

## CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES

April 17, 2017

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Mayor Joe LaCascia called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

### ROLL CALL

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

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### **Reclaimed Water Reuse Planning**

Mayor Joe LaCascia discussed the Reclaimed Water Reuse Planning document and provided background dating back to 2010 when Gerry Hartman, Hartman Consultants, LLC, did an Optimization Study that was approved by the City Commission which involved consolidation of debt at a lower rate, improvements to the Cardinal Hill WWTP, decommissioning of Mt. Olive South WWTP. This Program reduced cost by operating one versus two wastewater plants. The five potential reclaimed water reuse sites were 1) Smith Road site, 2) Mt. Olive South Perc Ponds, 3) Cardinal Hill WWTP, 4) SR 33 Sprayfield, 5) Interstate 4 Percolation Ponds. The 39.82 acres of sprayfield has a capacity of 185,000 gallons per day or approximately 4,650 gpd per acre. In contrast, the percolation ponds or Rapid Infiltration Basins (RIBS) have a capacity of 100,000 gpd on four (4) acres. The RIBS takes over five hundred times the flow, per acre. The Cardinal Hill WWTP has a permitted capacity of 300,000 gpd, which is slightly greater than the existing total operational reuse sites. The existing plant can be re-rated based upon the historical performance to 350,000 gpd without capital improvements. The effluent disposal capacity of 285,000 gpd is the limiting factor for the wastewater system. In 2010, the Annual Average Daily Flow (AADF) and the City's Wastewater system was approximately 120,000 gpd. Today, the AADF it is approximately 155,000. This planning document resolves the effluent capacity as follows: 1) Matching or exceeding the proposed re-rated Cardinal Hall WWTP; 2) Meeting the Mud Lake environmental goals as set forth by FDEP studies; and 3) Making the effluent reuse more efficient for the City.

City Attorney Cloud provided clarification regarding the possibility of public inquiry about this process and the SRF Funding. As part of the funding process, if someone has a question about what they are hearing tonight, it is important that those questions be answered.

Commission Consensus.....there will be public comment.

Gerry Hartman stated when we consolidated the two-point option in 2010, a part of that was to consolidate the effluent disposal reuse capacity in sites. Currently, we ask the operators to go to four sites and we are trying to consolidate down to two sites, the second aspect is Polk City owns the Smith Road site, which has significant effluent disposal capacity. Approximately one year ago, the City authorized Ardman and Associates to do soil testing and do a preliminary assessment of the site, which also includes the environmental aspect (where the water goes). After assessing, Douglas Dufresne, Professional Hydrogeologist, came to the conclusion that it would take 350,000-500,000 gpd of reclaimed water to recharge the Great Florida Aquifer, the Secondary Aquifer and the deep zone of the Aquifer.

Public comments by the following persons:

Sandra Cutts (315 Central Avenue) – Asked if Sand Hill and Smith Road are one in the same?

Gerry Hartman responded, yes.

Michael HoShing (505 Orange Boulevard) – spoke regarding the need to utilize an environmentally friendly process.

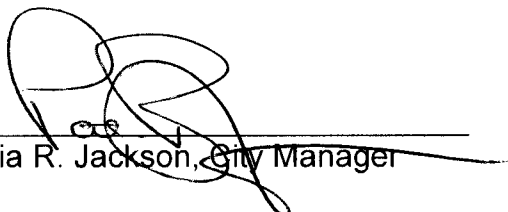
Lisa Shifflett (234 Bayberry Drive) – Inquired about further testing for the capacity of the Cardinal Hill site.


City Commission comments included proposed projects as related to Cardinal Hill WWTP, Optimization Study approved by the City Commission, and later amended to include the Reuse project.

After lengthy discussion and reviewing the report submitted for this project, it was the consensus of the Commission to have an environmental study done to look at additional capacity at the Cardinal Hill WWTP, rather than going to the Sand Mine site. Gerry Hartman will have a report for the City Commission at the next Public Hearing on May 15, 2017.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None

**Adjournment** – 7:00 pm

  
Patricia R. Jackson, City Manager

  
Joe LaCascia, Mayor