

CITY OF POLK CITY

City Council Meeting

October 14, 2008

Polk City Government Center
123 Broadway Blvd

7:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Mayor Donald L. Penton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Walter Lawlor gave the Invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Penton.

ROLL CALL

Interim City Clerk Pam Peterson

Present: Mayor Donald Penton, Vice Mayor Chris Denico, Councilor Dan Ames, Councilor Nancy Adorno, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen, City Manager Cory Carrier, City Attorney Jeff Sullivan and Interim City Clerk Pam Peterson.

A quorum was declared present.

The meeting was turned over to City Manager Carrier

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Nancy Adorno to accept the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Chris Denico.

Roll Call: Mayor Donald Penton—aye, Vice Mayor Chris Denico-aye, Councilor Dan Ames-aye, Councilor Nancy Adorno-aye, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen-aye.

5-eyes

0-nays

PRESENTATIONS AND/OR RECOGNITIONS

Introduction of New Finance Administrator

City Manager Carrier introduced Pamela Lawson, who is the new Finance Administrator for the City of Polk City.

Appointment to Planning Commission – Joe LaCascia

City Manager Carrier advised this is an alternate position. Mr. LaCascia lives in Mt. Olive Shores, North and has extensive experience (he was not present).

A motion was made by Mayor Donald Penton to appoint Mr. Joe LaCascia to the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Chris Denico.

Roll Call: Vice Mayor Denico—aye, Councilor Dan Ames-aye, Councilor Nancy Adorno-aye, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen-aye, Mayor Donald Penton-aye.

5-ayes

0-nays

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2008-11 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY RENAMING THE POLK CITY WOMENS CLUB THE POLK CITY ACTIVITY CENTER AND SETTING RULES AND RENTAL THEREOF.

City Manager Carrier read Resolution 2008-11 in short title, and then went over the Resolution with the Council. It establishes rules and regulations of the Polk City Activity Center, the application and establishes fees. The building will be available to rent immediately after the Resolution is passed.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Denico to accept Resolution 2008-11. The motion was seconded by Councilor Eilertsen.

Roll Call: Vice Mayor Chris Denico—aye, Councilor Dan Ames-aye, Councilor Nancy Adorno-aye, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen-aye, Mayor Donald Penton-aye.

5-ayes

0-nays

RESOLUTION 2008-12 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY GRANTING TAMPA ELECTRIC COMPANY, A FLORIDA CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, AN ELECTRIC FRANCHISE AGREEMENT IN THE CITY OF POLK CITY AND IMPOSING PROVISIONS AND CONDITIONS RELATED THERETO.

City Manager Carrier read Resolution 2008-12 in short title. Mayor Penton advised the City Attorney has reviewed the Resolution and meets his approval. Some discussion took place regarding the how part of the City is currently being serviced by Lakeland Electric and part is being serviced by Tampa Electric, and how in the future we may be able to transition the entire City under Tampa Electric; however, it will depend in part with Lakeland Electric and their franchise agreement, which will end in 2010.

A motion was made by Councilor Dan Ames to accept Resolution 2008-12. Councilor Nancy Adorno seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Councilor Dan Ames-aye, Councilor Nancy Adorno-aye, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen-aye, Mayor Donald Penton-aye, Vice Mayor Chris Denico-aye.

5-ayes

0-nays

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 1244, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, SAID AMENDMENT BEING KNOWN AS "AMENDMENT 08-02-CIE (CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ELEMENT)"; SPECIFICALLY, AMENDING THE ADOPTED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ELEMENT AND UPDATING THE 5-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Carrier read Ordinance 1244 in short title.

A motion was made by Councilor Nancy Adorno to accept Ordinance 1244. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kristi Eilertsen.

Roll Call: Councilor Nancy Adorno-aye, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen-aye, Mayor Donald Penton-aye, Vice Mayor Chris Denico-aye, Councilor Dan Ames-aye.

5-ayes

0-nays

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

The City Manager had nothing to report.

CITY CLERK ITEMS

Interim City Clerk Peterson advised the Council the meeting scheduled for November 11th falls on Veterans Day, and it will need to be rescheduled. It was the consensus of the Council to reschedule the meeting for the following day, which is Wednesday, November 12, 2008.

Interim City Clerk Peterson then advised the Council that the skate park is being vandalized, and passed around pictures that were taken (a ramp has been broken, the fence has been cut and damaged, etc.). After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to repair the damage and have a sign made and put up advising if the vandalism continues, the park will be closed. Sergeant Cone advised they will do extra patrols as well.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

The City Attorney had nothing to report.

COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

Councilor Adorno – Councilor Adorno advised the garbage cans were delivered on Saturday, but no instructions on which way to place the can (bar to road). City Manager Carrier advised that some on the cans are being delivered outside the city, and the driver is telling residents they have been annexed into the city; this is not true. Some discussion took place regarding the instructions, and that overall it has been successful.

Councilor Ames – Councilor Ames thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Councilor Eilertsen – Councilor Eilertsen advised that she and Councilor Ames attended the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials, and thanked the City for sending them. She gained a wealth of knowledge, and it was nice to network with other Florida Officials. In one of the sessions a poll was taken regarding salaries, and was shocked to hear what other cities paid. She asked the City Manager for a spreadsheet of other cities in Polk County and each Councilor received a copy. Councilor Eilertsen discussed out-of-pocket expenses for attending meetings, the TPO meeting (she sits on the Board); she has to pay a babysitter \$50 for one meeting. Attorney Sullivan advised there is a section in the Charter, Section C-8, which deals with reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with performing official duties for the city. The Council can amend the Charter regarding monthly compensation. City Manager Carrier advised the Council may want to speak with their constituents from the community and get their feelings about the increase in compensation. There is going to be a referendum on the April ballot, and if the Council wants to change the monthly compensation, she can do an ordinance to change it closer to what other communities are doing.

Councilor Eilertsen attended the TPO meeting; there was nothing pertaining specifically to Polk City at this time; however, they did go over forecasting.

VICE MAYOR ITEMS

Vice Mayor Denico thanked Smirna and Pam for the excellent job they are doing on the Safe Haven Halloween Party; it is coming together quite nicely. She also expressed her appreciation for the donations from vendors and businesses. City Manager Carrier advised city staff may be in costume; she will be. Vice Mayor Denico asked everyone to come in costume.

MAYOR ITEMS

Mayor Donald Penton thanked everyone for coming. He also thanked Jessie for bring Kermit and thanked TECO.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/REQUEST

Mr. Blethen asked about Resolutions; City Manager Carrier advised Resolutions are read once and Ordinances require two readings. When asked about more information on Resolutions and Ordinances, City Manager Carrier advised he could obtain a copy; she will also put them on the

internet. He also asked about meetings – difference in volunteering (Council). Mayor Penton and Councilor Eilertsen clarified the difference.

Pastor Faison addressed the Council and brought them up to date on what his program has been doing since June and the people they have helped. They have assisted with food and electricity, and they see from 20 to 30 people a month. He asked for donations for food, as he is pending out of his pocket for this. Vice Mayor Denico advised on the flyers going out (Safe Haven Halloween Party) it states on the bottom that canned food donations will be accepted. Discussion took place on accepting canned goods all year round; Family Food Store is also assisted when they can. Pastor Faison hopes to begin assisting with water bills as well. Councilor Adorno suggested when people have yard sales, to see if they would be willing to make a donation of anything that is left. Councilor Eilertsen suggested help boxes for food at the businesses. City Manager Carrier mentioned some future plans that are being made and the use of the public works building for them to have more space. Pastor Faison thanked the front office for their help.

Jessie Douthit addressed the Council regarding the skate park and the possibility of a citizen oversight committee.

Sergeant Cone congratulated Mayor Penton for being recognized for his 30 years of service from the Ridge League of Cities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Carrier announced the 48th Annual Legislative Conference being held November 20-21, 2008 in Orlando. She asked if Council had anything specific to bring forward to please let her know. One of the items she is working on is getting the UGA (Urban Growth Area) enlarged. It was supposed to have sunset after 3 years, but didn't; it is outdated. The Urban Growth Area pertains to the Green Swamp; the entire city of Polk City is in the Green Swamp.

There will be a special Meeting October 28, 2008, for CDBG funding, and how to expend funds this year. This is for the large skate park and will be a public hearing.

Mayor Penton brought out that when his term is up in 2010 he will be retiring.

City Manager Carrier advised she was not able to attend the IMCA Conference this year, and was recognized for her 20 years of service to the IMCA and local governments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further on the agenda to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Interim City Clerk Pam Peterson

Mayor Donald L. Penton, Sr.