

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

**COMMISSION CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
234 South US Hwy 1
Oak Hill, FL 32759**

**JANUARY 25, 2010
6:00 P.M.
Minutes**

A. OPENING

1. Invocation
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call

Commissioner Bill Marcello, Present; Mayor Darla A. Lauer, Present; Vice Mayor Mary Lee Cook, Present; Commissioner Kathy Bittle, Present; Commissioner Linda Hyatt, Present, Attorney Scott Simpson, Absent.

B. CITY ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The City Clerk reported that she and Commissioner Hyatt had attended the State of the County Address by Chair Frank Bruno. The County is stable and still making adjustments to their budget in personnel and programs.

C. CITY ATTORNEY NON-AGENDA ITEMS - NONE

D. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (Non-agenda - 15 Minutes)

Chief Guy Grasso requested a one week extension to his FMLA leave. He stated that he had his tonsils removed and would be able to return to work the following Monday.

Mr. Bill McGee, 250 E. Halifax, asked about the status of the bus stop at Halifax and Gaines. Commissioner Marcello responded that the School Board would take no action, however signs have been ordered. Commissioner Bittle stated that the County would be surveying the area for a possible move of the bus stop to Mary DeWees Park.

Mr. Mike Thompson, 219 Gaines, asked about the status of the Comp Plan and that the plan has been in processing for over 5 years. He asked for a timeline. He asked that the Commission use good judgement when considering the Police Chief position.

E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the Bills and Paid Interim Bills for January 25, 2010
2. Approval of January 11, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor Lauer reviewed the VIA Hall electric bills. She suggested offering limited discounts for charitable events. Vice Mayor Cook questioned the \$637.54 credit card bill. She reminded staff to be prudent about the use of the card and asked for further details in the memo line item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Bittle to approve consent agenda items 1 and 2 with the stated additional bills. The motion carried 5-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Mayor Lauer, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-02; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HILL, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CITY OF OAK HILL PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL BY REMOVING APPENDIX D, OAK HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (City Clerk)

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2010-02 by title. A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Vice Mayor Cook to adopt Resolution No. 2010-02. The motion carried 5-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Mayor Lauer, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-03; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HILL, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A PROMOTION FOR OFFICER DIANE YOUNG FROM POLICE OFFICER TO POLICE LIEUTENANT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (City Clerk)

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2010-03 by title. Mayor Lauer passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Cook. A motion was made by Mayor Lauer and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt. Mr. Guy Grasso questioned whether the position was exempt or non exempt. The motion carried 5-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Mayor Lauer, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-04; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HILL, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE OAK HILL SEAFOOD COOPERATIVE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (City Clerk)

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2010-04 by title. A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Bittle to adopt Resolution No. 2010-04. The motion carried 5-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Mayor Lauer, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.

4. Motion to Approve Expenditures in the Amount of \$1,400 for Necessary Updates to the City's Zoning Map. (City Planner Jim Smith)

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

5. Comprehensive Plan Update. (City Planner Jim Smith)

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

6. Water and Sewer Update. (Commissioner Marcello)

Commissioner Marcello reported that in order to obtain grant funds for the water and sewer project the Tri-Party Agreement would have to be amended to specify that the City would own and operate the facility. He explained there might be additional grants through stimulus funding to jump start the initial phase of the project. This funding requires the project to be shovel ready and Zahn Engineering stated that they had many of the permits in hand for the Oak Hill Reserve Project. Mike McQuarrie, Zahn Engineering, stated that the goal is to obtain affordable water and sewer to the citizens. He projected the engineering plan would be complete during the month of February. Commissioner Marcello announced that the Property Appraiser would be posting new property numbers soon and the assessments would be less than last year. Mr. Bill McGee stated that the City should be aware of stimulus funds that may have strings attached and stressed due diligence.

7. Part Time Health Benefits. (City Clerk)

The City Clerk explained that the Deputy City Clerk checked with Florida Health Care Plans and found that health benefits are available for part time employees. The plan is not mandated, however the city must approve the part time plan and the employee must work at least 25 hours per week. Part time employees pay 50% or \$166.00 per month and the City pays 50% or \$156.00 per month for a total of \$322.00 per month.

The City Clerk explained the concern is that a part time person receives no vacation, sick, holiday and how could the city recoup the funds when the employee is out on leave. The City Clerk summarized that there are individual plans available through Florida Health Care; Government issued plans, Humana 1 and others. The cost depends on the coverage and deductible. This option would relieve the city of the burden of collecting the funds and in addition the coverage for part time personnel was not included in the budget. Mayor Lauer stated that contract renewal would be coming up in May and she would like a meeting set with the Benefits Coordinator to review plans. Commissioner Marcello stated that we may want to look at employee participation in the Health Plan depending on the economy.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2010-05; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF OAK HILL, FLORIDA, APPOINTING BRANDY ALEXANDER SUTHERIN FROM PART-TIME NON-PAID RESERVE OFFICER TO A FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER; ESTABLISHING AN HOURLY RATE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
(Acting Chief Young)

Lt. Young requested to amend the Resolution to move Officer Sutherin from non-paid reserve to part time paid Officer Position at \$12.00 per hour. She explained that there is a strong need to fill the full time position however she felt this was necessary in order to stay within the current budget.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2010-05 by title with the amended changes. A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to adopt Resolution No. 2010-05 as amended. The motion carried 5-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Mayor Lauer, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.

2. Motion to Re-Establish the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Committee.
(Commissioner Bittle)

Commissioner Bittle questioned whether the board had to be re-established. Mayor Lauer said the Board still stands. Commission consensus was to appoint members Willie Wood and Gary Bittle to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Commissioner Bittle reported that a quote had been received for mowing of the parks for \$7,920 per year. She also stated that the City had registered with Give a Day, Get a Disney Day and has several volunteers in the waiting. Mayor Lauer suggested a City 4th of July Picnic. Commissioner Bittle finalized that her goal was for the Parks not to bear a cost to the City.

H. BOARDS & COMMITTEES – NO REPORTS

EZDA (Enterprise Zone Development Agency)
Economic Development Board
Waterfront Committee
PLDRC (Planning & Land Development Regulation Commission)
Parks and Recreational Advisory Board
Historical Preservation Board
Grant Committee

I. POLICE DEPARTMENT RELATED ITEMS (Temporary Acting Chief Young)

NO REPORT

J. COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mayor Lauer addressed the Commission regarding a request from S.O.S. pertaining to the legalizing of medical marijuana. The Commission consensus was to maintain the previously adopted Resolution 93-09.

Commissioner Marcello congratulated Lt. Young. Commissioner Marcello stated that Mr. Grasso looked well and noted that the pre-requisite for his return would be a document stating that he could perform the duties of a working Chief. Mayor Lauer requested an opinion from the Attorney who would be in attendance at the February 8th meeting.

Commissioner Marcello stated that he had a meeting with Signco. He explained that the directional signs have been derelict for seven years and never utilized. He noted that Signco intended to charge businesses who advertised \$200 to \$300 per month rental fees. Commissioner Marcello recommended due to the lack of maintenance to the signs that we terminate the contract and remove the signs. He asked that the City Attorney be contacted on this item.

Vice Mayor Cook questioned whether the City was getting \$1,660 monthly out of Building Official Dennis Fischer. Commissioner Marcello replied that Mr. Fischer was doing two jobs as DRA and Permitting, assisting with the water and sewer projects and other contracts.

Commissioner Bittle reported that temporary electric was going in at the school site.

Mr. Bill McGee strongly urged the Commission to address the request by Mr. Grasso as he was a trusted and worthy employee.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

DARLA A. LAUER/MAYOR

ATTEST:

VIRGINIA S. HAAS, CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED FOR LEGALITY AND FORM:

SCOTT E. SIMPSON, CITY ATTORNEY