

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, July 22, 2014**

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 E. Main St., Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Walkes at 7:04 p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

|                          |                                  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b><u>Roll Call:</u></b> | Mayor Colin Walkes               | Present                                  |
|                          | City Commissioner Keith Babb     | Present                                  |
|                          | Commissioner Allie Biggs         | Present                                  |
|                          | Commissioner Felisia Hill        | Present                                  |
|                          | Vice Mayor Diane Walker          | Present                                  |
|                          | City Manager Derrek Moore        | Present                                  |
|                          | City Attorney Gary Brandenburg   | Present @ 7:16 p.m. - 8:23 p.m. via tel. |
|                          | Sergeant At Arms Lieutenant Luty | Present                                  |
|                          | City Clerk Anika Sinclair        | Present                                  |

**Changing of the Guards:**

Lieutenant Poston announced that he has accepted a new position within Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) and he will be leaving the Glades area. Lieutenant Poston introduced Lieutenant Ed Luty as the new Lieutenant for the City of Pahokee.

**Approval of Additions and Agenda Items:**

**Add:**

New Business

1. Credit Card Bill

**Delete:**

Approval of Minutes

1. Commission Workshop – June 10, 2014

**Approval of Additions, Deletions, and Agenda**

**Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Commissioner Hill.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

1. Commission Workshop – May 27, 2014
2. Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting – June 10, 2014
3. Commission Workshop – June 24, 2014
4. Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting – June 24, 2014

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

City Manager Moore advised the Hyatt Regency refund receipt was misplaced and stated the City of Pahokee will be more vigilant about obtaining the receipts.

Commissioner Babb advised the City of Pahokee should always have receipts as backup.

**Approval to pay Credit Card Bill of \$1,148.19**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Citizen Comments:**

**George Moreno** addressed the drainage issue, the roads, and the beautification of the City of Pahokee.

Alvin Johnson, Director of Public Services, advised three (3) additional drain grills were stolen. The drains are covered with plywood until the replacements are received. He advised someone is stealing the poles for the 'STOP' signs.

City Manager Moore stated City Attorney Brandenburg recommended that the City of Pahokee reach out to PBSO, in regards to the matter. All of the scrap metal facilities were contacted by the City of Pahokee and PBSO. City Manager Moore advised he and the Commission went to Tallahassee, to lobby for road funds. He advised they managed to get \$210,000.00 and \$9,000,000.00 that will be divided among the Cities of Pahokee, Belle Glade, and South Bay, in addition to two other Cities. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) approved for the City of Pahokee to use some of the Beautification Project's fund to redo the entryway. All of the information for the sidewalks has been submitted to Senator Abruzzo, Palm Beach County, and Representative Rader, so that the sidewalks may be repaired.

**Joann Culberson** discussed the vacant house near her property. Ms. Culberson inquired about Mayor Walkes interest in the vacant house and requested the contact information for the company that placed the palm tree in her driveway.

Mayor Walkes stated he advised Mr. Miller, the owner of the vacant house, to reach out to the City of Pahokee's Code Enforcement, to see what he can work out with them. Mayor Walkes advised he may have interest in the property.

Rashonda Warren, Code Enforcement Officer, advised the City of Pahokee has reached out to Mr. Miller, to place him on the demolition list, but Mr. Miller refused the offer. In order to demolish a property, the property owner must consent. Mr. Miller advised he would fix up the property, but failed to do so. Ms. Warren stated Mr. Miller was cited and the City of Pahokee currently has a lien on the property. The next step is to foreclose on the property.

City Manager Moore stated Mr. Miller was taken to the Special Magistrate for the property.

**Approval to Foreclose on 1565 E. Main Street**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Mary Dobrow** expressed her concern regarding the electric meter on her lot at the Pahokee Campground and Marina, which will be switched to the City of Pahokee's account.

City Manager Moore stated City Attorney Brandenburg recommended that the utilities be placed back in the City of Pahokee's name. The City of Pahokee and Palm Beach County has been discussing placing master meters at the Pahokee Campground and Marina and removing all of the water meters. All of the tenants were notified that all of the utilities will be placed under the City of Pahokee's account.

Mayor Walkes advised Ms. Dobrow's pole was put in per request of the former lessee of the Pahokee Campground and Marina. The request was not from the City of Pahokee. Mayor Walkes advised the matter will be discussed with City Attorney Brandenburg, at the following Commission Meeting.

Ms. Dobrow inquired about the date that the Pahokee Campground and Marina will go out for RFP.

Commissioner Babb advised PKYEA is a nonprofit organization. Nonprofit Organizations do not aim to make a profit, but to pay their expenses and to provide their services. Commissioner Babb agreed with City Manager Moore that PKYEA's rent could be adjusted, but not completely abated.

Vice Mayor Walker advised PKYEA should be met halfway.

City Manager Moore mentioned the Back to School Bash (B2SB) and advised he and City Clerk Sinclair will meet with Florida Crystals on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, in regards Florida Crystals' contribution for the B2SB. The gymnasium is currently undergoing renovation; therefore, Mr. Ocampo has agreed to allow the City of Pahokee to host the B2SB on Pahokee High School's campus for this year. City Manager Moore announced that the Commissioner's Park Project equipment will be delivered on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. The pavilions will be delivered on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Volunteers will be needed to help install the playground equipments. City Manager Moore discussed the water issue with the splash pad.

Ebony Bruton, Director of Finance, advised the bill is currently \$5,200.00. Prior to the water running at the splash pad, the water bill was only \$200.00.

Commissioner Babb suggested that the splash pad be turned on for a period of time, as opposed to a per appointment basis.

City Manager Moore announced that Senator Abruzzo's Office followed up, in regards to the \$9,000,000.00. Letters have been sent out for the renaming of the road behind the New Fire Station. There is a grant due on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, which requires a workshop. City Manager Moore advised the City of Pahokee will meet with Mr. Tate on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 and on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, after the GTAC Meeting.

#### **Report of the City Attorney:**

City Attorney Brandenburg advised Mr. Lambert has not submitted a signed Marina Lease to the City of Pahokee. He suggested that the Commission give Mr. Lambert until Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to sign and submit the lease. City Attorney Brandenburg advised if Mr. Lambert does not sign and submit the lease by Friday, then the Commission has the authority to consider the second runner up, if they decide to do so. Mr. Lambert has had ample time to sign the lease.

Mayor Walkes recommended that the second runner up be considered or the City of Pahokee go back out for Request For Proposal (RFP).

**Approval of Marina Lease signed and returned to Mr. Brandenburg's Office by July 25, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Babb.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

City Attorney Brandenburg stated he has filed a lawsuit against the Old Hospital owners, with respect to the declaration. The owners are not registered in the state of Florida; therefore, we will have to serve the Secretary of the State of Florida. City Attorney Brandenburg discussed the Ordinance, in regards to graffiti. He suggested that the City of Pahokee view ordinances in other Cities, regarding graffiti.

#### **Old Business:**

**Gymnasium Renovation Project** – City Manager Moore advised the gymnasium is being painted. The Engineers are waiting on the rain to settle down, in order to proceed with the roof repair.

**Total Building Needs, Inc – Roy Dan** City Manager Moore advised Mr. Roy Dan has received the materials that he requested last week.

#### **New Business:**

**Credit Card Bill** – Mrs. Paschal, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, advised Holy Land only accepted credit cards and there was no receipt because the transaction was completed via telephone. Mrs. Paschal advised she will request a receipt from Holy Land.

Vice Mayor Walker invited Mr. Leonard to a Pahokee Middle/High School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting in September.

2. **Code Enforcement Report** – Rashonda Warren presented the Code Enforcement Report from May 1, 2014 to present. (See attached)

**Report of the Mayor:**

Mayor Walkes announced that he received a 'Thank You' card from Mrs. Sandie Davis, for the City of Pahokee and a certificate from Eastern Star for the Parks and Recreation Department. The Glades Relay for Life also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the City of Pahokee. Mayor Walkes acknowledged Professor Herbert Rampasad, Florida International University (FIU).

Professor Herbert Rampasad advised he travels all over the world to share information. He stated he sees challenges and opportunities in the City of Pahokee. Professor Rampasad stated he launched a new book on how to develop personal brand and how to become a personal brand, and attract success. He advised with the program, the will to learn, the will to improve, and by the ethical duty to be successful, results will be shown within two (2) months.

Mayor Walkes stated Professor Rampasad's system is working throughout the world. Mayor Walkes advised they will sit with City Manager Moore to see how Professor Rampasad's services can be utilized.

**Report of the City Manager:**

City Manager Moore announced that there will be a Brainstorming Workshop on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. He provided a letter from the Internal Revenue Services (IRS) regarding the 501 (C) 3 status. City Manager Moore stated he has not had the chance to contact the IRS, in regards to the letter, but he will follow up with them. Pahokee Housing Authority (PHA) has requested a letter of support for the Ross Grant.

**Approval of Letter of Support to Pahokee Housing Authority for Ross Grant**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of 6.5419 Millage for 2015 Fiscal Year**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval to Accept the Budget Timeline presented with any changes necessary.**

**Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Vice Mayor Walker.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

City Manager Moore announced that he received an email from Tina McNut, PKYEA, requesting that the City of Pahokee abate the rent for the use of the facility, for their program, and that there be a concrete decision by July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. PKYEA pays \$1,800.00 per month for five (5) classrooms and one (1) office space, and an additional \$300.00 for utilities, which totals to \$2,100.00 per month and \$25,200.00 per year. City Manager Moore stated he advised PKYEA that he will not be in favor of abating their rent. City Manager Moore advised he discussed PKYEA's request with City Attorney Brandenburg.

Mayor Walkes inquired about the rationale behind PKYEA's request and more information is needed, along with PKYEA's financials, in order to make a sound decision.

City Manager Moore stated when the afterschool program initiated, 100 students were allowed in the five (5) classrooms, which allowed 20 to 25 students per classroom. Last year, the Health Department changed the allowance from 100 students in the five classrooms to 60 students in the five (5) classrooms. City Manager Moore stated according to PKYEA, they are barely breaking even. City Manager Moore advised he has not viewed PKYEA's financial information.

**Consent Agent:**

1. RESOLUTION 2014 – 23 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH ASSURANCE POWER SYSTEMS FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF AN EMERGENCY GENERATOR.
2. RESOLUTION 2014 – 24 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT 002 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR PAHOKEE EMERGENCY GENERATOR PROJECT.
3. RESOLUTION 2014 – 25 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR FUEL MANAGEMENT SERVICES.
4. RESOLUTION 2014 – 26 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO REQUEST FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ALLOW THE INSTALLATION OF “NO OVERNIGHT PARKING” AND “TWO HOUR PARKING” SIGNS ON STATE ROAD 715.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Motion by Commissioner Babb. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Proclamations (approval):**

1. Give Me My Flowers While I Yet Live
2. Lt. Laurence Poston, PBSO – Certificate of Appreciation
3. Florida Community Health Center – Certificate of Appreciation
4. Barbara Iderosa – Certificate of Appreciation

**Approval of Proclamations**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Presentations:**

1. **The Black Educators Caucus of Palm Beach County** – Ron Leonard, President of the Black Educators Caucus of Palm Beach County, advised the Black Educators Caucus of Palm Beach County is a nonprofit organization. He stated he is concerned about the reading and math scores of the African American students. Mr. Leonard introduced Councilman Shelby Lowe and John Burgess.

Councilman Shelby Lowe, former Commissioner of Riviera Beach, Florida, advised the Black Educators Caucus of Palm Beach County would like to bring the Reading Performance System combined with the CHES program to the community. Mr. Lowe stated they would like to address the reading deficiency and the “D” and “F” school results.

John Burgess, John Burgess Education Technology, stated the reading date for the FCAT is flat. The FCAT Reading scores are low and there has not been any improvement. In Palm Beach County, the Elementary schools, the Middle schools, and the High schools are at a 60 percent pass rate for the FCAT. The Schools in the City of Pahokee are at an approximate 30 percent pass rate for the FCAT. Mr. Burgess stated the CHES stability analytical skills and interpersonal skills, based on a foundation of reading, can help to bring some of the scores up significantly. The Reading Performance System primarily focuses on visual reading skills, the way that the eyes work, the motor skills, and the way that the brain processes the sensory information that it gets from the eyes, in addition to vocabulary and comprehension skill.

Mr. Lowe advised they are asking for community support. An overview of the program was distributed. He requested the Commission’s permission to meet with City Manager Moore.

Mr. Leonard gave an update on the upcoming improvements for Pahokee High School. He advised he has not reached out to the other two (2) Cities, but he will in the near future.

City Manager Moore stated once the lease is completed with Mr. Lambert, then the entire facility will go out for RFP.

**Richard Brown** expressed his concern regarding the budget and the Pahokee Campground and Marina. Mayor Walkes advised the meeting today was not an actual Budget Workshop.

**Commissioners Comments:**

**Commissioner Hill** encouraged everyone to remain optimistic and expressed her concern regarding the Commission.

**Commissioner Babb** recommended that the City of Pahokee Staff provide the Commission with the number of complaints on a quarterly basis. He addressed the grass growing on the sidewalks and the missing signs that need to be replaced.

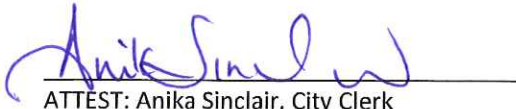
**Vice Mayor Walker** asked Lieutenant Luty to follow up with the recycling companies, in regards to the metal. She requested the status of the City of Pahokee's slogan and the status of the credentials and/or degrees of the staff. Vice Mayor Walker thanked City Manager Moore for properly addressing the water issue and inquired about the amenities at the Pahokee Campground and Marina. Vice Mayor thanked all for being present.

City Manager Moore advised WIFI is available in the Registration Office and Conference Room. There are accessible garbage containers, maintenance, and a pool at the Pahokee Campground and Marina. The Registration Office is open every day, and there are lights available in the parking lot and on the Pier. A gate for the Campground will be forthcoming.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Walkes adjourns the meeting at 9:15 p.m.



Colin O. Walkes, Mayor



ATTEST: Anika Sinclair, City Clerk