

**Palmetto City Council  
March 6, 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 other present:**

**Alan Prather, Attorney  
Dave Meng, City Clerk  
Ken Bright, Police Chief  
Allen Tusing, Public Works  
Mary Jean Forrester, Deputy City Clerk  
Margaret Tusing, City Planner  
Annette Cook, Code Enforcement  
Frank Baxter, Building Official**

**Chief Bright gave the invocation followed by the pledge to the United States flag.**

**1. RESOLUTION NO. 00-02:**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA,  
VACATING TWO 20-FOOT ALLEYS IN BLOCK O, EAST PALMETTO SUBDIVISION,  
RETAINING A 20.00 FOOT PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT ON ONE OF THE  
ALLEYS, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (V9901-Roger C. Morris)**

**The public hearing continued from February 21, 2000 was reopened by  
Mayor Whitesel.**

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**1. RESOLUTION NO. 00-02:**

Mr. Ron Witt stated that documents between the property owners have been signed and that he has no objection to vacating the two alleys.

Mayor Whitesel closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 00-02 vacating two alleys.

**2. NOTICE OF APPEAL HEARING-APPEAL OF CHARLES S. JACKSON LOCATED AT 337 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET WEST, PALMETTO, FLORIDA - DANGEROUS AND UNSAFE BUILDING NOTICE:**

Mr. Richard Lee Buckle, attorney for Mr. Charles Jackson, provided a letter to City Council regarding Charles Jackson's residence located at 337 11<sup>th</sup> Street West., Palmetto, Florida.

Ms. Cook stated the structure has not been finished, permits have not been secured and the process has been ongoing for eleven years.

Ms. Petruff referred to Sec. 7-159 of the City Code and reviewed the Appeal procedure with Council.

Mr. Jackson stated that he does not have the money but will contact churches to help him with the renovations.

Mr. Buckle requested a continuance of the hearing and stated that he does not think it is fair to ask Mr. Jackson to secure permits within thirty days. Mr. Buckle asked Council to defer their decision. Mrs. Lancaster stated that the City has been more than fair.

Mrs. Keefer stated that Mr. Jackson has made additions without permits and that she is concerned about the wiring in the structures and the safety of the surrounding property owners.

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**2. NOTICE OF APPEAL HEARING-APPEAL OF CHARLES S. JACKSON LOCATED AT 337 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET WEST, PALMETTO, FLORIDA - DANGEROUS AND UNSAFE BUILDING NOTICE (continued):**

Ms. Bryant stated that the issue of thirty days to get a permit is not a financial issue.

Mr. Baxter stated that it should not take but three to four days to prepare plans and two days to get a permit. Mr. Baxter said that time has elapsed on all permits secured and that no inspections have been requested.

**MOTION:** Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried 4 to 1 to allow Mr. Jackson to renovate his home at 337 11<sup>th</sup> Street West with provisions as stated:

No 1: Secure two sets of plans, sealed by an architect drawn to scale, encompassing all renovation of the building.

No. 2: If permits are not pulled in thirty days, a demolition permit will be obtained and the house will be demolished by April 20, 2000.

No. 3: If the permits are pulled, Mr. Jackson will have until October 6, 2000 to finish the structure, and if not finished by that time, the house will be demolished within ten days.  
Mrs. Keefer voted nay.

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**3. DISCUSSION OF 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET DREDGING PROJECT:**

Council discussed the 8<sup>th</sup> Street dredging project and dredging of the fingers in that area.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$8,000 for dredging of the sensitive areas surrounding the outfalls as designated by the map provided by Mr. Combs and Mr. Gause.

If payment is made from the Contingency Fund, a resolution will be prepared for transfer of this amount, otherwise it will be paid from the Road & Bridge Fund.

Ms. Bryant explained that the outfall areas have not been maintained appropriately, which is the City's responsibility. A schedule for this maintenance has been prepared and this should not reoccur. Mayor Whitesel asked for a copy of the maintenance schedule.

Ms. Petruff reported that Mr. Prather is preparing "hold harmless agreements."

Ms. Cornwell asked that the City have a computer calendar for schedules of different projects.

Ms. Bryant requested that "No Wake Zone" signs be placed in this area. Public Works was requested to contact the proper agency.

Ms. Betty Ann Price, 909 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, thanked Council for their action on the dredging issues.

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4. CONSENT AGENDA: Special Function Permit-Kids Fishing Tournament-May 13, 2000; Special Function Permit-Fronteras Parade-May 7, 2000; Statement-Dye, Deitrich, Prather Petruff & St Paul, P.L.-January 2000; Minutes February 7, 17 and 21, 2000; Check Register for February 2000:

Mr. Williams requested information on various items on the check register including: Broxson's Office Furniture on February 18 and 25, 2000; JRH Sales Group, Inc. and Florida Real Estate Advisors. Mr. Meng will identify these items.

Ms. Cornwell requested a dumpster for the Kid's Fishing Tournament to be held on May 13, 2000.

Ms. Cornwell requested that council minutes be corrected for the following dates:

February 7, 2000 Council Meeting -Page 1- Correct the Special Presentation to read: "Mayor Whitesel proclaimed February 16-18 and 24-26, 2000 as Shriners Children's Hospital Benefit Days."

February 21, 2000 Council Meeting - Page 10 - Add to the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph under Ms. Cornwell "until a policy has been established."

Mr. Williams reported that he had met with Mr. Patterson and Mr. Alex Reyna and prepared a revised route for the Fronteras Parade. Mr. Williams reviewed the revised route with Council.

Mr. Williams noted that the Special Function Permit for the Fronteras Parade is only for the parade and that a permit will have to be approved for the festival in Sutton Park. The letter from the fire marshall refers to the festival.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the corrections as stated and with the deletion of the Special Function Permit for the Fronteras Parade.

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4. CONSENT AGENDA (continued):

Council discussed the Special Function Permit for the Fronteras Parade.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the special function permit for the Fronteras Parade May 7, 2000, amending it to the new parade route as stated by Mr. Williams and also amending the time of the parade to allow the parade to continue from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and that the group met and discussed with Mr. Williams the parade route.

*Parade Route  
changed 3/30/00*

*Time changed  
to 11:00*

5. CDBG PROJECTS:

Mr. Tusing discussed CDBG projects and the types of projects that are allowed with this grant. Mayor Whitesel requested that we discuss grant projects at the joint meeting with CRA on March 13, 2000 at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Williams discussed rehabilitation grants and will furnish project areas for public works.

Mayor Whitesel announced the Citizens Advisory Task Force meeting to be held on March 7, 2000 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. This First Public Hearing is held to consider applying to the Florida Department of Community Affairs for a Small Cities Community Development Grant.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT:

EXPENDITURES OVER \$500. - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

**MOTION:** Ms. Cornwell moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the expenditure to Expert Tree Service not to exceed \$950.

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6. MAYOR'S REPORT (continued):

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2000:

Mayor Whitesel appointed the following board members:

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD - 3 Year Term  
Charles Ugarte

CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD - 3 Year Term  
Inez Ware  
Donald Olmstead

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - 3 Year Term  
Jeff Higgins

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - 4 Year Term  
Allen Langford  
Scott Maloney

GENERAL EMPLOYEES PENSION BOARD OF TRUSTEES - 3 Year Term  
Ellen Leonard  
Kenneth Board

7. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Ms. Bryant:

Ms. Bryant reminded City Council of the Dedication of Heritage Chapel to be held on Saturday, March 11, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Bryant stated that she had met with the Palmetto Historical Commission regarding the fee schedule for the use of city facilities.

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7. COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued):

Mrs. Ann Marshall, representing the Palmetto Historical Commission, requested Council to leave out the rates for the Historical Park on the facility fee schedule. Mrs. Marshall said there are problems in the Historical Park that need to be resolved, which include closing off the upstairs of the Carnegie Library and who has the responsibility for cleanup after functions. Ms. Bryant suggested that we include the rates in the fee structure but not rent it until the problems are resolved.

Ms. Diane Smart, representing the Palmetto Historical Commission, requested a workshop with the City Council. The Council set a workshop for Thursday, March 30, 2000 at 5:00 p.m. following the administrative meeting.

Mrs. Lancaster:

Mrs. Lancaster asked about projects Chief Bright is working on.

Mrs. Lancaster asked Mr. Tusing about work on 14<sup>th</sup> Street West. Mr. Tusing said they were waiting for information from Smith & Gillespie.

Mrs. Keefer:

Mrs. Keefer inquired about the number of stop signs on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue West and about the three-way stop signs at various intersections.

Mr. Williams:

Mr. Williams requested that expenditures for the Tomato Festival Account be adjusted to the proper account. Mr. Meng will make the adjustments.

Mr. Williams asked for information about the billboard. Ms. Petruff will refer this to Mr. Prather.

7. COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued):

Ms. Cornwell:

Ms. Cornwell reported that the construction of Lincoln Middle School is on schedule and should be completed by December 2000.

Ms. Cornwell requested that Manatee County be contacted about the letter written to Mr. Ernie Padgett regarding the County furnishing recycling dumpsters for areas near the mobile home parks.

Ms. Cornwell requested information on the use of city vehicles. Ms. Petruff will contact Mr. Prather regarding this issue. Mr. Ron Koper was requested to help develop a policy regarding the use of city vehicles. Ms. Cornwell would like this information presented to City Council for discussion.

Attorney Petruff:

Ms. Petruff stated that the office of Dye, Deitrich, Prather, Petruff & St. Paul, P.L. desires advice from the Mayor and Council concerning the litigation City of Palmetto v. Scott, et. al. The subject matter shall be confined to settlement negotiations and/or strategy sessions relating to litigation expenditures. It was the consensus of City Council that this meeting be scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on March 20, 2000.

Ms. Petruff reported that the Lincoln Park agreement has been approved and signed by the Board of County Commissioners. The agreement has been sent to the School Board to approve the sublease of property from the City to the County.

Ms. Cornwell said that she has a meeting for 5:00 on March 13, 2000 and will try to make it to the joint session with the CRA if possible.

7. COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued):

Ms. Cornwell discussed the fact that the City of Bradenton and Manatee County do not plan any festivals or special events. City Council agreed to ask various non-profit organizations in Palmetto if they would be interested in sponsoring these events. Council agreed to schedule a workshop to meet with these organizations.

8. CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Mr. Mike Taylor reported that he has done some research to find property in Palmetto for a Skate Park. Mr. Taylor named several properties that might be available and furnished letters regarding these properties.

Ms. Cornwell stated that insurance for the skate park would be an added expense and did not want Mr. Taylor to think that the City would cover this expense.

Ms. Desiree Garcia requested support from the Mayor and Council for the 2000 local census count. Ms. Garcia explained that many of the Latinos will not return their census forms and will not be counted.

Ms. Cornwell said that the City could print flyers in Spanish to be given to school students. Mr. Williams agreed that the City needs to participate with some type of announcements. Ms. Garcia will obtain materials from the Census Bureau for the City which will include flyers in Spanish.

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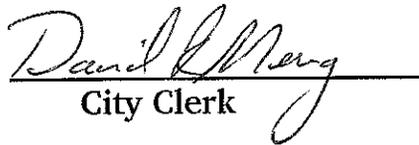
**8. CITIZENS COMMENTS (continued):**

Ms. Garcia requested City Council, department heads and other city employees review a video tape created by Congress' Census Monitoring Board.

Ms. Garcia agreed to coordinate a Cinco de Mayo Census 2000 Kids Count festival in Sutton Park if the City will support this event.

The meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

Approved: March 20, 2000

  
City Clerk

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