



## **CITY OF OAK HILL**

### **WORKSHOP MEETING: GOLF CARTS**

**5:00 P.M. – COMMISSION CHAMBERS - CITY HALL**

**February 3, 2014**

### **MINUTES**

#### **A. OPENING:**

**Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Douglas Gibson, Commissioner Robert Livingston, and Commissioner Ron Engele. Commissioner Kathy Bittle and Vice Mayor Jeff Bracy arrived within four minutes of the start of the meeting.

#### **B. GOLF CARTS**

Mayor Gibson introduced the draft of an ordinance that the City Clerk/Administrator had prepared for review and discussion during this workshop. He stated that Citizen Participation would be permitted at this workshop, requesting that all participation take place at the podium microphone.

The Mayor wanted to first state that golf carts are not to be driven on the right-of-way, or on or across U.S. 1, or on sidewalks.

Vice Mayor Bracy stated that after his visit to Lake Helen to study that city's golf cart regulations, he hopes that with a few modifications, Oak Hill's Resolution #2013-01, passed by this same Commission last April, accepting the Volusia County's 2009 traffic study for golf carts in Indian Harbor Estates, could extend to rest of the City streets approved for golf cart safety.

Several in the audience, as well as Commissioners Bittle and Livingston, commented that this would keep it simple, a good thing.

The Mayor stated that a valid driver's license should be required of all golf cart drivers, and that all operators must be age 16 or over.

Richard Taylor, of Randle Ave, asked about elderly drivers.

Both Mayor Gibson and Vice Mayor Bracy reiterated that a valid driver's license should be required, and that would not include those who have lost their licenses.

Jane Andrews, of S. US 1 and Indian Harbor Estates, pointed out that the County Ordinance that Indian Harbor Estates uses only applies to closed communities, and named several areas of Oak Hill that would not be safe for golf carts.

Commissioner Livingston asked if insurance would be required, and the Mayor and Vice Mayor both said no.

Discussion followed about Canal Avenue's narrowness, Ridge / Halifax dangers, and about streets that are under the County's control not the City's.

Commissioner Engele stressed that Burns Sci-Tech's principal is opposed to golf cart usage around the school.

The consensus was that no inspections be required, but that a decal be required per golf cart, with no expiration, so that the owners can sign an affidavit for acknowledging their responsibility for Oak Hill's rules for golf cart usage.

Vice Mayor Bracy asked if there should be a charge for the decal to offset cost of signage. The Mayor suggested no fee because he feels the signage cost will not run over \$500, an amount that City funds can afford.

Walter Maynard, of Church Street, asked if the golf carts could be considered "slow-moving vehicles," affixing the sign that four-wheelers use, and he passed out a list of State requirements for "slow-moving vehicles."

Mayor Gibson stated he believes that the "slow-moving vehicle" designation is for agricultural and municipal vehicles, and not for golf carts, but that he would research it.

Vicki Morgan, Randle Avenue, asked if Indian Harbor Estates golf carts would need decals. The Mayor said he believed so, as the Ordinance would supersede Res. 2013-01, but that the City Attorney's review of the ordinance would clarify this.

Lynn Seaward, Ezra Road, asked for discussion about crossing US 1. The Mayor stated it might be allowed if we had a traffic light, but all past requests to obtain a traffic light have been denied.

Jane Andrews stated that a traffic safety analysis must be done for all streets under consideration for golf carts.

The Mayor responded that VCSO is already proceeding with a traffic study, but it is not finished as yet, and that TPO is also doing a traffic study.

Commissioner Livingston reminded everyone to look at the school bus traffic, and Mark Sparhawk, of Lagoon Mist, added that the VOTRAN bus routes also should be considered.


Mr. Sparhawk also offered a scenario of a possible traffic incident, but the Commission confirmed that the operator would have responsibility of any liability, and would acknowledge this when the decal is issued.

Vice Mayor Bracy commented that the deputies would first warn golf cart operators not having the sticker, before issuing any citation.

Jim Goodrich, Lagoon Avenue, stated he was pleased with this proposal, and added that golf cart traffic is not nearly the danger on River Drive that regular vehicle traffic is. He discussed the speeding, the careless parking on the culvert near Goodrich's Restaurant, etc. He also brought up the need for handicapped parking on the City properties on River Drive, and all agreed that grant money should be able to provide that.

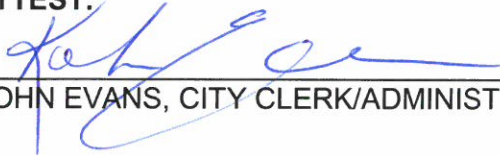
C. ADJOURNMENT

After the Mayor briefly reviewed the golf cart requirements that were discussed this evening toward a new City ordinance, he adjourned the workshop at 6:15 p.m.



DOUGLAS GIBSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KOHN EVANS, CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED FOR LEGALITY AND FORM:



SCOTT E. SIMPSON, CITY ATTORNEY

Note: In accordance with Resolution 2006-17, a three (3) minute time limitation per speaker will be imposed. A speaker may address the Commission for a maximum of three (3) minutes during the Public Participation portion of the meeting, and for a maximum of three (3) minutes during any specific Agenda topic. Pursuant to Florida Statute 166.041 (3) (A), if an individual decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, that individual will need a record of the proceedings and will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made