

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Special Meeting July 30, 2009

Mayor Penton called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pastor Walter Lawlor gave the invocation.

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

ROLL CALL

Mayor Donald Penton, Vice Mayor Nancy Adorno, Councilor Chris Denico, Councilor Kristi Eilertsen, City Manager Cory Carrier, City Attorney Jeff Sullivan-excused and City Clerk Patricia Jackson. Also present were Pamela Lawson, Finance Administrator and Kelly Downing, staff member.

A quorum was established, and Mayor Penton turned the meeting over to City Manager Carrier.

Review, discuss and take action on proposed 2009-2010 Millage Rate

City Manager Carrier went over the proposed millage rate for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year. The current millage rate is 6.7425 mills, and the roll-back rate is 7.6991 mills. The roll-back rate (7.6991) would allow the City to collect the same amount of tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 as the City collected in Fiscal Year 2008-2009. The property values have fallen and that is why the roll-back rate is higher. Vice Mayor Adorno asked how many years the City has kept the same millage rate; she was advised this would be the sixth year. City Manager Carrier asked Council to keep in mind this is a tentative amount, and the Council can always lower the rate, but never raise the rate once it is submitted. Councilor Eilertsen clarified that in order to collect the same tax revenue as this year; we would need to adopt the roll-back rate. City Manager Carrier advised she has done some revenue trending and in the last seven years the City has lost State Shared Revenue. We were at a high of \$600,000 a year, and now it is \$250,000 a year; we have lost a considerable amount of State Shared Revenue. Vice Mayor Adorno advised, if she understands correctly, we would be voting to keep the same numbers, but in the near future could still look at this and lower it if the numbers look good; however, we can't raise it. Mayor Penton advised the roll-back rate is what we are collecting now; to keep the roll-back rate would be the same amount of money as we have now, but if you go with the 6.4724 rate, it would lower the amount we receive. He also advised most cities are going to the roll-back rate and are going

through their process; at the end of the process when the citizens get involved you can either lower or keep it at that rate.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Adorno to approve the roll-back rate of 7.6991; the motion was seconded by Councilor Denico.

Roll Call: Councilor Denico-aye, Councilor Eilertsen-aye, Mayor Penton-aye, Vice Mayor Adorno-aye.

4-ayes
0-nays

Resignation of Council Member Dan Ames

City Manager Carrier read the resignation letter from Councilor Dan Ames (a copy is made part of the minutes).

A motion was made by Councilor Denico to accept the resignation letter from Dan Ames; Councilor Eilertsen seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Councilor Eilertsen-aye, Vice Mayor Adorno-aye, Councilor Denico-aye, Mayor Penton-aye.

4-ayes
0-nays

Review, discuss and take action on filling Seat #1 until next regular Election pursuant to Charter Section C9(c)

City Manager Carrier advised several people have come in and submitted letters, but she does not know what the Council would like to do. She also advised Council there is a candidate from the Planning Commission, which would be an excellent choice. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to wait until the regular meeting in order to review the letters that have been received, and see if the City receives any others.

Resolution 2009-06, an amended Resolution authorizing the City of Polk City, Florida, to apply for a Public Library Construction Grant with the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services, for the construction of expanding the Polk City Library; making findings; providing an effective date

City Manager Carrier read Resolution 2009-06 in short title; she advised the City applied last year but no funds were available, and we are applying again this year.

A motion was made by Councilor Denico to accept Resolution 2009-06; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Adorno.

Roll Call: Mayor Penton-aye, Councilor Denico-aye, Vice Mayor Adorno-aye, Councilor Eilertsen-aye.

4-eyes

0-nays

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Patricia R. Jackson, City Clerk

Donald L. Penton, Mayor