about staff but the support by the Elected officials that makes this possible.
- There still is no correspondence or conversation on Mutual Aid Agreement for Fire Services.
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council has contacted the City to join them in the amount of \$2,000 yearly. This would mainly involve the Tampa Bay area and ask to be contacted in about 5 years to seek our involvement.
- Spoke to upcoming events such as Bass Fishing Tournament, and after this weekend we will "blow things up" during the Patriotic Evening.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted thanked City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk for their involvement with Flag Day, and looking forward to 4th of July event.

Councilwoman Bega noted the recognition of the City through Finance Director's leadership.

Councilman Hinkle thanked everyone for support during his recent surgery. Noted the number of people retiring from the school system and kudos to them. Commended the Dementia Awareness organization, and spoke to the Hospital Foundation Board moving forward. Looking forward to the 3rd of July.

Councilwoman Hepfer agreed with what Councilman Hinkle stated regarding the staff and it couldn't be any better. Spoke to the Rotary Auction and winning a painting created by a Key Training member and would like to have their work display in our building. She asked City Manager to explain Safe Haven and Safe Place at the Inverness Fire Department. Spoke to the Dementia Awareness statistics.

Councilman McBride attended the "Church Folks 2" play at the Valerie Theatre, and an open house on June 9th regarding I75 Relief project. He spoke to self-driving cars and the need to factor that in with roads being built for future use. MPO meeting today and spoke to 41 North and Suncoast II, may speed up funding for 41N. Enjoyed Flag Day.

President Ryan spoke to Flag Day and was honored to lead the pledge, though it was hot and needs a cover. Friday Night Thunder is always fun. Stated that Council has best interest of residents at heart in all that is done.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Karen Esty agreed regarding radio system with Sheriff's Dept. Stated that the County has been saving money by not paying for Whispering Pines Park and wonders where that money has gone. Glad for the support of Alzheimer's group and spoke to the importance of educating people on this issue.

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:14pm

City Clerk

Council President