

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 10, 2012

Mayor Joe LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Pastor Walter Lawlor, New Life Community Church, gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Joe LaCascia.

ROLL CALL -- Linda Walker

Present: Mayor Joe LaCascia, Vice Mayor Mike Blethen, Councilor Trudy Block, Councilor Kelly Downing, City Manager Patricia Jackson and Attorney Jason Searl, who was attending in place of Attorney Thomas Cloud (vacation).

Absent: Councilor Don Kimsey

A quorum was established.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Downing made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

Roll Call: Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Mayor LaCascia-aye, Councilor Downing-aye

4-eyes

0-nays

The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS AND/OR RECOGNITIONS

There were no presentations and/or recognitions.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE 2012-1292, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE CITY'S UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ARTICLE 5 – RESOURCE PROTECTION STANDARDS, SECTION 5.01.00; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS, TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR, T ADOPT PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENT

IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; TO ADOPT LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENTS AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, second and final reading

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-1292 in short title, and opened the Public Hearing; there being no questions or comments from the public, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Blethen made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-1292 on second and final reading; the motion was seconded by Councilor Block.

Roll Call: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Councilor Downing-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye

4-ayes
0-nays

The motion carried.

Ordinance 2012-1293, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, BY ADDING THE DEFINITION FOR “FARMER’S MARKETS” TO ARTICLE 9; AND AMENDING ARTICLE 2, REGULATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS IN ORDER TO ADOPT CERTAIN REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO FARMER’S MARKETS; AND AMENDING ARTICLE 2, REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFIC DISTRICTS, SECTION 2.04.00, ZONING DISTRICT SUMMARY TABLES, TABLE 4 – TABLE OF USES FOR EACH ZONING DISTRICT, TO INCLUDE FARMER’S MARKETS AS A USE PERMITTED IN THE M1 – LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, second and final reading

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-1293 in short title and opened the Public Hearing; there being no questions or comments from the public, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Councilor Block made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-1293; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

Roll Call: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Councilor Downing-aye

4-ayes
0-nays

The motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2012-1294, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY OF POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF POLK CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 AND PROVIDING AND EFFECTIVE DATE, FIRST READING

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-1294 in short title and City Manager Jackson read the Ordinance in its entirety. Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing; there being no questions or comments from the public, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Councilor Block made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-1294 on first reading; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

Roll Call: Councilor Downing-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Mayor LaCascia-aye

4-ayes

0-nays

The motion carried.

Ordinance 2012-1295, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, first reading

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-1295 in short title and City Manager Jackson read Ordinance 2012-1295 in its entirety. Mayor LaCascia opened the Public Hearing; there being no questions or comments from the public, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Councilor Block stated the reason the City has been able keep the same millage rate and develop the budget is “due to a great and multi-talented staff”, and then listed the entire staff of the City of Polk City. Councilor Block also commented that other cities are looking at what Polk City does and want to know how we do it.

Councilor Block made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-1295; the motion was seconded by Mayor LaCascia.

Roll Call: Councilor Downing-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Mayor LaCascia-aye

4-ayes

0-nays

The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 2012-04, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE “POLK COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPLETE STREET POLICY”; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor LaCascia read Resolution 2012-04 in short title.

Mr. Richard Ranck, who is with Central Florida Regional Planning Council, distributed a brochure to Council illustrating examples of what “complete streets” are and how this program works between TPO and local governments. The TPO is developing a handbook, which will include traffic signal updates, bus shelters and other activities people would use streets for. Mr. Ranck advised this is not an unfunded mandate; there will be a signing ceremony on October 11th of the Complete Streets Policy.

Vice Mayor Blethen made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-04 with contents; the motion was seconded by Councilor Block.

Roll Call: Councilor Block-aye, Mayor LaCascia-aye, Councilor Downing-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye

4-eyes

0-nays

The motion carried.

Participation with Polk County in the Landscape and Irrigation Evaluation Cooperative Funding Project

Mayor LaCascia gave some background information and turned this over to the City Manager. City Manager Jackson advised this is a program the City can offer the customers to conserve on irrigation water usage through an interlocal agreement with Polk County, who has a Cooperative Funding Agreement with Southwest Florida Water Management District. The City is required to fund the program at whatever amount it chooses; City Manager Jackson recommended no more than \$3,000 the first year. Should Council approve this program, it will be placed on the City’s website and will also be put into the monthly newsletter (application form will be on the website as well).

Councilor Block made a motion to approve the Interlocal Participation between Polk County and Polk City on the landscape and irrigation project; the motion was seconded by Councilor Downing.

Roll Call: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Councilor Downing-aye, Councilor Block-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye

4-eyes
0-nays

The motion carried.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS / CITY CLERK ITEMS

- We have received a Water Pipeline Interconnect Easement and Agreement between the City and Fountain Park Homeowners Association, Inc. This will be placed on the Agenda for the September 24 meeting (Lakeland Interconnect); this meeting will also have the millage rate and budget adoption on the agenda
- Repair of the Number One Lift Station will be placed on the Agenda for September 24 meeting
- Advised Council the Librarian, Mary Ellin Barrett, submitted her resignation; she has accepted a job in Haines City as the New Library Director. There will be a reception on Thursday, September 20 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for Mary Ellin; her last day of work will be September 21. We will be placing a job advertisement in the paper.
- The City's website will be updated; nothing has been done since 2006 when the website was first put into place
- City offices will be closed to the public on October 8, 2012, for Columbus Day, but employees will be at work; we will also have a City Council meeting that day

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

Attorney Searl had nothing to report.

MAYOR ITEMS

Mayor LaCascia asked about the Charter Review Committee; City Manager Jackson advised it has been placed on the website and will be in the monthly newsletter. Anyone wishing to serve on that committee should fill out a volunteer form and return back to the City Manager's Office.

Mayor Joe LaCascia's Bio – public request

Mayor LaCascia advised he asked for this to be made part of the agenda packet; he was asked for a copy of his Bio that was sent to the Board of Mayor's. Last year he was nominated for the Board of Mayors and this year he didn't make the nomination. Mayor

LaCascia then reviewed a portion of his Bio, and advised he would be more than happy to answer any questions. Councilor Block commented she is looking for things to go in the newsletter and wanted to get a copy of the letter that was sent with the Bio. Mayor LaCascia advised there was no letter, and Councilor Block responded she was told there was a letter. Mayor LaCascia asked who told her that and Councilor Block responded someone from the nominating committee.

VICE MAYOR ITEMS

Vice Mayor Blethen expressed his thanks to the City Manager and staff for keeping the new budget within our means. Vice Mayor Blethen encouraged the citizens to get more involved in what the City is doing – the Charter is approved by the voters and we need participation. Vice Mayor Blethen commented the Mayor did a very good job of putting out his Bio and letting everyone know what he has done.

COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

Councilor Block – Councilor Block announced she was asked to be vice-chair of the Florida League of Cities Finance & Taxation Committee – it is an honor. Councilor Block announced that she and the Mayor attended the Florida League of Cities Conference – it was an outstanding conference. Councilor Block commented about how great the staff is, but wanted to thank Woodard & Curran as well. Councilor Block then brought attention to Amendment 4, which will be on the ballot November 4th; it is not going to be good for municipalities. Councilor Block then brought up the use of “electronic agenda packets”; the City could save money by doing this. Councilor Block congratulated Mary Ellin on her new position. Councilor Block’s report was given to the Council and a copy is on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

Councilor Downing – Councilor Downing commented she hates to see Mary Ellin leave. Councilor Downing then asked about the status of the Polk City Government Center being used as a hurricane shelter. Mayor LaCascia advised he was told this building was a hurricane shelter as well and was pet friendly. He looked for all of the paperwork to discover there was no paperwork, and it seems this building was never designated and will not be designated as a hurricane shelter – there is not enough space. Mayor LaCascia commented this may be a good staging area for Police, first aid. City Manager Jackson advised this building would be the EOC for city personnel should a hurricane occur.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/REQUEST

There was no a public comment or requests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Block announced the cardboard boat races in Lakeland.

Vice Mayor Blethen made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Councilor Downing. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by voice vote.

Patricia R. Jackson, City Clerk

Mayor Joe LaCascia

CONSENT AGENDA
September 10, 2012

MAY ALL BE APPROVED BY ONE VOTE OF COUNCIL TO ACCEPT CONSENT AGENDA. Council Members may remove a specific item below for discussion, and add it to the regular agenda under New or Unfinished Business, whichever category best applies to the subject.

A. CITY CLERK

1. Accept minutes – August 7, 2012, City Council Budget Workshop
2. Accept minutes – August 13, 2012, City Council Meeting

B. REPORTS

1. Building Report – August 2012
2. Code Enforcement Report – August 2012
3. Finance Report – July 2012
4. Sheriff's Office Report – August 2012
5. Utilities Report – July 2012

C. OTHER