

September 6, 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, Asst. City Manager Williams, City Attorney Haag, Finance Director Chiodo, Community Development Director Day, Special Events Director Skeelee-Hogan, and Interim City Clerk Jackson.

The Invocation was given by Councilman Hinkle 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

4)a) Highland Blvd. Budget Amendment – Resolution was addressed by President Ryan.

Councilman McBride motioned to read the Resolution by Title only. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA AMENDING THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, AMENDING THE GENERAL FUND, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND, IMPACT FEE FUND, AND UTILITY FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager DiGiovanni explained this is to adjust budgetary items regarding the Highland Boulevard project that is funded through general revenues as well as the Capital Improvement Plan, to include a portion of impact fees. FDOT is in support of this project with a grant allocation. An additional \$550,491 needs allocated to this particular project.

**President Ryan opened the Public Hearing.
There was no one speaking for or against the Resolution.
The Public Hearing was closed.**

Councilman McBride motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-13 by roll call vote. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Bega, yes; Councilwoman Hepfer, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; President Ryan, yes. The motion carried.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

6)a) Insight Credit Union – Check Presentation by Diana Fender and Insight Representative Melissa Boyink to the IEVB as a City event partner for a continuing 4 years, to help support the many events the City produces. Ms. Boyink and Ms. Fender stated they are proud supporters of the City and the events.

6)b) Crime Stats – Justin Ferrara reviewed the crime statistics from January 1 to June 30, 2016. He referenced the handouts provided to Council explaining in detail the comparison from 2014 to 2016. Captain Ferrara stated City crime is low and changes if any are few. He highlighted two of the bigger cases involving burglary and the arrests that were made, and how the surrounding agencies work together.

6)c) Woodard & Curran – Safety Award Announcement was made by Glenn Burden and Steve Lawrence noting the Florida Water Pollution Control and Operators Association awarded Woodard & Curran for the City of Inverness for the third year.

MAYOR’S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 08/16/16*
 - Recommendation – Approval

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

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

10)a) CCSO – Byrne Grant was addressed with City Manager DiGiovanni noting that once again the Sheriff’s Office is making application for Assistance Funding through the

Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant Program in the amount of \$51,044 to be used for Law Enforcement Virtualization Storage & Training. He spoke to the 51% letter of support needed for the grant application.

Councilman McBride motioned to authorize Council President to execute the Byrne (JAG) Grant Fifty-One percent letter in support of the Sheriff Office application to be awarded \$51,044 for local use. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)b) CDBG (Grant Program) – Task Force Members was discussed with City Manager DiGiovanni stating the CDBG program involves federal funds allocated (administered) by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). This application and pending award will represent Phase IV of downtown revitalization using this program, and if awarded could bring some \$700,000 to the City. This grant is being identified to finish MLK from US 41/44 to Old West Main Street, and then look at Dampier Street between N. Apopka Ave. and Seminole Avenue. City must have plans ready and commit \$50,000 to the application process.

Fred Fox Enterprises will be lead consultant to facilitate the process to apply for this funding. The project has been part of the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for years. The first Council action is to formally create a Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) to receive public comment, a critical component for favorable consideration. Mr. Fox addressed Council detailing the aspects of the CDBG program, door-to-door survey, grant application process, and the responsibilities of the task force members.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to accept the applicant submittals as satisfactory and move to appointment of Karen Esty, Brian Rogers, George Gouldbourn, Gary Hamner and Daniel Sawyer to serve as the Citizens Advisory Task Force as part of the CDBG program for the upcoming CDBG grant cycle. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried unanimously.

10)c) Construction Manager at Risk (CRM) Piggyback (Clancy & Theys) was addressed by City Manager and noted that based on numerous past successes, the CMAR approach has proven to be cost effective and best means to successfully accomplish CIP projects under the cost \$2M. Presented is an extension/continuation of a current CMAR optioned from Osceola County, who has approved for us to piggy-back. Clancy & Theys agreed and issued confirmation to move disputes to the State Court in Citrus County.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to authorize Council President to execute the continuing Osceola County CMAR continuing services agreement to be used for qualifying CIP project development. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)d) Highland Boulevard Project – Bid Award with City Manager DiGiovanni announcing the recommendation by GAI Engineering, City Public Works Department, and City Project Team to award the bid to Pave-Rite, Inc. as the lowest and best qualified bidder for the construction of the Highland Boulevard Streetscape Project in the amount of \$1,845,453.50. Design work of Highland Boulevard began in 2013 and in 2014 applied for a County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP) grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Engineering, survey work, traffic analysis, and meetings with the Citrus County School System, F-DOT, SWFWMD, and Citrus Memorial Hospital occurred

before the project was released. Council action is to accept the recommendation and formally award the bid for this 210-day construction project that will provide a landscaped, cycle and pedestrian friendly gate way to the regional hospital.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the submittal from Pave-Rite Construction, Inc., from Lecanto, Florida, as lowest and best, and award Bid #DPW 2016-01, Highland Boulevard Streetscape Project to Pave-Rite, Inc. in the amount of \$1,845,453.50, and authorize Council President to execute the documents, and the City Manager to manage all change orders to achieve a positive outcome. Seconded by Councilwoman Bega. The motion carried.

10)e) Grand Prix Event Fee Structure – Resolution was addressed with City Manager DiGiovanni stating the Inverness Event & Visitors Bureau (IEVB) is revamping the registration fees and refund policy with the goal to encourage early registration, allow drivers to build teams, including a refund policy due to inclement weather. City Manager stated that his office will be engaged if interpretations are needed to make this work.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to have the Clerk read Resolution 2016-15 by Title only. Seconded by Councilman McBride . The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016 – 15

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, REVISING FEES FOR PARTICIPANTS AT INVERNESS GRAND PRIX MOTORSPORTS FESTIVAL EVENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-15 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.

10)f) Substance (Drug) Free Lease Agreement - Renewal was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni stating the City provides office space for Partners for a Substance Free Citrus County. This is a volunteered based effort, their budget is thin and it is a worthy cause to provide support and space in the Inverness Government Center with this fee simple arrangement.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to provide the office space without charge the lease extension through September 30, 2017. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

10)g) Whispering Pines Park Bldg. Lease – Sheriff’s Office was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni. The CCSO wishes to continue occupying space in the former administrative office building in Whispering Pines Park and providing a law enforcement presence in the largest park in the County.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to approve the renewal of the lease agreement of the former office building to continue law enforcement activity by the Sheriff’s Office in Whispering Pines Park. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)h) AARC Board Appointment was presented by City Manager stating the Gary Brian Hamner has completed an application to serve as a volunteer on the Aesthetic and Architectural Review Committee.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to appoint Gary Brian Hamner as a volunteer member to the Aesthetic and Architectural Review Committee to a three year term. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)i) CCCCCF Appointment – Councilman Hinkle was addressed with City Manager stating that the Citrus County Community Charitable Foundation required a letter of appointment to their foundation for Councilman Ken Hinkle for a 2 year term starting October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2018. Councilman Hinkle noted this is a requirement of the Foundation’s bylaws.

Councilwoman Bega motioned to appoint Councilman Ken Hinkle to serve as the City’s representative on the Citrus County Charitable Foundation, noting a date change on the letter. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)j) Water/Sewer Rate Changes for FY 2017 – Public Utilities Commission Inflation Adjustment (verbal) was addressed with City Manager DiGiovanni stating the Florida Public Service Commission has proclaimed a 1.29% inflation factor that will be applied to the utility bills effective October 1, 2016. We will likely be conducting another rate study in the 2017 fiscal year to make sure the rates support system needs to maintain compliance.

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

- Hurricane Hermine had quite an impact on the County as a whole, more so on the West side. City staff was prepared and had all debris removed from storm drains and other issues under control.
- City parks have become pet friendly. Pet stations have been installed for clean up by pet owners after the animals. Education on this matter is necessary and positive.
- Met with Tourist Development Council representative Adam Thomas and the manager of the Plantation. It was noted how the City events contribute to the tourists that visit the area. The website videos are very impactful.
- Suncoast 2 information was previously distributed to Council. Spoke to Suncoast three and existing corridor needed improvements.
- Met with Sheriff’s Office regarding the services program and noted the effects of shrinking budgets on all entities.
- A presentation will be made at the Tampa convention Center on Thursday to the statewide Planners Association the concepts of planning employed by the City of Inverness. The same presentation will be made to the Hernando/Citrus MPO in the near future.
- Capital projects to commence in 2017 were listed to include Zephyr St., Highland Blvd., IGC exterior, Cooter Pond Boardwalk, Cooter Pond 41/44 Landscaping, Downtown Streetscape, Visitor’s Center building relocation, Military Memorial, and the Community Garden.
- Spoke to Inverness Acres storm damage and road maintenance. These roads were never accepted by the City, but were accepted by the County. Councilmembers questioned the expectations of the City by the property owners. City Attorney Haag commented as well.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Mayor Plaisted referenced City Clerk Davis' retirement and the changes that are happening. Spoke to the hurricane damage on the Westside. Enjoyed presenting Constitution Week proclamation to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Councilwoman Hepfer is excited about the Community Garden. Attended ribbon cutting for J-Dog veteran-owned company at the VFW, noting the newspaper had published the wrong address. Spoke of the work of City staff during the hurricane and the aftermath.

Councilwoman Bega spoke of attending the Florida League of Cities conference and brought back information to review, highlighting clothing recycle bins and Smart Procure Company.

Councilman Hinkle updated on the Citrus County Community Charitable Foundation, accountability of the Foundation funds, and a grant process. Commended City staff during hurricane clean up. Spoke of the great job the Sheriff's Office does in the City. Disappointed in the failed vote on the School ½ cent sales tax.

Councilman McBride enjoyed attending the Florida League of Cities conference. MPO meeting will be September 20, 2017. Spoke of the changes from the upcoming elections. Spoke of the groundbreaking for Sweetwater Pointe and the resident's appreciation.

President Ryan attended the Florida League of Cities conference and the ethics training, including the Sunshine Law. Spoke of the Airport Road ribbon cutting, unveiling of the Butterfly Garden sign at Whispering Pines Park, and Rotary event at WPP.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Karen Esty spoke to Bruce Day's presentation to the MPO Citizen Advisory Board of the overview of upcoming City projects. She spoke of various topics discussed at that meeting, and of pending litigation regarding Suncoast Parkway. Commented on Inverness Acres (Village) and concerns of the roads and maintenance.

George Gouldbourn spoke to City Clerk Davis' upcoming retirement and the appreciation for all she has done for the City.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Interim City Clerk

Council President