

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

January 19, 2015

Vice Mayor Mike Blethen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Keith Prestage gave the invocation.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Mayor Blethen.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Mayor Joe LaCascia

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Prestage made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris and unanimously carried.

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Vice Mayor Blethen proclaimed January 5-9, 2015 as Florida First Responder Appreciation Week, and announced it included Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters and EMT's who bravely selflessly risk their lives every day to protect Florida families, visitors and businesses.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 2014-11 – Imposing Moratorium on Collection of Impact Fees; second and final reading.

Attorney Cloud read Ordinance 2014-11 in short title; Vice Mayor Blethen asked if there any comments from the public. There being no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Prestage asked for clarification on the moratorium and how it pertains to water and sewer impact fees. City Manager Jackson advised the moratorium was on impact fees for new construction only that were associated with the general fund, such as police, fire, public facilities, etc. The moratorium does not apply to water and sewer impact fees; it was further stated by the City Manager that water and sewer impact fees are not billed monthly. Attorney Cloud also discussed the moratorium.

Commissioner Prestage made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-11 on second and final reading; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris.

Roll Call: Vice Mayor Blethen – aye, Commissioner Prestage – aye, Commissioner Kimsey – aye, Commissioner Harris – aye.

The motion carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

- The permit has been pulled for the Community Center / Storm Shelter
- Contract for paving should be signed next week
- Annual city-wide yard sale will be March 7, 2015 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Polk County Day in Tallahassee March 10th; reception from 5-7
- Announced new employee, Chasity Hall, will start tomorrow in the Utilities Department; she has 16 years of experience in municipal government
- Ridge League of Cities dinner will be in Lake Wales Thursday, February 12th; if you are attending please let her know by 2:00 p.m. February 2nd.
- Ethics Training – there will be an Ethics Training class Saturday, February 7 from 1-5 p.m. at the Chain of Lakes Complex in Winter Haven. Elected Officials now have to receive 4 hours of ethics-specifically training annually
- Florida League of Cities Legislative Action Day will be March 17-19 in Tallahassee; will send Commission additional information.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS

Attorney Cloud advised he is working on the Paving Contract.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Vice Mayor Blethen – Good to see Community Center being built and asked about the tennis court grant; City Manager Jackson advised the survey was completed and other work should follow soon.

Commissioner Kimsey – Asked what was decided with regards to the utility department working on Fridays. Commissioner Prestage asked what benefit it would serve; currently the city is saving money. Commissioner Kimsey advised there has been a time or two it was an inconvenience, and has heard several residents didn't know city hall was closed on Fridays; discussion took place regarding the utility billing department being open on Fridays (Commissioner Kimsey commented he is only interested in utilities being open on Friday). City Manager Jackson advised once the new employee is hired, hours would need to be staggered as both employees would work on Friday because it is not safe for one person to work by themselves.

Commissioner Kimsey thanked everyone for attending.

Commissioner Harris – Thanked those for coming, and had nothing to report.

Commissioner Prestage – Had nothing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – There were no announcements

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.


Patricia Jackson, City Manager


Mike Blethen, Vice Mayor