

## REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

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

FEBRUARY 22, 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, Excused Absent; Vice Mayor Mary Lee Cook, Present; Commissioner Kathy Bittle, Present; Commissioner Linda Hyatt, Present.

### B. CITY ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The City Clerk announced that a petition for contraction had been filed and currently the Supervisor of Elections was verifying voter registration and the City Attorney and Planner were completing a feasibility study.

### C. CITY ATTORNEY NON-AGENDA ITEMS – Not Present

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

Mr. Donald Kruck, 448 US Highway 1, Redfish Lodging, commented on the Smithsonian Article and stated the City should be proud. He noted that he also has visitors from Ontario Canada.

### E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the Bills and Paid Interim Bills for February 22, 2010
2. Approval of February 8, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Cook questioned the purchase of the labor law posters. **A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve consent agenda items 1 and 2 including the additional bills as stated by the City Clerk. The motion carried 4-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.**

### F. OLD BUSINESS

1. City Parks Update (Commissioner Bittle)

Commissioner Bittle reported that she and the City Clerk had met with County Parks Director Tim Bailey to discuss turnover of the parks to the City. She explained that the City requested various equipment as well as a truck from auction. She continued that if the Parks were turned over the remaining balance of their budget would be given to the City for initial startup costs. The timeline

suggested was the beginning of April. Commissioner Marcello questioned the amount of money they are considering, will this amount support the needs and will citizens see a reduction in their taxes.

Commissioner Bittle stated that she also met with a Lowes representative to talk about grants for a skate park and for housing needs for low income seniors. Commissioner Marcello indicated no support for a skate park because of the need of oversight, liability issues and maintenance costs. Vice Mayor Cook concurred with Commissioner Marcello. Commissioner Bittle reported that a Butterfly Garden would be placed at Chung Park to help in fulfilling the grant requirements and the Garden Club would be landscaping the front of City Hall.

Commissioner Marcello requested a checklist of items that needed to be addressed and asked that the Parks Director address the Commission.

Mrs. Harriett Wood, 273 Cypress, explained that currently softball games are held at the Park usually between Oak Hill, Edgewater and New Smyrna Beach. She asked if there might be a grant for a kitchen facility and exercise trail to be built at Nancy Cummings Park. She noted that there was nothing at this park for the people or the children.

## 2. Agent of Record Request (City Clerk)

The City Clerk reported that Mr. Gene Gizzi had provided all requested material and had submitted a sample agent of record letter noting that services could be terminated at any time by either party. Commissioner Marcello stated that he had no problem with an agent of record so long as it was no cost to the City. He indicated an agent of record would be a strong benefit to the City and its employees.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve Mr. Gene Gizzi as Agent of Record for the City of Oak Hill. The motion carried 4-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.**

## 3. Police Chief Position (Mayor Lauer)

Vice Mayor Cook read the previous meeting minutes where Attorney Simpson was directed to return to the Commission with job advertisements from other cities. She asked that this item be tabled to the next meeting when Attorney Simpson would be in attendance. Commissioner Hyatt stated that Lt. Young should be allowed to present the Commission with a fact sheet and outline of what has been accomplished in the Police Department. Commissioner Marcello stated that the position should be announced and posted. Vice Mayor Cook related that Lt. Young was being given an unfair advantage. She continued that many in her family had law enforcement positions and all had worked hard to get where they are. There was some discussion regarding salaries. Commissioner Bittle responded to Vice Mayor Cook that Lt. Young has worked hard in her position and has done the job well. Vice Mayor Cook responded that Lt. Young has only worked 6 months as Acting Chief.

Mr. Jimmy Goodrich, 268 Lagoon, stated that in his opinion Chief Grasso had done a good job and had qualified people on board. He indicated that if Lt. Young was doing a good job why the City was looking at all. He reiterated if Lt. Young is doing the job, give her the job. Commissioner Bittle stated she agreed 100 percent and that advertising would be a waste of the taxpayer's money. Commissioner Hyatt agreed. Mr. Kruck agreed with Mr. Goodrich and stated that the person chosen should be able to effectively communicate with the citizens.

Commissioner Hyatt requested again if Lt. Young could present to the Commission what the Police Department has been involved in the last 6 months. Commissioner Bittle responded that each Commissioner has a vote and she welcomes Lt. Young's presentation. Commissioner Marcello requested a position statement outlining services to the City and goals accomplished over the last 6 months. Vice Mayor Cook also requested what Lt. Young would expect from the Commission.

## **G. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Request to Approve Selling of Engraved Pavers at Chung Park (City Clerk)**

The City Clerk explained that this was a request from the Community Trust as a fundraiser for VIA Hall and Chung Park. Mrs. Euda Mary Alderman, 191 Ridge Road, stated that selling engraved pavers is time consuming and takes much administration on the part of the staff coordinating the project. **A motion was made by Commissioner Marcello and seconded by Commissioner Hyatt to approve the selling of engraved pavers at Chung Park by the Community Trust. The motion carried 4-0 with voting as follows: Commissioner Marcello, Yes; Vice Mayor Cook, Yes; Commissioner Bittle, Yes; Commissioner Hyatt, Yes.**

## **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 (Acting Chief Young) - NONE**

## **J. COMMENTS/CONCERNS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Commissioner Marcello reported he attended a 2035 Long Range Transportation Planning Meeting. He announced an upcoming meeting with MPO and its Director. He reported that Federal Regulations are approaching fast and will be looking at our septic tanks and wells due to what is distributed into the rivers and aquifers.

Vice Mayor Cook stated that the audit is in the works and dates are being set for review. She reported that most ad valorem taxes had been received. She stated that we predicted \$573,000 but have only received \$352,000 which is a \$191,000 shortfall.

Commissioner Bittle reported that the Community Trust was working on the museum at the VIA Hall and they are currently looking for historical donated items.

Commissioner Marcello introduced George Trovato who was currently a candidate for County Council District 3.

## **K. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.**

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DARLA A. LAUER/MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

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VIRGINIA S. HAAS, CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

**APPROVED FOR LEGALITY AND FORM:**

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SCOTT E. SIMPSON, CITY ATTORNEY