

**Palmetto City Council**  
**January 24, 2000 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Elected Officials Present:**

**Pat Whitesel, Mayor**  
**Tamara Cornwell, Vice Mayor**  
**Shirley Groover Bryant, Councilmember**  
**Donna Keefer, Councilmember**  
**Mary Lancaster, Councilmember**  
**Brian Williams, Councilmember**

**Staff and others present:**  
**Before new appointments by Mayor**

**Carl Taylor, Director of Public Works**  
**Ken Bright, Interim Police Chief**  
**Mary Jean Forrester, Interim City Clerk**  
**Dave Meng, Finance Director**  
**Alan Prather, City Attorney**  
**Don Patterson, PSG**  
**Paul Cook, PSG**  
**Karen Hartman, CRA Director**  
**Deborah Gestner**

**Dr. Peter Whittier, pastor, First United Methodist Church, Palmetto, gave the invocation followed by the pledge to the United States Flag.**

**1. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2000:**

**Appointment of Public Works Director:**

**Mayor Whitesel nominated Mr. Carl Taylor as Public Works Director for one year. Roll call vote:**

**Mrs. Keefer, Ms. Cornwell, Mrs. Lancaster - Voted Yes.**

**Mr. Williams, Ms. Bryant - Voted No.**

**Mr. Taylor was not re-appointed.**

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**1. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2000 (continued):**

Mr. Prather stated that, under the city charter, the mayor nominates all appointed officers of the City. The nominations must be affirmed by four votes of city council.

Mr. Carl Taylor thanked council for the opportunity to serve as Public Works Director and said that he is proud of the accomplishments of his staff and thanked the citizens of Palmetto.

Mr. Taylor left the meeting at this time.

**Appointment of Chief of Police:**

Mayor Whitesel nominated Ken Bright as Chief of Police and asked the Council for confirmation. The vote was 5 to 0 confirming the appointment of Mr. Bright as Chief of Police.

Before accepting the position, Mr. Bright asked Council to consider giving him a contract.

Mrs. Keefer suggested that Council schedule a workshop to discuss making revisions to the charter regarding appointments of department heads.

Mrs. Keefer asked that Florida League of Cities be contacted regarding the length of term appointments made for department heads in other cities.

Ms. Bryant stated that Council has in the past extended terms beyond the one year term without a contract .

Mr. Bright stated that an extension of a five year length of term would be acceptable.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**1. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2000 (continued):**

**Appointment of Chief of Police:**

Council added this item to the workshop to be held January 31, 2000 at 5:30 p.m.

Ms. Bryant commended Chief Bright for his work and the support he has received from the citizens of Palmetto.

Mr. Bright accepted the position of Chief of Police.

**Citizen Comment:**

Mrs. Ellen Leonard spoke to Council about the length of time for appointments of all department heads and asked Council to readdress their policy to give tenure and job security. Mrs. Leonard commended Council for the decision to appoint Chief Bright and asked Council to consider extending a contract to the Chief.

Ms. Cornwell asked about an Interim Public Works director.

**APPOINTMENT OF CITY CLERK:**

Mayor Whitesel nominated Mr. David Meng as City Clerk. Mr. Meng will continue to serve as financial director. The vote was 5 to 0 confirming the appointment of Mr. Meng as City Clerk.

Mr. Meng thanked Council for his appointment and accepted the position as City Clerk. Mr. Meng discussed hiring an administrative assistant to assist with clerical duties.

Ms. Cornwell asked that Council receive all notifications and reports on a timely basis and to meet all deadlines. Mr. Williams asked that projects be presented to allow sufficient time for review by Council.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**1. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2000 (continued):**

**APPOINTMENT OF CITY ATTORNEY:**

Mayor Whitesel appointed Dye, Deitrich, Prather, Petruff and St. Paul as City Attorney. Mr. Prather accepted the appointment and thanked Council.

**2. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-SEC 108 LOAN APPLICATION:**

Mayor Whitesel opened the public hearing.

Mrs. Deborah Gestner, Florida Planning Consolidated, Inc., introduced Mr. Rick Stauts with the State of Florida, Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Stauts is in charge of the Community Development Block Grant Program. Mrs. Gestner named the three projects that are being considered for Sec 108 Funds.

Mrs. Gestner discussed the seven levels of security that would be included in a loan document. Mrs. Gestner explained that an approval by Council allows the applications to be developed.

Mrs. Gestner stated that a second public hearing would be held when the applications are complete.

Ms. Bryant spoke of reservations concerning the Sec. 108 program. Ms. Bryant was assured that if the City goes forward with the project that the program can be stopped at any time.

Mr. Rick Stauts stated that applications are reviewed by the DCA for approval. If the State approves the application, it is sent to HUD Jacksonville and HUD Washington for additional underwriting determinations. Mr. Stauts said that if you do not like the requirements you can advise HUD that you do not want to proceed.

Ms. Cornwell expressed reservations concerning the Sec 108 Loan program and inquired about interest rates and creation of jobs.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**2. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-SEC 108 LOAN APPLICATION (continued):**

Mrs. Lancaster spoke of concerns about the Sec 108 Loan and asked about the risk involved.

Mr. Williams asked about funds previously pledged by the CRA.

Ms. Gestner stated that it could take up to a year to process the applications.

Ms. Cornwell requested Ms. Hartman to prepare a written statement regarding expenditures by the CRA. This statement would include funds allocated for infrastructure, pledges and all encumbered funds by the CRA. Ms. Cornwell also requested percentages for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, the P2000 project and any other projects pledged by the CRA. Ms. Cornwell asked that this statement be completed within the next three months.

Mrs. Keefer asked about job creations for these projects and spoke of concerns regarding the Sec. 108 project.

Mrs. Gestner suggested that the City and the applicants have a development agreement regarding issues such as infrastructure. Mrs. Gestner also suggested that a workshop be held prior to the second public hearing.

Ms. Gestner stated that legal fees and other expenses can be included in the cost for these loans.

Mr. Stauts said that the Sec. 108 program does not have a deadline. Hud appropriates funding each year that can be used for Sec. 108 loans.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**2. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-SEC. 108 LOAN APPLICATION (continued):**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Mr. Laddie Durrance asked who will benefit from this project. Mr. Durrance stated that he is opposed to the project.

Mrs. Cynthia Fobbs expressed concerns regarding the location of these projects. Mrs. Fobbs would like the City to address a grant that will take care of other areas that have specific needs.

Mr. Ed Kinds, representing Palm Bay Mobile Home Park and Colonial Mobile Manor, requested information regarding the project that is being developed in back of the mobile home parks. Mayor Whitesel stated that she would ask the developer to make a presentation to residents of the parks.

Mr. William McMillan asked Council not to make a decision on the Sec. 108 project until a careful evaluation can be made regarding problems in other parts of the City.

Ms. Hartman named projects that have been completed by the CRA in Ward 1. These projects include street lights on 17th Street, Palmetto Palms, a lift station and speed bumps.

Mr. Robert Jones asked about the proposed Sec 108 Loans and expressed the need to eliminate flooding in Ward 1.

Mayor Whitesel closed the public hearing.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**2. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-SEC. 108 LOAN APPLICATION (continued):**

Mr. Williams asked about stop lights and infrastructure in the area and stated that he would like to hear from the developers. Mr. Williams asked other members of the Council to express their opinion.

Mrs. Keefer stated that she would approve the application process to move forward if it could be stopped at any time. Mrs. Keefer also asked about the cost to this City.

Mrs. Lancaster asked about the structure of the loans and said she would like to see the applications. Mrs. Lancaster stated that she would be in favor of moving forward with the project if we can pull out at any time.

Ms. Bryant expressed concerns regarding the risk involved. Ms. Bryant agreed to move forward with the application but may want to pull out at a later time.

Mrs. Gestner stated that you can stop the Sec. 108 loan process at the date of the loan closing.

**MOTION:** Ms. Cornwell moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried unanimously to move forward with the loan application with Sec. 108 Funds.

Mrs. Gestner said that the Council would have 30 days to review the applications before the second public hearing.

**3. CU0001 - 2015 8TH AVENUE WEST (A-1 MINI STORAGE) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO INCREASE THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF COMMERCIAL POLE SIGN FROM 40 SQUARE FT TO 105 SQUARE FT.**

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the conditional use permit to increase the square footage of commercial pole sign from 40 square feet to 105 square feet at 2015 8th Avenue West.

Mrs. Keefer asked about the status on the sign ordinance revision.

**4. SFP 0001 - 1810 17TH STREET WEST (GARY COFFMAN) SPECIAL FENCE PERMIT TO REDUCE HEIGHT OF POOL ENCLOSURE FROM SIX-FEET TO FOUR FEET.**

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the special fence permit to reduce height of pool enclosure from six-feet to four-feet for property located at 1810 17th Street West.

**5. RESOLUTION NO. 00-01:**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 93-22, THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR ZONING, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS, SUBDIVISION, AND RELATED ACTIONS BY PROVIDING FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF OUTSIDE CONSULTING FEES BY THE APPLICANT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 00-01.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**6. BUDGET REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1999 - DAVID MENG, CITY CLERK:**

Mr. Meng presented the financial report for the month of December 1999.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA: Approval of minutes-January 6, and 10 2000; Statement from Malfitano Campbell & Dickinson-December 1999.**

Council discussed the deadline required for the completion of the Carney property on 1605 4th Street. It was determined that the deadline date would be February 21, 2000.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

**8. CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Mr. Mike Taylor, 1102 27th Avenue West, spoke to Council regarding unorganized sports in the City. This includes skate boarding and free style bicycle riding. Mr. Taylor asked Council to grant permission to start a Skate Park Task Force to pursue this endeavor. Council agreed. It was suggested that a Skate Park be added to the list of projects for consideration by the Sertoma Club.

**9. COUNCIL COMMENT:**

Ms. Cornwell requested Ms. Hartman to prepare a list of projects completed by the CRA in the last five years. Ms. Hartman was also asked for a list of the new housing in the enterprise zone as well as other projects that have been completed by the CRA.

Mayor Whitesel suggested that a town meeting be held for each Ward to discuss needs in all areas.

Palmetto City Council  
January 24, 2000

**9. COUNCIL COMMENT (continued):**

Ms. Hartman agreed to talk to Mr. Bill Jelen.

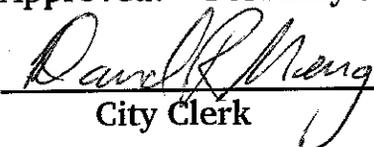
Ms. Cornwell asked about the health care search. Mrs. Sharon Jones was requested to make a presentation on February 3, 2000.

Mrs. Lancaster asked Ms. Hartman to prepare a list of projects completed in Ward 1 that would not have been done in any other area.

Mr. Williams discussed the status of the billboard. This item will be added to the short term list.

The meeting ended at 10:00 p.m.

Approved: February 7, 2000

  
City Clerk

*Audio tapes of the meeting are on file in the city clerk's office.*