

MEETING MINUTES FOR THE
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL BUILDING, 5120 HIGHWAY US1, GRANT VALKARIA, FLORIDA 32949

The Regular Town Council Meeting of July 8, 2009 was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Vice Mayor Mahaney, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Kolar, and roll call to the Council Members with the following present:

Seat No. 2 – Lisette Kolar	Town Administrator Richard Hood
Seat No. 3 – Pat Bryan	Town Clerk Susanne Krueger
Seat No. 4 – Jason Mahaney, Vice Mayor	
Seat No. 5 – Dan Faden	
Seat No. 6 – Cathy DeMott	

Vice Mayor Mahaney stated for the record that Mayor Yonts is running late and Council Member Hackford has not yet arrived.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

(For the record, Mayor Yonts arrived at 7:02 p.m. and Vice Mayor Mahaney turned the meeting over to him.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1) Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2009

Motions by Vice Mayor Mahaney, second by Council Member Kolar, and vote unanimous to approve the Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2009.

(For the record, Council Member Hackford arrived at 7:03 p.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS (non-agenda items)

There were no public comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Presentation of Budget Proposal – Fiscal Year 2009-2010 (Hood)

Town Administrator Hood gave a brief highlight of significant changes to the expenditures side of the proposed budget as follows:

- Add Solid Waste Collection as non ad-valorem assessment - it has to be listed as revenue and expenditure
- Increase Road Grading
- Increase Right-of-way Mowing

- Increase Ditch Cleaning
- Add additional Storm Water Project
- Funding for Valkaria Road railway crossing improvement

Mr. Hood further stated that revenue sources include carrying forward fund balance from the Local Option Gas Tax from prior years fund balance as well as carrying forward Storm Water Fees from prior years fund balance; projected revenues for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 are lower than prior year's revenues; depending on final millage rate, the revenues from ad-valorem taxes only makes up approximately 10% of the total revenues for the Town; the Town gets about 3.21% of the total taxes collected - based on a \$200,000 assessed value \$99.52 of the \$3101.50 tax bill would go to the town. Mr. Hood stated that the Council should keep in mind that during their review that the Town only has 5 years from the time of first adopting an ad-valorem tax where it is not under the 10% maximum cap.

Mayor Yonts stated that he would like the total money in the bank in reserves for the past years in the total. Mayor Yonts stated that other cities typically increase taxes by the roll-back rate plus 10%. Council Member Kolar requested that Mr. Hood include the roll-back rate plus 10% as an additional option for Council to discuss at the July 15 workshop. Mr. Hood responded that the current five year plan for this fiscal year should be \$50,000 for the town hall and \$100,000 for roads projected for next five years, and that he would have the information to Council as Mayor Yonts requested. Mr. Hood stated that there is approximately 185,000 linear feet of ditches in town, a lot of them are severely over-dug and that we are digging the bottom only, scraping the bottom. Mr. Hood stated that all the contractors are willing to hold prices for another year.

2) Approval of Budget Adoption Schedule (Hood)

Vice Mayor Mahaney stated for the record that he would be arriving late at the next meeting. Town Administrator Hood informed Council that when they establish the proposed rolled back rate/property millage rate, they cannot go over that amount but they can go lower than that amount. It was Council consensus to have the September 9th meeting at the Grant Community Center and the September 23rd meeting at the new town hall location, if ready; otherwise it will be at the Grant Community Center.

3) Discussion/Action Re Appointing a Voting Delegate for the Florida League of Cities' 83rd Annual Conference (Hood)

Mayor Yonts stated that he and Mr. Hood agreed that there is no need to pay for anyone to attend this conference when we can just pick up the grant information for nothing. It was Council consensus that the town pay for the meals. Motions by Vice Mayor Mahaney, second by Council Member Hackford, and vote unanimous to appoint Mayor Yonts as the voting delegate.

REPORTS

1) Town Attorney's Report

There was no report.

2) Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Hood stated that he had no written report but had some items that he would like to address. He stated that Town Attorney Bohne has had contact from Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and they reiterated what the Orlando office said but they will have their official attorney opinion before July 31. It was Council consensus to have Town Attorney Bohne go forward with the Attorney General's Opinion. Council Member Kolar stated that she had received two phone calls from Representative Poppell regarding a case and when she receives it she will forward it on to Mr. Bohne.

Mr. Hood stated that due to the recent tragedy that a child fell into a pool at an abandoned/foreclosed home, the Town Attorney wanted to know if Council was interested in adopting an ordinance similar to the City of Palm Bay. A copy of City of Palm Bay Ordinance 2008-61 was distributed to Council. Mr. Hood stated that this ordinance gives Code Enforcement more power to actually check things; right now he has no authority to go onto property and this may give him more power to go onto the property; this helps in code enforcement where it requires the bank or realtor to register with the town their names. It was Council consensus to move forward with adopting a similar ordinance to be geared towards our town and have Town Attorney Bohne present it at a future meeting.

Mr. Hood requested authorization to rent a storage unit for three months at the rate of \$160 per month to store Town Hall inventory from various Council Members' homes. Motions by Council Member DeMott, second by Vice Mayor Mahaney, and vote unanimous to authorize Mr. Hood to rent a storage bay for about three months at \$160 per month.

Mayor Yonts stated that he will notify Donna Paquette about her items in the storage unit, for her to come get it and if she does not want it we will donate it to a worthy cause.

3) Financial Report

Town Administrator Hood stated that we are in good shape financially at 75% of the year, we are at 43% of expenditures and that the Town will have spent all of the monies for ditches, mowing and grading by the end of the fiscal year.

4) Council Reports and Comments

Council Member Faden stated that the town needs to be on the business group email list so Council Members will know when their meetings are. He stated that he will attend the next meeting. Council Member Kolar that there was a meeting of the Economic Development Council scheduled and asked if Council thought someone should attend this. Mayor Yonts and Mr. Hood indicated that the EDC's primary purpose seems to be to bring big business into the area and that they would not have anything to offer the Town.

Council Member Kolar stated that SJRWMD was holding a South Planning Area Workshop in Vero Beach on July 24 and that she would attend this meeting. Council Member Hackford stated that scholarships will be given out on Monday at the Grant Community Center if anyone wants to attend. Mayor Yonts stated that he attended the Palm Bay Hospital open house and had a

private tour. Council Member Bryan asked if there was more information about speaker systems designed for town halls. Mayor Yonts replied that the Town Clerk has information.

5) Board Reports and Comments

Don Whitehouse, Local Planning Agency Chairperson, stated that they have wrapped up Business BU1A and BU2 and that after the next meeting it will probably come to Council. Town Administrator Hood stated that the Code Enforcement Board did not meet due to the fact that code enforcement issues have complied.

ADJOURN

Motion by Council Member Hackford, second by Council Member Bryan, and vote unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

(signature on file)

Del Yonts, Mayor

ATTEST:

(signature on file)

Susanne R. Krueger, Town Clerk