



City of Eustis, Florida

City Hall
10 North Grove Street
Post Office Drawer 68
Eustis, FL 32727-0068

Meeting Minutes – Final* City Commission

Thursday, July 21, 2016

6:00 PM

City Hall

INVOCATION: Pastor Buddy Walker, Commissioned Beyond Borders

At Mayor Holland's request, Pastor Walker provided an update on his organization's food distribution activities.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Bob

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Holland - 6:06 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF QUORUM AND PROPER NOTICE

Present: 4 - Commissioner Linda Bob; Vice-Mayor Karen LeHeup-Smith; Commissioner Robert Morin; and Mayor Michael Holland

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Carla Gnann-Thompson

I. AGENDA UPDATE - None

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

16158 June 7, 2016 - Regular City Commission Meeting
June 11, 2016 - City Commission Workshop

A motion was made by Commissioner Bob, seconded by Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith, to Approve the Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Bob; Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith; Commissioner Morin; and Mayor Holland

III. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Brandon Avalone suggested having a no fee day once per week for the splash pad and pool and accepting donations on that day instead.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

16156 Resolution No. 16-56: Contract Amendment #1 - Design Engineering Services for the Eastern Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion Project

16151 Resolution No. 16-57: Alley Naming

16152 Acceptance of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) 2017-2021

16157 Appointment to the Code Enforcement Board - Stephanie L. Carder

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith, seconded by Commissioner Morin, to Approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Bob; Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith; Commissioner Morin; and Mayor Holland

V. ORDINANCES, PUBLIC HEARINGS & QUASI-JUDICIAL HEARINGS

- 16140** Resolution No. 16-55: Amending Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget for Additional Revenues and Expenditures and the Water and Sewer Renewal & Replacement Fund Budget pertaining to the Lakeview Avenue projects as reflected in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Zack Broome, City Attorney, announced Resolution No. 16-55: A Resolution by the City Commission of the City of Eustis, Lake County, Florida amending the 2015-2016 General Fund budget to reflect unanticipated revenues and expenditures related to City special events and amending the 2015-2016 Water and Sewer Renewal & Replacement Fund budget to reflect the accepted Capital Improvement Plan for the Lakeview Avenue water and sewer projects.

Colleen Scott, Finance Director, explained the proposed budget amendment to move the Lakeview water and wastewater project to the next fiscal year and to recognize funds raised during City events.

Mr. Broome opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed at 6:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith, seconded by Commissioner Morin, to Approve Resolution No. 16-55. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Bob; Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith; Commissioner Morin; and Mayor Holland

FIRST READING

- 16155** Ordinance No. 16-23: Annual Update of the Five Year Capital Improvements Schedule for the Comprehensive Plan FY 2016-17

Mr. Broome read Ordinance No. 16-23 by title on first reading: An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Eustis, Florida approving the annual update of the Five Year Capital Improvements Schedule of the Comprehensive Plan pursuant to F.S. 163.3177(3)5(b); providing for conflicting ordinances, severability, and effective date.

Ms. Scott explained the purpose of the ordinance is to incorporate the Capital Improvement Plan into the Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvement Element.

Mr. Broome opened the public hearing at 6:12 p.m. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith, seconded by Commissioner Morin, to Approve Ordinance No. 16-23 on First Reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Bob; Vice-Mayor LeHeup-Smith; Commissioner Morin; and Mayor Holland

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- 16150** Proposed Millage Rate for 2016 (FY 2017) and Date of First Budget Public Hearing

Ms. Scott explained the Truth in Millage Law (TRIM), how the information is disseminated by the Property Appraiser and how the tax roll values are used. She provided a brief history of the property values and millage rates over the past ten years noting that the current property values are approximately the same as in 2011. She explained the millage rate definitions and announced that the proposed millage rate for 2016 is 7.5810. She explained the amount of tax revenues to be realized using the proposed rate. She commented on how surrounding municipalities that reduced their millage rate had seen a significant increase in their property values. She stated that the tentative date for the first public hearing is Thursday, September 8, 2016.

CONSENSUS: It was a consensus of the Commission to set the tentative millage rate at 7.5810 with the first public hearing to be held on September 8, 2016.

Discussion of aquatic center use fees

Mayor Holland opened the floor to discussion on the aquatic center use fees. He asked if the City Manager had information regarding the usage of the aquatic center.

Ron Neibert, City Manager, responded that he did not have firm figures but it appeared to be at approximately 70% capacity.

The Commission discussed what other cities in the County are charging for use of their splash pads, offering season passes, the level of poverty within the City and those families that cannot afford to use the facility, and offering a reduced fee or no fee once per week.

Mr. Neibert explained that the City does offer a multi-use pass. He stated that he looked at the numbers and offering a \$1 day once per week would only cost the City about \$3,000 in lost revenues. He expressed support for offering a \$1 day per week through the end of the season.

The Commission noted that school would be back in session on August 10th and expressed support for having either a \$1 day or a free day with donations accepted. It was suggested that there be two days per week since there were only three weeks left before school starts.

Mr. Neibert stated that if the Commission wanted to implement something immediately for Tuesdays and Thursdays staff could put it out on Facebook. He explained that before the next season opens staff intends to develop an overall fee schedule for Commission approval.

Tina Morin suggested allowing the police officers or firefighters to have coupons to give out to children to reward good behavior.

CONSENSUS: It was a consensus of the Commission to have fee free days on Tuesdays and Thursdays with a donation jar available until August 10th.

The Commission suggested staff consider weekend hours for the pool and splash pad after school starts.

Mr. Avalone commented on the likelihood that the City may actually collect more funds with a collection jar on the fee free days.

Mrs. Morin asked if they want to restrict the free fees to Eustis residents only.

CONSENSUS: It was a consensus of the Commission to open to all for the three weeks but to consider in-City and non-resident rates for the next year.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Bob asked to have a discussion about the police department. She commented on the need for them to be able to have family time during the summer and the lack of full staffing. She emphasized the need to aggressively fill the vacant positions to ensure the existing officers are not required to work overtime.

Gary Calhoun, Police Chief, agreed with Commissioner Bob. He stated they are considering various options to improve recruiting and some ideas for the new website. He explained they have been participating in more job fairs at other academies. He commented on the priorities of the newer officers to have time with their families. He reported that the two deployed officers are on their way back and two new officers are currently being vetted for training.

Mr. Neibert noted a good candidate has spoken with Human Resources however the City currently has a policy against nepotism but that is being reviewed.

The Commission and staff discussed the following issues: 1) difficulties in hiring; 2) problems with systematic racism and discouragement within the community; 3) efforts to have officers interacting with the community and individuals; 4) the role of the police in the modern world; 5) the need to consider salary levels; and 6) how the community can show support for public safety.

Commissioner Bob expressed support for the department seeking the national accreditation and commented on the wonderful things the department is already doing.

VIII. COMMENTS

City Commission

Vice Mayor LeHeup-Smith commented on how great the Pokemon Go event was.

Commissioner Morin reported on the town meeting held at the Mount Dora Community Center regarding the 429 extension. He expressed concern on how it will affect Eustis. He commented on the movie night at the Trout Lake Nature Center.

Commissioner Bob also commented on the Pokemon Go event and cited the number of people in the park for the event. She reported on a recent CRA meeting in Sorrento.

Mayor Holland explained that the Pokemon Go event was planned in only four days and only cost the City \$100 with funds left over. He noted that an additional event is being planned. He commented that the Facebook message had over 62,000 hits and cited the number of downtown merchants that participated including Sol de Mexico, 1884, Strawberries and Peddler's Wagon. He announced a number of media that publicized the event including Mount Dora Buzz, Orlando Sentinel, Daily Commercial, WKMG Channel 6, Fox 35, and Eustis High School. He noted the media rollout of the marketing for the former hospital property and complimented staff on their work.

City Manager

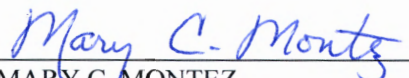
Mr. Neibert explained for the Commission how the Pokemon Go game is played.

City Attorney - None

Mayor

Mayor Holland thanked the audience for attending the meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - 6:46 p.m.


MARY C. MONTEZ
City Clerk


MICHAEL L. HOLLAND
Mayor/Commissioner

*These minutes reflect the actions taken and portions of the discussion during the meeting. To review the entire discussion concerning any agenda item, go to www.eustis.org and click on the video for the meeting in question. A DVD of the entire meeting or CD of the entire audio recording or verbatim transcript of the meeting can be obtained from the office of the City Clerk for a fee.