

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS/APPOINTMENTS/INFORMATION

1. Charter Review Advisory Board Member

Mayor Randall- We are trying to find a replacement for Mr. George Pinkney. She previously asked the Commission Board to think of someone they would recommend.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Recommended Mr. Ronald Shaw. Mr. Shaw accepted the nomination.

The Commission Board approved the nomination unanimously.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

1. R-2009-26 Florida City Government Week

Interim City Attorney Harris read Resolution 2009-26 in its entirety.

Mayor Randall- This is an opportunity for everyone to get involved with your City Government and find out what is actually going on in Hawthorne.

Commissioner Surrency- The local High School is getting involved and making this a part of their curriculum.

Moved to adopt Resolution 2009-26.

Motion- Commissioner Surrency

Second- Commissioner Roberts

Discussion- None

Vote- 5-0

2. Ordinance 2009-24 (1st Reading) School Concurrency

City Planner Moosbrugger- The state requires all new Land Development to meet school concurrency requirements. The P&Z Board recommended approval to the Commission Board on October 7, 2009.

Interim City Attorney Harris read Ordinance 2009-24 by title only.

Moved to approve Ordinance 2009-24.

Motion- Commissioner Surrency

Second- Commissioner Carter

Discussion- None

Vote- 5-0

3. Ordinance 2009-25 (1st Reading) Recreational Vehicle Definition

City Planner Moosbrugger- We are amending section 2.1 of the City's Land Development Regulations to modify the definition of dwelling units to exclude recreational vehicles. The P&Z Board recommended approval to the Commission Board on October 7, 2009.

Interim City Attorney Harris read Ordinance 2009-25 by title only.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Questioned if this change allows recreational vehicles to be parked any where in the City.

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City Planner Moosbrugger- When opening a RV park the park will be restricted for density requirements.

Vice Mayor Carlton stated that's not what he's asking.

Interim City Attorney Harris explained the Ordinance in further detail to the Commission Board. The Commission Board, Staff and Citizens continued to discuss the topic.

Moved to amend the Ordinance and have a committee come back to the City Manager and the City Planner to specify the number of units allowed per acre for Recreation Vehicles.

Motion- Vice Mayor Carlton

Second- Commissioner Carter

Vote- 5-0

F. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Voluntary Annexation

Interim City Manager Chapman- This item was suggested by Commissioner Surrency. Staff proposes a moratorium on the annexation fees for preparation of the Urban Services Report and the Ordinance approving the report. Staff recommends an open window for zero fee voluntary annexation.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Due to the financial condition, he don't see how we can offer free annexation into the City.

Commissioner Surrency- Local property paid \$7 thousand dollars to go through the annexing process and still was not allowed in the City. Believes it should be done as a group, at a minimum cost, and at a certain time of year to allow properties to voluntary annex in the City of Hawthorne.

Vice Mayor Carlton- City had a referendum and the people voted not to come into the City by a 2 to 1 margin which was about 2 years ago.

The Commission Board continued to discuss this item.

Moved to table this item F1 under the Regular Agenda until further notice or workshop.

Motion- Commissioner Roberts

Second- Vice Mayor Carlton

Discussion

Commissioner Carter- Questioned how long the window will be open for free annexation.

Commissioner Surrency- It will up to the Commission Board to decide.

Vote- 5-0

2. Charter Review Advisory Board

Previously Discussed

3. Hogfest

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Heather Surrency- Thanked the City of Hawthorne, Commission Board, Interim City Manager Chapman, and the City street crew. The Hogfest allowed people to see all the talent in the Hawthorne area. It was over one thousand people that attended and a profit of \$850-\$900 was made to help improve the quality of life in Recreation in Hawthorne and sponsor kids that can't afford to pay registration fees. There was also a ribbon cutting ceremony for new play ground equipment by the Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Mayor Randall and Commissioner Roberts also thanked Ms. Heather Surrency for all her hard work with the Hogfest.

4. City Commissioners' Pay

Interim City Manager Chapman- It was brought to her attention by the City accountant, Michael Whitehead of J&S Accounting that the Commissioners pay has been improperly processed and the City owes back taxes for this calendar year in the amount of \$986.95. No recommendation is needed, it's just informative information.

Mayor Randall- Announced to the Commission Board that on this month check taxes will be deducted.

5. High Springs Fire Trucks

Interim City Manager Chapman- In 2007 the City of High Springs sold Hawthorne a Fire Truck for \$5,000.00 and there is no documentation showing the City of Hawthorne paid for it.

Moved to pay the City of High Springs \$5,000.00 for the Fire Truck.

Motion- Vice Mayor Carlton

Second- Commissioner Surrency

Discussion

Commissioner Carter- Who authorized staff to pay or purchase this truck?

Commissioner Roberts- Don't recall this item ever coming before the Commission Board.

Interim City Manager Chapman- If the City pays for this truck, it will go on the list to be auctioned with the other items.

Vote- 5-0

6. Auditor

Interim City Manager Chapman- Sexton and Scholl has agreed to do the City of Hawthorne for \$18,000.00.

Commissioner Roberts- Definitely need auditor, but were they the only auditor interested?

Interim City Manager Chapman- Others wanted to charge more money and others never sent in their RFP's.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Previous audits started off satisfactory but soon went sour and recommend using this auditor.

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Moved to use Sexton & Scholl Certified Public Accountants as auditor for the City of Hawthorne.

Motion- Vice Mayor Carlton

Second- Commissioner Surrency

The Commission Board and Staff continued discussing the topic.

Vote- 4-1 (No Vote Mayor Randall)

Mayor Randall- Voted no because she is just receiving this information tonight and have not had the chance to process it.

7. City Manager Selection Process

Mayor Randall- The City has been in the process of hiring a City Manager since the beginning of the year. Thanks to the Selection Committee for their hard work and we are now down to 2 candidates. Will ask for a roll call vote from each Commissioner on their choice.

Interim City Attorney Harris- Sheriff Darnell had a conversation with Mayor Randall stating she did not authorize doing free background checks. Spoke with ASG, who confirmed in writing they will do the background check for \$317.50 per candidate. Recommends who ever the Commission selects make a motion contingent on satisfactory background checks by ASG. ASG has informed her the background checks will be completed within 3-5 days.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Suggest putting this item off until the next meeting. It's foolish to vote and not have background checks in advance.

Commissioner Roberts- Disagrees because the Attorney stated who ever is selected would be contingent based on the background check. Encourages the Commission Board to make a decision tonight.

Mayor Randall- Was disappointed when she received the information from Sheriff Darnell. Sheriff Darnell did apologize for the misinformation giving. We will be casting our vote contingent upon the background check, and asked it to be in a motion.

Moved to hire the present Interim City Manager for one year to be the City Manager for the City of Hawthorne Ms. Linda Rice Chapman.

Motion- Vice Mayor Carlton

Motion dies from lack of second

Moved to nominate Mr. Edward Smyth Jr. for the position of City Manager of Hawthorne based on the satisfactory completion of the background check by ASG.

Motion- Commissioner Surrency

Second- Commissioner Carter

Discussion

Commissioner Carter- Should amend the motion to include a health physical.

Commissioner Surrency- Concur with Commissioner Carter to add a health physical in the motion.

Citizens and Staff continued to discuss the City Manager interview process.
Vote- 4-1 (No vote Vice Mayor Carlton)

G. CITIZEN COMMENT

John Martin- Appointed to two new positions. The Florida League of Cities Citizen Advisory Committee, “Wild Spaces Open Places.” This Committee will purchase parks and do recreation enhancements to look at City and County budgets to make sure money is spent based on what the statute says. Also will be serving on the Charter Review for Alachua County. This Committee looks at and helps determine framework of County Government. Encourage the citizens to put aside their personal feelings tonight. A decision has been made for the City Manager position and we should give the new City Manager a chance for the betterment of Hawthorne.

Vice Mayor- Thanked everyone for coming tonight to voice their opinion.

H. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS

Interim City Manager Chapman- Gave updates on: Software up and working, Fire Equipment Theft, Intersection at US HWY 301 & SE Hawthorne Road on Monday at 10:00AM, potholes being repaired, please notify City Hall of missing street signs and damaged stop signs, renegotiating USDA Loan.

Interim City Attorney Harris- None

Mayor Randall- Interim City Manager addressed her issue on the dangers at SE 301 & SE Hawthorne Road. She is concerned for the older citizens because the intersection can be confusing.

Vice Mayor Carlton- Suggested paying Interim City Manager Chapman for one month salary for her service.

Moved to pay Interim City Manager Chapman one month salary for her service after Mr. Smyth gets on board then pay one month from that date.

Motion- Vice Mayor Carlton

Second- Commissioner Surrency

Vote- 5-0

Mayor Randall- Issue regarding pay when current Commissioners came on and Interim City Manager and Interim City Attorney advised board that we would be paying double. If that clause was used for the Commissioners then we should take it into consideration for other positions.

Commissioner Roberts- Thanked everyone for their calls, flowers, and prayers. She also thanked the Interim City Manager and others for attending her aunt’s funeral on Saturday at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church. . Thank you to Torres Williams and TaNeika Cook for helping get her Uncle Bubba from his car that was struck by the train on the railroad track. Senior Center tour was great. The building has great potential so the ball will be rolling.

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Commissioner Surrency- Thanked everyone for coming and thanked everyone for their calls voicing their opinion about the decision making tonight.

Commissioner Carter- Not an easy task that happened tonight. Thanked Ms. Chapman for her hard work. The Commission Board has to look at what's best for the City.

I. ADJOURN

Moved to adjourn the Regular Commission Meeting at 8:40PM.

Motion- Commissioner Surrency

Second- Commissioner Roberts

Vote- 5-0

These minutes of the October 20, 2009 Regular Commission Minutes are submitted for approval.

LaKesha H. McGruder, City Clerk

Eleanor Randall, Mayor