

CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

April 18, 2016

Mayor Joe LaCascia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Walter Lawlor, New Life Community Church, gave the invocation.

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

ROLL CALL – Assistant to the City Manager Sheandolen Dunn

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

Administration of Oath of Office for Incoming City Commissioners

The Oath of Office was administered by City Manager Jackson to Commissioners Mike Blethen and Keith Prestage

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to approve the Consent Agenda; motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mayor LaCascia read a Proclamation for MADD - PowerTalk 21 Recognition Day.

Mayor LaCascia read a Certificate of Completion for attendance at the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials III and presented it to Commissioner Wanda Harris.

PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA)

- 1) Tangie Cousins (9143 Golden Gate Blvd) - Sewer Issues
- 2) Jackie Fortier (9119 Golden Gate Blvd) – Sewer issues
- 3) Lee Small (9137 Golden Gate Blvd) – Sewer Issues
- 4) James Scott (9102 Golden Gate Blvd) – Sewer Issues
- 5) Sherry Feltz (9041 Damascus Avenue) – Sewer Issues
- 6) Barbara Casity (9158 Golden Gate Blvd) - Sewer Issues
- 7) Mildred Alexander (9029 Damascus Avenue) – Tree Problems
- 8) Janice Roach (9036 Damascus) – Tree Roots and Sewer

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Election of Mayor

Motion by Vice Mayor Blethen to nominate Joe LaCascia to serve another one-year term as Mayor; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Prestage.

Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Election of Vice Mayor

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to nominate Mike Blethen to serve a one-year term as Vice Mayor; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris.

Motion failed 2/3.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to nominate Wanda Harris to serve a one-year term as Vice Mayor; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris.

Motion carried 3/2 by voice vote for Wanda Harris as the Vice Mayor to serve a one-year term.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 2016-02 – Amending Land Development Code, second and final reading

AN ORDINANCE OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF POLK CITY, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 2, SECTION 2.04.01, TABLE 4 – TABLE OF USES FOR THE C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO PERMIT EXISTING SINGLE FAMILY HOMES, INCLUDING STANDARD CONSTRUCTION, MODULAR HOMES, AND MOBILE HOMES AS PERMITTED USES, THEREBY ALLOWING SUCH STRUCTURES TO BE RECONSTRUCTED/REPLACED IF THEY ARE DESTROYED OR REMOVED; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Second and Final Reading

City Attorney Cloud read Ordinance 2016-02 by title only. Mayor LaCascia opened the public hearing; there being no questions or comments, Mayor LaCascia closed the public hearing.

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury (CFRPC) stated this is the second public hearing. This Amendment allows for existing single family structures to remain and be rebuilt if ever destroyed or be replaced in the C-2 zoning district.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to adopt Ordinance 2016-02 Amending Land Development Code on second and final Reading; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Blethen.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Republic Services – Petition for Rate Adjustment for Polk City

Debbie Mullen (Republic Services) stated a letter has been submitted petitioning for a rate adjustment increase based on the rate of inflation determined by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the amount of 1.2%. Per the Agreement dated December 14, 2014,

Republic Services may petition the City for a rate adjustment. The request was received in writing no later than 90 calendar days prior to July 1st. Should the Commission approve the rate adjustment increase, it will not take effect until the anniversary of the effective date and will be in effect for the 12- month period following said anniversary date. The request is for 1.2% and the new rates requested are as follows:

- Residential rate -- \$14.05 per resident per month (13.88 currently)
- Commercial hand pick-up -- \$31.10 per month (30.83 currently)
- Rate for commercial dumpsters -- \$7.96 per yard (7.87 currently)

The last time there was a rate adjustment for Polk City was in 2012 under the previous contract. In 2013 Polk County had a landfill decrease; so Polk City, along with several other cities, was given a roll back on the landfill decrease of October 1.

In 2014 there was no rate adjustment because of the RFP. In 2015 Polk City was in a new contract and no increases could be requested during the first year. Republic Services is asking for a rate adjustment which, if approved, would begin in January 2017.

Now, in 2016 Republic Services is not eligible for the rate adjustment because, if approved, the rate increase would begin January 2017.

This is being done with all Republic Services customers, but there is a notification process with all of the Counties. This is an increase of 17 cents for residential and 9 cents for commercial.

Commissioner Kimsey asked why the rate increase?

Mrs. Mullen responded due to the rate increases through health benefits, liability insurance, tires and disposal of hazard waste, materials and permitting for facilities.

Lengthy discussion ensued.

Motion by Commissioner Kimsey to approve the Republic Services petition for rate adjustment for Polk City; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Blethen.

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

Motion failed unanimously.

Public Hearing – Public Input for FY 2016/2017 CDBG Project

City Manager Jackson stated Polk City will be submitting a FY 2016-2017 CDBG Municipal Partner Program Proposal to the Polk County CDBG Program for Community Development Block Grant of up to \$7,659.00.

The Public Hearing is to receive citizen views concerning the City's community development needs; citizens will also have a 30-day time period to submit their comments to the City Manager's Office.

We can take comments from the public regarding the City's community development needs as it pertains to the Community Development Block Project.

Staff recommends the project for this money be for architectural fees for renderings of the current Activity Center to ultimately turn it into our Library of the future.

Commissioner Kimsey asked why we need to make the Library larger? What kind of usage is there currently at the Library?

City Manager responded the library usage is constantly increasing. There are more services being offered than just books being read.

Commissioner Blethen stated there needs to be a workshop on this item.

Mildred Alexander (9029 Damascus Avenue) discussed the idea of parking at the bike trail.

City Manager stated the funds have to be spent inside the city limits and the area Mrs. Alexander is referring to is outside the city limits.

Sandra Cutts (315 Central Avenue) agreed that the money could be well spent for the library. The plumbing problems cannot wait.

City Manager stated at the last meeting we discussed the grants and what the funds would be used for. This grant application is due April 13 to Polk County.

As Polk City is a member of the Florida Rural Water Association, use of the camera equipment would be at no cost to televise the sewer lines.

This property is not in the City, it's in the County. We have to use HUD money for inside the City limits. In the initial discussion of grants that Polk City would apply for, the consensus was for the library architectural drawings. If these funds are not going to be used for the Library, we will need to have a special meeting to approve a project to apply these funds to as work has already begun for the grant applications from the last meeting and workshop. We either approve the project as presented or plan a special meeting to decide on another project.

City Attorney Cloud stated that a workshop is being planned; the money being obtained now cannot not be used for the sewer issues.

Wayne Harper (209 South Hydrangea Avenue) – asked if this money be used to improve parking at the Trail. City Manager Jackson advised that property is owned by

the State. It was noted Department of Environmental Protection could be contacted regarding possible paving for parking.

Commissioner Prestage stated if we miss this opportunity, we miss this money. We need to do what is necessary to move forward in updating the Library.

In the March meeting it was the consensus of the City Commission to move forward with applying for this money to begin the process of updating the library.

City Attorney Cloud read the excerpt from the approved March Meeting Minutes:

*“**Motion by Commissioner Prestage** to authorize City Manager Jackson to execute grant applications for capital projects; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris”.*

Select First Alternate for Check Signing

City Manager Jackson stated per the City Charter the Mayor and Vice Mayor shall have primary signatory authority on the city checking account. All checks will require two (2) signatures. If the Mayor or Vice Mayor is not available to sign checks, the first alternate will be a designated Commissioner and the second alternate will be the City Manager.

Designate a City Commission Member to be the first alternate to sign on the city checking account.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage for Commissioner Blethen to serve as 1st alternate sign for check signing; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Harris.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Commission Liaison Appointments

City Manager Jackson stated the City Commission will need to make Liaison and alternate Liaison appointments for the following:

- a. Ridge League of Cities, primary and alternate
- b. Transportation Planning Organization (meets once a month during day)
- c. Central Florida Development Council

Mayor LaCascia and/or City Manager Jackson have attended these meeting and are willing to continue.

Motion by Mayor LaCascia to leave as-is the Liaison and alternate liaison appointments to the Ridge League of Cities, Transportation Planning Organization and Central Florida Development Council; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Prestage.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Equipment Lease with Mailfinance, Inc. (postage meter)

City Manager Jackson stated at the March 2016 City Commission Meeting; this item was tabled awaiting more research from City Staff. After considerable research, leasing a smaller postage machine and eliminating the folding machine is more cost effective, as this will cost \$321.71 monthly, which is \$3,860.52 annually. However, over a 60-month period the cost is \$19,302.60, which is above the City Manager's expenditure limit. This cost includes maintenance (all parts and labor), USPS rate changes, closing out the current lease of which the City has approximately 10 months remaining. We are currently spending \$1,142 per month on the postage meter and folding machine, which will save approximately \$820/per month, \$9,840/annually.

Motion by Commissioner Prestage to approve a 60-month lease with Mailfinance, Inc. for postage meter; this motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Harris.

Motion carried 4/1, by voice vote.

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

- 1) City Commission Workshop for May 2016 - Date set for Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7:00 pm. This will be a meeting for the City Commission to discuss items, but not for public comment.
- 2) City Manager will be on vacation April 19-21.

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS - None

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Blethen – Thanked everyone for coming. Congratulated Commissioner Harris on her appointment as Vice Mayor. Concerns regarding Sewer issues.

Commissioner Kimsey – Discussed the major sewer issues.

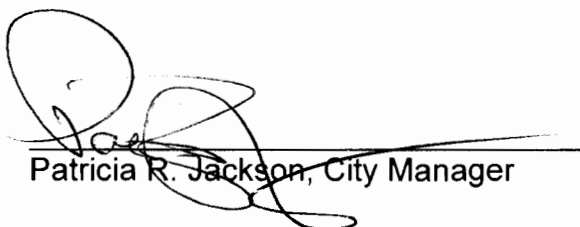
Vice Mayor Harris – Thanked everyone for coming. Thanked the Commission for their confidence in appointing her as Vice Mayor.

Commissioner Prestage – Expressed concern regarding the sewer issues. Residents can contact Commissioners by email or phone.

Mayor LaCascia – Thanked Commissioner Blethen for serving as Vice Mayor. Thanked fellow Commissioners for their support in him as Mayor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.


Patricia R. Jackson, City Manager


Joe LaCascia, Mayor

CONSENT AGENDA
April 18, 2016

MAY ALL BE APPROVED BY ONE VOTE OF COMMISSION TO ACCEPT CONSENT AGENDA. Commission 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 – March 21, 2016 - Regular City Commission Meeting

B. REPORTS

1. Building Report – March 2016
2. Code Enforcement Report – March 2016
3. Finance Report – March 2016
4. Library Report – March 2016
5. Sheriff's Office Report – March 2016
6. Utilities Report – March 2016

C. OTHER