

# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 12, 2012

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

The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Block.

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

## **ROLL CALL – Kathy Delp**

Present: Mayor Joe LaCascia, Vice Mayor Trudy Block, Councilor Nancy Adorno, Councilor Mike Blethen, Councilor Don Kimsey, City Manager Patricia Jackson and City Attorney Thomas Cloud.

A quorum was established.

At this time Mayor LaCascia deviated from the Agenda and went to Item B (1) Polk County Fire Rescue – Polk City Station. Mayor LaCascia introduced County Fire Chief David Cash. Fire Chief Cash came forward and introduced the Firefighters and other staff members that were present, and gave a brief overview of the Polk City Fire Station and how many firemen were on a shift, he discussed the background of the Polk County Fire Department and Fire Rescue and he discussed the new equipment and engine at the Polk City Fire Station, which is the newest in the County. Vice Mayor Block asked if any of the Firemen present were part of the Iguana Award; they introduced themselves. Chief Cash explained what the Iguana Award was about. Laura Lambert asked how many other cities are with the County; she was advised there are five cities: Polk City, Eagle Lake, Mulberry, Hillcrest Heights and Lake Hamilton.

At this time everyone was asked to go outside and see the new fire engine and the new ambulance.

Mayor LaCascia reconvened the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

## **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilor Adorno briefly discussed a report showing the 15 months with Deputies and the 15 months without Deputies. Councilor Adorno made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilor Kimsey.

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

5-ayes

0-nays

The motion carried.

## **PRESENTATIONS AND/OR RECOGNITIONS**

### **Proclamation – Girl Scouts “Year of the Girl”**

Mayor LaCascia read a Proclamation Proclaiming 2012 as the “Year of the Girl.”

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **Ordinance 2012-02, An Ordinance of the City of Polk City, Florida; amending Chapter 74, Utilities; amending Section 74-251, deposits required; providing for severability; providing for conflicts; providing an effective date – first reading**

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2012-02 in short title and opened the Public Hearing; there being no questions or comments from the public, Mayor LaCascia closed the Public Hearing.

City Manager Jackson explained what the new suggested water deposits would be. Councilor Kimsey noted the High Risk should be tenant, not property. Councilor Adorno would like to see a deposit of \$175 for outside the city; Councilor Kimsey commented those outside the city doesn't always have a choice and shouldn't be charged more.

Mayor LaCascia advised we are discussing the Ordinance as it is written with \$150 deposit. Councilor Kimsey has no problem with the way the Ordinance is written; Councilor Adorno would like to see \$175 deposit for those outside the city limits; Councilor Blethen asked about the bad debt for those outside the city limits – City Manager Jackson advised a recent study has not been done to compare inside the city bad debt versus outside the city bad debt; Mayor LaCascia commented we are trying to make it equal.

Councilor Kimsey made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-02; the motion was seconded by Councilor Blethen.

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

4-ayes

1-nay

The motion carried to approve Ordinance 2012-02 (first reading).

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Transfer of funds from the Enterprise Fund to the General Fund**

City Manager Jackson explained the transfer of funds -- \$197,197 to be transferred from the Enterprise Fund Debt Service (Fifth Third Bank Bonds) to the General Fund Debt Service (Fifth Third Bank Bonds); this will have a zero impact on the budget.

Vice Mayor Block made a motion to transfer funds from the Enterprise Fund to the General Fund; the motion was seconded by Councilor Adorno.

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

The motion carried.

### **CITY MANAGER ITEMS / CITY CLERK ITEMS**

- ❖ **Safe Routes to School Grant** – There will be one project for this year – a proposed side walk will connect the trail and run east on Berkley to S.R. 33 (Council has been given a map showing the location).
- ❖ **CDBG** – The pre-bid conference was held March 7; there was a good turn out of contractors. Bids are due back to the City Clerk's office no later than 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- ❖ **Water, Wastewater and Reuse System Improvements** – The pre-bid conference will be held march 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m., and sealed bids are due back to the City Clerk's office no later than 2:00 p.m. April 11<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Polk Museum of Art will be having an Exhibition Reception Friday, March 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; tickets are \$10 for non-members. RSVP date is March 27<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ City Manager Jackson let Council know of various meetings she has been attending
- ❖ Traviss Career Center will host their Spring Open House and Career/Job Fair April 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ The Auditors will here March 19 for about two weeks to finish the audit
- ❖ Customers can now review and pay utilities online. The City Manager also explained about the sewer and stormwater not printing on the recent utility bills, and new ones went out in the mail today

### **CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS**

Attorney Cloud advised the Legislature changed the notice for legal ads; they will also have to be published on the website of the newspaper they are being advertised in at no additional cost. Attorney Cloud gave an overview regarding the reduction in cost for legal advertisements; this will have a positive impact.

### **MAYOR ITEMS**

Mayor LaCascia advised he will put a report together for the next meeting. He has been speaking to businesses on possibilities of coming to Polk City. Mayor LaCascia thanked the Fire Department.

### **VICE MAYOR ITEMS**

Vice Mayor Block had the following items:

- Attended the State of the County Address on March 16; it is on the County's website if anyone is interested in listening to it

- Attended a Code of Ethics class on February 17 in Venice; it is put on by the Florida League of Cities and it was outstanding
- Attended the Polk Museum of Art on February 18 and handed out an award for a High School competition; it was sponsored by Congressman Ross
- Attended the TPO meeting February 23; they reviewed all of the projects (four million dollars)
- Attended CFDC meeting February 27 regarding restructuring – they are creating two boards 1) By-laws and organization 2) Finance. She is on the By-laws and Organization Board
- Attended DEO meeting
- Took a Citrus Connection tour; Winter Haven Transit and Polk Transit will be combining
- Attended the Polk County retreat and budgeting session last Thursday and Friday. There are four main issues
- Thanked the City Manager for getting a newer letter folding system and postage system at cheaper cost to the City
- Thanked the Fire Department
- She has signed up for water school; she encouraged others to do so.
- Announced a fire/rescue meeting for public officials April 5<sup>th</sup>
- Legislative session ending without a decision being made on the redistricting

Mayor LaCascia thanked Vice Mayor Block for attending the meetings.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS**

**Councilor Adorno** – had nothing to report

**Councilor Blethen** – thanked the Fire Station for bringing the equipment to the meeting for everyone to see

**Councilor Kimsey** – had nothing to report

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS/REQUEST**

Mr. Warren MacKenzie, 5175 Southshore Drive, thanked the Fire Department and Rescue for the assistance they gave him when it was needed. We are very fortunate to have immediate help.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Offices will close Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, for Good Friday

Vice Mayor Block made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Councilor Kimsey. The meeting adjourned upon voice vote at 8:18 p.m.

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Patricia R. Jackson, City Clerk

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Mayor Joe LaCascia

**CONSENT AGENDA**  
**March 12, 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 – February 13, 2012, City Council Meeting

**B. REPORTS**

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

**C. OTHER**

1. Approve Special Events for 2012
  - a. Safe Haven Halloween October 27, 2012
  - b. Christmas Parade December 1, 2012 beginning at 2:00 p.m.
2. Approve exchanging out the old mail machine and letter folding machine with updated mailing system and letter folding machine

Please note: Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the city council with respect to any matter considered during this meeting, he or she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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Minutes of the city council meetings may be obtained from the city clerk's office. The minutes are recorded, but are not transcribed verbatim. Persons requiring a verbatim transcript may arrange with the city clerk to duplicate the recordings, or arrange to have a court reporter present at the meeting. The cost of duplication and/or court reporter will be at the expense of the requesting party.