

Palmetto City Council
November 18, 2002 7:00 PM

Elected Officials Present:

Larry Bustle, Mayor
Mary Lancaster, Vice Mayor
Shirley Bryant, Council Member
Tamara Cornwell, Council Member
Charlie Grace, Council Member
Brian Williams, Council Member

Staff and others present:

Attorney Alan Prather
Karen Conlon, City Clerk
Chief Garry Lowe
Allen Tusing, Public Works Supervisor
Deanna Roberts, Administrative Assistant
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant

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

Pastor Raiford Harper, Bible Baptist Church of Palmetto, gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Captain Garry Lowe recognized Reserve Officer Willie Moreland for his participation in an infraction at DeSoto Square Mall. Gordon Van Strom, director of security at the mall, presented Officer Moreland with a certificate of appreciation, recognizing actions above and beyond the call of duty.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the November 18, 2002 agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda.

3. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PLAN AMENDMENT FROM COUNTY IL TO CITY HC1
FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 612 10TH STREET EAST

Mrs. Conlon explained Ms. Tusing has requested the public hearing be continued to January 6, 2003, as there was no quorum at the last Planning and Zoning meeting. The city will avoid duplicate advertisements if the hearing is continued.

Mayor Bustle opened the public hearing.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 5-0 to continue the public hearing for Plan Amendment PA0212 to January 6, 2003.

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR CHANGE OF ZONING FROM COUNTY LM TO CITY CHI FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 612 10TH STREET WEST

Mrs. Conlon explained Ms. Tusing has requested the public hearing be continued to January 6, 2003, as there was no quorum at the last Planning and Zoning meeting. The city will avoid duplicate advertisements if the hearing is continued.

Mayor Bustle opened the public hearing.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 5-0 to continue the public hearing for Change of Zoning Z0221 to January 6, 2003.

5. AWARD OF BID - US 41 DRIVEWAY CONNECTION - Correction 12-2-02

Mrs. Conlon stated the project is the driveway connection to Riviera Dunes and will be funded by the CDBG grant.

MOTION: Motion to accept the recommendation of Zoller, Najjar & Shroyer and award the bid to APAC-FL, Inc., not to exceed \$194,790.26, based on adequate funds being available through the CDBG grant commitment, and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract subject to the receipt of bonds and insurance and review and approval by the attorney.

6. AWARD OF BID - CHAPEL FLOOR REPLACEMENT

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to award the bid for the Chapel floor replacement to Alex's Wood Floor not to exceed \$3,409.53.

7. APPROVAL OF ENTERPRISE FUND EXPENSES

Mrs. Conlon explained the denoted expenses were operating expenses where blanket orders were being generated so the city could continue to function in the absence of an approved budget. The requested blanket orders are as follows:

Call Tickets (already purchased)	\$45.88	3075445223 Road & Bridge
Type III Asphalt - Blanket Order	\$6,000.00	3075445302 Road & Bridge
Crushed Concrete - Blanket Order	\$4,000.00	3075445302 Road & Bridge
Ship WWTP Reports -Blanket Order	\$500.00	4325355200 Sewer

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the expenses from the noted Enterprise Funds in the absence of an approved operating fund budget to a total of \$10,545.88.

8. 2003 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 5-0 to approve the 2003 holiday schedule.

9. DEPARTMENT HEADS' COMMENTS

Attorney Prather

Advised Council Florida League of Cities has accepted the defense of the suit filed by Mr. Cohoon. All future correspondence regarding the case will be forwarded to FLOC.

Mr. Tusing, Public Works Department

Most of the utilities are in place in the B3-Oakridge project. Roadwork is being started.

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Carr Drain is complete. Two change orders will be coming to Council for approval on the December 2, 2002 agenda.

Mrs. Conlon, City Clerk

The Department of Revenue has projected that sales tax revenue will be down 2% this year and down 2.5% next year. Projections will be revised again in March. Mrs. Conlon recommended the city be conservative in its spending. Mayor Bustle advised Council he has instituted a policy whereby he reviews all requests \$2,500 and higher for approval before they are entered into the purchasing system.

The Charter Review Committee will meet Tuesday, November 26, 2002 at 7:00 pm. Council was asked for their comments concerning the charter. Mr. Williams appointed Laurel Taylor to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Slocum. Staff will attempt to contact Ms. Times to determine if she will serve on the committee.

Chief Lowe, Police Department

The computer designated for locating missing children has been awarded to the city.

10. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Advised Council the workshop for the RR&I program has been postponed to December 2, 2002.

American Patriotism Week was observed November 9 - 15, 2002 throughout the county. Palmetto City Hall won the government division of the decorating contest associated with the festivities. Mayor Bustle thanked staff for their participation in the event.

There is no council meeting December 23, 2002. To allow for travel plans Mayor Bustle proposed canceling the December 30, 2002 council meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 5-0 to cancel the December 30, 2002 meeting.

Commented on the 52 tons of solid waste from all four city routes that was hand loaded November 12, 2002. Mayor Bustle read by name the employees involved and commended them on their excellent performance.

Spoke of the past practice of giving the employees a Christmas present and proposed purchasing a day planner for the city employees at a cost of \$309.37. Discussion ensued on funding the purchase. Attorney Prather advised the planner would be considered equipment useful by the employees.

MOTION: Mr. Grace moved and Mr. Williams seconded to approve the Mayor purchasing on behalf of the city 140 day planners for city employees.

Mr. Williams, Mr. Grace, Mrs. Conlon, Attorney Prather and Chief Lowe volunteered to pay for the planners rather than expend city funds. Ms. Bryant suggested preparing cookies and baskets.

Motion carried 5-0 to purchase the daytime planners from donations.

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Ms. Cornwell suggested a potluck dinner with Council providing dessert. Discussion ensued on planning this type of event to be held in Sutton Park.

11. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Grace

Congratulated city staff on the timely response to his request to remove tree trimming from his property. He stated he had not planned well considering the Veteran's Day holiday.

Ms. Cornwell

Congratulated Mrs. Lancaster on her re-election and also the two unopposed candidates, stating she looked forward working together.

Inquired about decorating the fair booth. Geoff Seger will be advised of the "Celebrate Manatee 2003" fair theme.

Inquired about the Christmas wreath decorations for city hall. Suggested looking into purchasing some decorations for city hall grounds next year, and possibly obtaining sponsors of the decorations to help defray the cost.

Commented on her opinion the \$417,240 MPO is reviewing for the restoration of the Pullman rail car can be better spent. Mayor Bustle stated MPO voted to consider the request. If MPO doesn't grant approval the funds will revert back to FDOT.

Commented on the correspondence from the City of North Port regarding the FLOC representing only cities. A resolution addressing the topic will be on the December 2, 2002 agenda.

The topic of a school resource officer at Palmetto Elementary and Manatee School for the Arts will be placed on a future agenda. Captain Lowe stated Officer Jones is looking into grant funding for these positions.

Requested a copy of the department heads' evaluations.

Requested that staff advise the coordinators of the Family Celebration of Lights her family would be participating in the Friday night tour.

Discussed the past practice of Council approving the department heads' participation in classes. Mayor Bustle stated he approved the request if it was in the budget as part of his mayoral responsibilities. Discussion ensued on the policy calling for the department head to advise Council when they would be out of town.

Requested that bid items contain the approved budgeted amount and the funding line item in the information packet.

Mr. Williams

Discussed the oleanders north of town and the required mulching. Mr. Tusing advised Public Works has received no definitive answer regarding the cypress mulch having to be replaced with pine straw. Council will be advised of the resolution.

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The Vehicle bid is due December 4, 2002 and will be on the December 16, 2002 agenda.

Requested Public Works determine if the mangroves in the park area need pruning.

Discussed the historic homes in the city needing protection. Suggested the Historic Preservation Board should become involved by developing an ordinance addressing the topic.

Mrs. Lancaster

Spoke of the difficulty some city residents had in voting. Mrs. Conlon has spoken with the Supervisor of Elections office about the situation. Mayor Bustle will also speak to Mr. Sweat about the confusion in the wards containing two precincts.

Ms. Bryant

Received a resume from Ed Bennett for the Planning and Zoning Board.

Thanked Code Enforcement for arranging for maintenance of the property north of Hungry Howie.

Stated Geoff Seger is having difficulty transmitting material to the Fair Board for the Tomato Festival. Discussion ensued on software that was originally in the budget. Mrs. Conlon is researching her notes to determine if the software was in fact returned to the budget and approved by Council. She stated Public Works could submit a requisition for approval of the purchase.

The Tomato Queen will be crowned Friday evening and the Tomato Festival is Saturday and Sunday. The city will have a focal point at the entrance.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes approved: December 2, 2002 with correction.



Karen A. Conlon
City Clerk