

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

December 15, 2014

Mayor Joe LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 – Sheandolen Dunn

Present: Mayor Joe LaCascia, Vice Mayor Mike Blethen, Commissioner Don Kimsey, Commissioner Keith Prestage, Commissioner Wanda Harris, City Manager Patricia Jackson and City Attorney Thomas Cloud

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM - Yes

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Vice Mayor Blethen to approve the Consent agenda; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Prestage.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

City Manager Jackson recognized Commissioner Wanda Harris as she received a Certificate of Completion for the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials, October 26-27, 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Linda Busch, Polk City Librarian, thanked everyone for their support to the library. Invited everyone to the Library Open House on Tuesday from 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Pictures will be taken and can be picked up on Monday.

Mr. & Mrs. Al Schneider (775 Teaberry Trail) expressed displeasure about garbage trucks being in her subdivision three days per week.

Debbie Mullen, Municipal Services Manager, Republic Services, explained why the bulk trash had to be picked up on a separate day; City Manager Jackson explained that Polk City pick-up cannot be mixed with Polk County pick-ups.

Wendy Whanger (185 Laynewade Road) requested clarification on trash pick-up during the holidays; City Manager Jackson responded.

Taylor Goldsmith, Builder/Developer (126 East Daughtrey Road, Lakeland, FL) expressed concerns about Readiness-to-Serve Sign-Up and Save Program plans and implementation. City Attorney Cloud stated that it will not be implemented at this time. However, it is an option for future consideration. Impact fee is for the cost of Capital. The Readiness-to-serve is for maintenance of the system in place ready to serve.

Discussion ensued.

AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 2014-09 – Approving Franchise Agreement for Solid Waste. Second and Final Reading.

Mayor LaCascia gave a brief explanation of the new Franchise Agreement for Solid Waste.

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2014-09 by short title. Mayor LaCascia opened the public hearing; there being no questions or comments, Mayor LaCascia closed the public hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to approve Ordinance 2014-09 - Approving Franchise Agreement for Solid Waste on Second and Final Reading; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

No Discussion.

Vote: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Commissioner Kimsey-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Commissioner Harris-aye, Commissioner Prestage-aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2014-10 – Charter Amendment. First Reading.

This Ordinance is proposing amendments to the Polk City Charter, setting a Charter Amendment Referendum, creating City Commission Districts, Defining their boundaries and providing for boundary change.

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2014-10 by short title. After lengthy discussion during the Workshop earlier today, this Commission is not ready to move forward at this time.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to table Ordinance 2014-10 Charter Amendment; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris.

Vote: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Commissioner Kimsey-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Commissioner Harris-aye, Commissioner Prestage-aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2014-11 – Imposing Moratorium on Collection of Impact Fees. First Reading.

Second and Final Reading will take place on January 19, 2015.

This Ordinance will continue and impose a moratorium on collection of impact fees, other than impact fees for water and sewer services for twelve months.

Mayor LaCascia read Ordinance 2014-10 by short title. Mayor LaCascia opened the public hearing.

Lou Nelson (467 Meandering Way) spoke in favor of the moratorium and the impact it would have on construction if not approved.

Mayor LaCascia closed the public hearing.

Mayor LaCascia clarified in the body of this ordinance it states the City Commission would like to extend the moratorium from December 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015, which is what will be voted on today.

City Manager Jackson asked if this was going to be approved on second and final reading in January; if so, could we go ahead and waive the impact fees for December on any permits that would be issued.

City Attorney Cloud responded, yes.

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to approve Ordinance 2014-11 – Moratorium on Collection of Impact Fees on First Reading; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

Vote: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Commissioner Kimsey-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Commissioner Harris-aye, Commissioner Prestage-aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Woodard and Curran Operations and Maintenance Contract

City Attorney Cloud opened discussion regarding Woodard and Curran's (W&C) contract to provide all routine operation and maintenance of Polk City's facilities in the areas of water/wastewater treatment, process control, laboratory analysis and maintenance procedures for water treatment facilities. W&C will supervise all regulatory compliance and financial transactions pertaining to day-to-day operations of the facility.

After lengthy discussion, the City Commission consensus was to do nothing at this time.

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to do nothing at this time with the Woodard and Curran Operations and Maintenance Contract; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Prestage.

Vote: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Commissioner Kimsey-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Commissioner Harris-aye, Commissioner Prestage-aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Hydro-tanks at Mount Olive Water Treatment Plant – Cleaning and Repairs

Mayor LaCascia and City Manager Jackson opened discussion regarding the Hydro-tanks at Mount Olive Water Treatment Plant – Cleaning and Repairs. On December 2, 2014, Utility Technicians, Inc. inspected Mount Olive Tank #1, and on December 8, an inspection was made on Tank #2; a copy of the reports is enclosed for your review. Utility Technicians, Inc. is recommending the tanks be replaced immediately due to the steel deterioration.

Glenn Burden (Woodard and Curran) stated the cost for replacing the tanks is approximately \$107,000; however, the tanks can be refurbished. Another contractor looked at the tanks and recommended sandblasting and epoxy. Once tank work is complete, these tanks will be certified.

Commissioner Prestage asked if the tanks are restored, what would be the life of the tanks?

Glenn Burden stated he was not sure what was guaranteed, but the epoxy would bring the tanks back to their original thickness. Can't provide an exact timeframe, however, looking at the Matt Williams tank, somewhere around 15 – 20 years and would be inspected on a regular basis and recoated as well.

Discussion ensued.

Staff recommended approval of the Hydro-tanks at Mount Olive Water Treatment Plant – Cleaning and Repairs not to exceed \$14,000 with recertification.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to approve the Hydro-tanks at Mount Olive Water Treatment Plant – Cleaning and Repairs not to exceed \$14,000 with recertification; this motion as seconded by Commissioner Harris.

Vote: Mayor LaCascia-aye, Commissioner Kimsey-aye, Vice Mayor Blethen-aye, Commissioner Harris-aye, Commissioner Prestage-aye

Motion carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK ITEMS

Honeybee Paving Update coming in the next few days regarding the cost estimates.

Christmas Parade - Huge success. Thanked everyone for their donations.

Community Center/Storm Shelter – Plans have gone to the County and comments have been received; and as you can see, we have dirt out on the site.

Florida Retirement System – City Manager Jackson stated an audit was performed on Polk City's Retirement Program. We received a letter from the FRS stating since 1995, our City Commission was not included in the Retirement Plan. FRS has recommended going back to 1995 and make retro retirement payments for all the City Commissioners. Extensive research has been done and the City Commissioners were never included in the retirement plan from day one. If the City Commissioners determine what they receive every month is a "fee" and not a "salary", we don't have to make payments retro to 1995 at a one percent fee and we would adopt a resolution or ordinance to that affect. If the City Commission decides they want to be a part of the Retirement Plan and be identified as receiving a "salary", a resolution or ordinance would have to be adopted to that affect as well.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to approve being designated as "Fee"; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Kimsey. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Christmas Holidays - City Offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 24 and Thursday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.

Staff Luncheon – Christmas Staff Luncheon will be on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 12 Noon.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS - None

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Vice Mayor Blethen – Thanked everyone for coming. Merry Christmas. Would like for Woodard & Curran to identify tanks that need inspection.

Commissioner Kimsey – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas/Happy New Year.

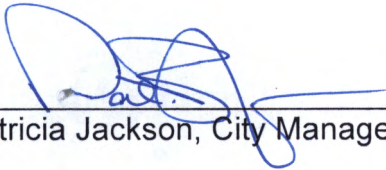
Commissioner Harris – Wished all a very Merry Christmas and to be safe throughout the Holiday season.

Commissioner Prestage – Commented on Polk City being a great place to live. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

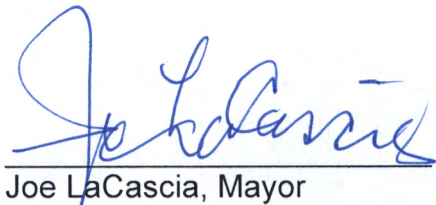
Mayor LaCascia – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – City offices will be closed New Year's Day.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:05 pm



Patricia Jackson, City Manager



Joe LaCascia, Mayor