

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 13, 2012

Mayor Joe LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 Trudy Block, Councilor Mike Blethen, Councilor Don Kimsey, City Manager Patricia Jackson and City Attorney Thomas Cloud.
Absent: Councilor Nancy Adorno (sick).

A quorum was established.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Blethen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilor Kimsey.

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

4-ayes

0-nays

The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS AND/OR RECOGNITIONS

Mayor LaCascia announced it was Attorney Cloud's Birthday.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE 2012-01, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON COLLECTION OF IMPACT FEES, OTHER THAN IMPACT FEES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES FOR TWELVE MONTHS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE, second and final reading

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-01 in short title and opened the Public Hearing.

Laura Lambert, 552 Meandering Way, asked for clarification of what impact fees were having a moratorium placed; she was advised the General Fund Impact Fees (Kathy Delp listed them with the approximate

costs) were the only fees involved – water and sewer would still be charged.

There being no further questions or comments from the floor, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Block made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-01 in its entirety on second and final reading; the motion was seconded by Councilor Blethen.

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

4-ayes

0-nays

The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of Utility Deposits

City Manager Jackson advised Council was given a survey of what other municipalities charge for utility deposits, and then went over what Polk City currently charges. The City Manager advised she and staff recommended a deposit of \$150 across the board with the deposit being doubled for a high-risk user. She also commented that Councilor Adorno would like to see a deposit of \$150 for inside city residents and a deposit of \$175 for outside city residents. It was the consensus of Council to have Attorney Cloud prepare an Ordinance for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Woodard and Curran – Year-end Report

Mr. Michael Cherniak, with Woodard & Curran, introduced W&C staff that was present (Charles, Xochitl and Howard) and then presented City Council with an overview of the operations and maintenance of the water and sewer during their first year of their contract (a copy is attached and made a part of the minutes). Mr. Cherniak then touched on points for the 2012 Contract Year; he advised one of the items they will be looking at is a metering strategy (replacing water meters). The original contract price was \$486,334 and for the year Woodard & Curran spent \$498,466.

Mayor LaCascia thanked Mr. Cherniak for his report; he commented the feedback that has been received individually and collectively is positive. Vice Mayor Block commented she is a huge supporter of Woodard and Curran, and thinks they are doing a great job.

Woodard and Curran – Request for Amendment to Operations & Maintenance Contract

City Manager Jackson gave some background information regarding the original contract with Woodard & Curran; she advised Woodard and Curran is requesting an increase from \$486,334 to \$511,701 beginning January, 2012; this money was allocated in the current fiscal year budget. City Manager Jackson advised Woodard & Curran has saved the City money their first year and have done an excellent job for the City; she supports their request. It was noted that originally Xochitl was scheduled for 20 hours a week; however, she has been working 36 – 40 hours a week and the new contract will reflect that. A part-time person has been hired to assist Howard with meter reading, and that is reflected in the proposed amount. Mr. Michael Cherniak commented he would answer any questions.

Vice Mayor Block commented we didn't know what we didn't know and assumptions were made; they were asked to go above and beyond, and with the services that have been delivered she has no problem with the increase. Mr. Cherniak commented when you go into a project you have estimates; he feels Woodard & Curran did a good job with the estimate when they first started. He commented he originally thought the new amount would be \$520,000, but the final number is the \$511,701 (costs were cut from other line items). Councilor Blethen asked about meters, and the repair of leaks; Mr. Cherniak advised the metering situation is better over all, and infrastructure that is underground is a wild card. Charles Nichols advised in the last six months there has been a reduction in leaking meters; he also noted if Woodard & Curran doesn't spend the \$511,701, the City doesn't get charged – the City will save money if that happens. Councilor Blethen mentioned identifying areas that are crippled with infrastructure. Councilor Kimsey feels the \$498,466 would not have been spent had it not been for problems that were encountered. Charles went over some of the emergency repairs.

Discussion continued between City Council and Mr. Cherniak regarding operations and maintenance for the 2012 year. Vice Mayor Block asked if the City would save money once the Mt. Olive Plant is closed; the answer was yes. Mayor LaCascia advised he would be curious to see what Woodard & Curran spent the first year compared to the proposed received from FGUA. City Manager Jackson advised the city spent \$1.4 million in Fiscal Year 2010 compared to 1.188 million in Fiscal Year 2012, which is a difference of \$221,819.55.

Vice Mayor Block made a motion to approve the request for amendment to the Operations & Maintenance Contract with Woodard and Curran; the motion was seconded by Councilor Kimsey.

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

4-ayes
0-nays

The motion carried.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS / CITY CLERK ITEMS

- City Manager Jackson advised a meeting will be held February 14 with GAI regarding the Cardinal Hill Project; they are finalizing the planning and design and should be going to bid soon.
- Polk City Municipal Election is April 3, 2012 – Seats up for election are 2 and 3. Qualifying began today (Feb 13) at 1:00 p.m. and will end Thursday, February 16 at 1:00 p.m.
- **CDBG** – The City has advertised for bids on the water line replacement project; bids are due back to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 7 at City Hall.
- **Safe Routes to School Grant** – Meetings have been held with Envisors, School Officials and City representatives; there are two projects for sidewalks that are proposed to be submitted. City Manager Jackson advised Council a map showing those locations has been placed at their desk.
- Information on the City's website is being updated.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

Attorney Cloud advised there will be a Civil War re-enactment in Olustee (Florida) this weekend; he gave some background information.

MAYOR ITEMS

Mayor LaCascia had nothing to report at this time.

VICE MAYOR ITEMS

- Attended two CFDC meetings; one of the meetings was with the consultants that were hired, and no one is happy with how CFDC is going. The Consultants are recommending some major changes.
- She is in the process of getting a list of the available real estate (commercial/industrial) in Polk City and will put a package together for CFDC. She would like to do a marketing brochure for Polk City if there are no objections; there were no objections; CFDC goes to over 200 events promoting Polk County, and if Polk City has something they would take that as well.
- Vice Mayor Block will be attending an Ethics Class next Friday in Venice, which is free of charge
- She attended a funding meeting at Southwest Florida Water Management District. She spoke with several people regarding wells and water supply
- Vice Mayor Block advised she and the City Manager attended the Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Days in Tallahassee
- The Polk County Fire Station in Polk City won the 2011 Iguana Award for going above and beyond to serve their community; she met Chief Cash

COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

Councilor Blethen – Councilor Blethen had nothing to report at this time.

Councilor Kimsey – Councilor Kimsey had nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/REQUEST

There were no comments or requests from the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Jackson advised all City Offices Closed February 20, 2012 for Presidents Day (employees will work, but closed to the public).

Vice Mayor Block announced the Polk City American Legion has received their Post Number, which is Post 396. She also announced Polk City Elementary will be having a cake auction and barbecue on March 2 at 6:00 p.m. Camp Gilead will be having an open house on March 3 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Vice Mayor Block made a motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Councilor Blethen. The meeting was adjourned upon voice vote at 8:08 p.m.

Patricia R. Jackson, City Clerk

Joe LaCascia, Mayor

CONSENT AGENDA
February 13, 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 – January 9, 2012, City Council Meeting
2. Accept minutes – January 23, 2012, City Council Workshop

B. REPORTS

1. Building Report – January 2012
2. Code Enforcement Report – January 2012
3. Financial Reports – January 2012
4. Library Report – January 2012
5. Sheriff's Office Report – January 2012
6. Utilities Report – January 2012

C. OTHER

1. Agreement with New Life Community Church for Use as Polling Place
2. City of Polk City Municipal Election Administration Agreement with the Polk County Supervisor of Elections