

**Palmetto City Council
July 30, 2001 4: 00 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

**Pat Whitesel, Mayor
Shirley Bryant, Vice-Mayor
Tamara Cornwell, Council Member
Donna Keefer, Council Member
Mary Lancaster, Council Member
Brian Williams, Council Member**

Staff and others present:

**Alan Prather, City Attorney
Karen A. Conlon, City Clerk
Capt. Kenny Bright, Palmetto Police Department
Mike Hickey Public Works Department
Allen Tusing, Public Works Department
Mary Jean Forrester, Deputy City Clerk
Karen Simpson, Finance Director
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant**

1. FLORIDA SCENIC HIGHWAY

Susan B. King, District Scenic Highway Coordinator for the Florida Department of Transportation gave a brief presentation on a program that is available to the city whereby a portion of Highway 41 can be designated with grants available for beautification purposes. Planning and Zoning Director Margaret Tusing and CRA Director Tanya Lukowiak were directed to meet with staff of Sarasota to further review the program. Mrs. Cornwell will advise MPO of the city's interest in the program.

2. SWIMMING POOL AT TERRA CEIA BAY GOLF & TENNIS CLUB

Mr. Hickey reviewed the history of the account, stating Estuary Greens was requesting a refund of the \$7 refuse charge from inception, as they had always had the waste collected by their pool company. Mr. Hickey recommended waiving the \$7 charge from this point forward as long as the refuse continued to be handled by the pool company. He further stated Council would have to address the refund issue.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved to waive the \$7 charge on garbage pickup from this point forward and to not refund \$168, with the \$3 readiness to serve charge left in place. Motion died for lack of a second.

Concerns were voiced about the refund. It was consensus to get direction from the attorney before setting a precedent by refunding the charge.

MOTION: Mrs. Cornwell moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried 4 to 1 to waive the \$7 fee from this point forward. Mr. Williams voted no.

3. EOC UPDATE

Ms. Bryant updated Council on the recent Emergency Operations Committee. Ms. Bryant highlighted the program with SYSCO Foods to purchase emergency foodstuffs.

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded and motion carried unanimously to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with SYSCO regarding the EOC.

Ms. Bryant discussed the past practice where arrangements were made with local restaurants to accept the signature of a city employee working an emergency as payment for their meal and again recommended the arrangement to Council.

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to authorize the EOC's arrangements with local restaurants for meals for the city workers and Council Members.

The Mayor has taken administrative action to approve the disposition of expiring heater meals to the Civil Air Patrol

It was consensus of Council to authorize the city clerk to move forward with the roof repair at city hall.

Mrs. Lancaster asked that a plan addressing the dead-end streets off 8th Avenue be developed by the EOC.

Ms. Cornwell discussed Lincoln Middle School being designated as an evacuation shelter. Chief Bright was asked to verify that Lincoln Middle has officially been designated as a hurricane evacuation shelter.

4. AUGUST 6, 2001 AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Ms. Cornwell seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the August 6, 2001 agenda as amended.

5. TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried unanimously to set the tentative millage rate at \$4.1645.

6. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Karen Conlon, City Clerk

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FEMA is available to help residents who may have been flooded during last week's rains. City staff is available to direct residents in this area.

The Sign Ordinance is ready for Council's review. A date will be scheduled at the August 6, 2001 meeting.

It was consensus of Council to approve the purchase of a new thermostat at the cost of \$265 plus the service and cleaning of the air-conditioning unit at city hall.

Council will consider the continued free supply of copies of information to candidates. Whether to continue the practice will be determined at the August 6, 2001 meeting.

Mike Hickey, Public Works Director

Public Works will request approval for the purchase of a Mad Vac at the August 6, 2001 meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 5:00.

Mayor Whitesel reconvened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Jim Malloy, Treasurer of Estuary Greens, the owner of the pool at Terra Ceia Bay Golf & Tennis Club addressed Council, giving a history of the management of the pool and the billings received by the management company. and ultimately Estuary Greens. Mr. Molloy was advised this topic has been placed on the August 6, 2001 agenda for a decision on the refund that is being requested.

7. INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS

Ms. Cornwell

Application for the Transportation Outreach Program grant is due August 31, 2001.

Notification of recycling for business customers has been posted on the commercial utility bills. Staff will provide a copy of the billing.

Advised she had contacted the attorney about not recognizing the assisted living facilities in the city being exempt in the recent discussions on the ordinance addressing reuse.

Requested that a cut off date be established for memos being discussed at meetings. An option to the time certain date would be hand delivery to Council Members. Either of these options would allow Council time to review the information before discussion.

With school soon beginning, the Police Department was asked to coordinate with the schools to ensure traffic problems be kept to a minimum.

Mrs. Keefer

Reported a complaint that trash had not been picked on Friday.

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Mrs. Lancaster

Thanked Mr. Tusing for bringing in electricity.

Informed Council the CRA stated the interlocal agreement for the parking lot is between the city and the church and should be developed by the city.

Mr. Williams

Mrs. Conlon is to follow-up with Mr. Burkhardt that internet service for the Police Department is being actively researched.

Advised Chief Bright that a motorcycle unit was out at night in the rain.

Discussed the Police Department's pursuit policy. Chief Bright stated it was contained in the general orders. After a pursuit incident, a Pursuit Board will review the incident and report its findings to the Chief. Mr. Williams advised Chief Bright Council Members needed to be apprised of incidents involving police officers. Mr. Williams further requested a written legal opinion of what the charter says as to who can issue directives or ask the different heads to do things. Chief Bright concurred with Mr. Williams, as did Mrs. Lancaster.

Inquired about the city attorney position. Mayor Whitesel stated she has been negotiating with the interim attorney firm and intends to reappoint the current firm Monday night.

Ms. Bryant

Requested Council Members ride by Hidden Lakes, as she has had numerous complaints. Mrs. Conlon and Ms. Lukowiak have looked at the site, as Ms. Lukowiak had expressed concern. Mr. Hickey stated it is a concern as city employees cannot access the site. Mr. Hickey will research the topic for discussion at the department head meeting.

Chief Bright will personally speak to Mr. Gilliard about the noise problems.


Distributed pamphlets on Manatees.

Mayor Whitesel

A date will be established for Council's tour of the city's blighted areas. Staff was requested to distribute copies of the minimum standards.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes approved: August 6, 2001


Karen A. Conlon, City Clerk