



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
Tuesday, March 24th, 2015**

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission workshop meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 E. Main St., Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on March 24, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Walkes at 6:11 p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Colin Walkes	Present
	City Commissioner Keith Babb	Absent
	Commissioner Allie Biggs	Present @6:19 p.m.
	Commissioner Felisia Hill	Present
	Vice Mayor Diane Walker	Present
	Interim City Manager Arthur Ivester	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Picciolo	Present
	City Clerk Anika Sinclair	Present

Topic:
Commission Meeting Agenda, March 24, 2015

Consent Agenda

Interim City Manager Ivester advised Resolution 2015 – 10 pertain to the Senior Wellness Program.

Old Business

Mayor Walkes advised he requested for Former Mayor J.P. Sasser to discuss the Rivers Coalition Resolution. Mayor Walkes inquired about some of the delays, as it pertains to the resolution.

City Attorney Brandenburg advised US Sugar Corp gave the State of Florida the option to buy approximately 186,000 acres of land, but during that time the program was being run through South Florida Water Management District, who decided to cut down the size of that position. Approximately 2,600 acres were acquired out of the 187,000 acres. The negotiation option to acquire additional land from US Sugar within a certain timeframe expires later this year. He advised there are several groups that are interested in protecting the Everglades and fostering the environment, who are encouraging the State of Florida and the South Florida Water management District to proceed with purchasing the property.

Mayor Walkes requested for Interim City Manager Ivester to reach out to Mrs. Villanueva, in regards to Florida Crystal attending the following Commission meeting, as well as reach out to the Sugar Co-op, to provide their perspective on the Rivers Coalition Resolution.

Report of the Mayor

Mayor Walkes requested the Commission's support for him to take a trip to Tallahassee on March 25, 2015, to meet with Senator Latvala, Senator Abruzzo, and Representative Rader. He stated he will share a full report, upon his return.

Vice Mayor Walker inquired as to when Guy Harvey and Pahokee Mo's will present to the Commission.

City Attorney Brandenburg stated the Commission selected the Guy Harvey proposal and authorized staff to proceed with negotiations and bring back an agreement with the Guy Harvey group; therefore, it would not make much sense to ask the other proposer, at this time, to come in and make a presentation. He suggested that the Commission see how the negotiations go. If and when the negotiations reach a conclusion, then the other proposer can be asked to come in to give a presentation, based on what has been negotiated and what will be offered to the City of Pahokee.

Interim City Manager Ivester advised he is trying to set up a Town Hall Meeting with the Guy Harvey Group.

Report of the City Manager

Interim City Manager Ivester provided an update on the Funeral Home with Mr. Rickey Butts, the City of Pahokee's Slogan, and the Interlocal Agreement with the Palm Beach County School District (PBCSD). He provided an estimate for the lights at the Football Field and requested the Commission direction, in regards to the matter.

Vice Mayor Walker recommended that Interim City Manager Ivester be allowed to pull the funds from wherever is necessary, in the event that he is unsuccessful in acquiring support from funders.

Interim City Manager Ivester provided an update on the Gymnasium Renovation Project and Biomass. He announced that the Great American Cleanup is April 18, 2015, the Anquan Bolding Q-Fest Weekend is April 9, 2015 through April 12, 2015, and the Pahokee Chamber of Commerce Banquet is May 2, 2015. Interim City Manager Ivester provided an update on the road improvements and he advised the City of Pahokee is working with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), to receive funding directly from the State of Florida. He announced that the Children's Week with Lutheran Services is approaching.

Lieutenant Picciolo advised Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (PBSO) has been in close conversation with the City Manager. He thanked Mayor Walkes for his support in the service address that PBSO did on the social media. Everything that occurred last week has been identified with Mayor Walkes and Interim City Manager. This week, there is a better handle on what occurred; however, there is still some work that needs to be done with the City and PBSO. He advised these nonsanctioned events should not be taking place, where it jeopardizes the safety of the citizens. Lieutenant Picciolo requested for the City of Pahokee to specifically identify the park hours. He suggested that guardrails be installed, to keep the motor vehicles off of the grass areas at the park. Lieutenant Picciolo advised the permitting of these events need to be discussed and there needs to be preplanning with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR), Law Enforcement, and City Officials, to ensure that these events do not occur. He advised they want people to have fun, but these events have gotten to a level where they are unsanctioned, unorganized, and are creating mass chaos in one area. Lieutenant Picciolo stated there need to be stipulation at the park that mandates special permitting for large crowds and reserve the park. He stipulated that the organizers of this group were not identified and did not come to the City at first, when who are a part of the necessary permitting involvement of the City Law Enforcement and PBCFR; however, crowds grew over to 1,000 people. There were unlicensed vendors for food, alcohol, and drugs. There were drug use throughout the crowd and several shootings with an area Deputy Sheriff within 25 feet from them. PBSO had a mass respond from the coast, which required Law Enforcement from Eastern District to provide support. PBCFR was unable to maneuver through crowds to assist victims.

Mayor Walkes advised it is a great opportunity for the City of Pahokee to organize or sanction an event that could generate revenue.

Mr. Richard Brown inquired about the splash pad not being operational during Spring Break.

Interim City Manager Ivester advised there is an issue with the splash pad, but it should be up and running at the end of April.

New Business

Interim City Manager Ivester read and discussed Resolution 2015 – 08 and Resolution 2015 – 09. He discussed the Abandonment of Property in Crosby Trailer Park and he stated that the Commission would have to pass an ordinance, in order for them to close the road off.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Walkes adjourns the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Colin O. Walkes, Mayor

ATTEST: Anika Sinclair, City Clerk