

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 11, 2017**

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 July 11, 2017.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:30.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

Roll Call:	Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.	Present
	Vice Mayor Nathaniel Holmes	Present
	Commissioner Felisia Hill	Present
	Commissioner Clara Murvin	Present
	Commissioner Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Chandler Williamson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Picciolo	Present
	City Clerk Tijauna Warner	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items:

Approval of the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only): (none)

Public Service Announcements:

Rev. Margret Smart informed residents and City Commission of Community Safety training Saturday, August 15, 2017 at the Belle Glade office needing volunteers. Please be there around 8:00am. If anyone has questions, please contact Ms. Smart.

Approval of Minutes: (none)

Consent Agenda: (none)

Ordinances:

Mr. Brandenburg reads Ordinance 2017 – 05 into the records.

1. **ORDINANCE 2017 – 05 (first reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, SETTING FORTH THE QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, ESTABLISHING A CANVASSING BOARD, PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT, EFFECTIVE DATE, REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION.**

Approval of Ordinance 2017 - 05.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions:

Mr. Brandenburg reads Resolution 2017-13 into the record.

1. **RESOLUTION 2017 – 13 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A PROPOSED TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE AND ROLLED BACK RATE; FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018; AND SETTING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE; AND TENTATIVE BUDGET; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Approval of Resolution 2017 - 13.

Motion by Commission Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings: *(none)*

Proclamations: *(none)*

Presentations: *(none)*

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Babb announced a great 4th of July festivity on the Marina and gave a brief description of the event. Thanks Ms. Clarke for stepping in for the City Clerk, and welcomes Commissioner Walker back. Mayor Babb thinks the City has done a great job during the last few months by received \$15million in funding and proceed to explain what projects will be done at Commissioner Park. Acknowledge the City of Pahokee has been more successful than most small cities. The City of Pahokee City Commission need to work together, we have been disputing on the dais. If we are going to grow this City and bring businesses into the City of Pahokee we need to work together. I think we need to improve the safety of our community. We are competing with every city to bring businesses into our community. If we begin to work together, we can achieve so much more. Be careful what we say and how we said it because businesses look into that. Mayor Babb expressed that the City of Pahokee need to look into housing development, bringing businesses in and creating jobs for our residents. The Commission may disagree (families argue), but we have to come together to move Pahokee forward. This is not going to be a platform for you to bash Commissioner.

Mayor Babb inquired when would we go to live-streaming.

- Mr. Williamson replied September 15, 2017.

Report of the City Manager:

Mr. Williamson advised the City of Pahokee is trying to address our infrastructure. Mr. Williamson explained the Marina RFP had a lot of interest, but no one submitted a proposal even after we kept extending the dateline. The City has been very proactive for identifying restaurant owners out of Everglades City that would be interested in opening up on the Marina. Mr. Miller is a great candidate for the Marina because they have a successful business and experience with working on the Marina. Mr. Williamson requested the City Commission to approve Millers Group opening up on the City of Pahokee Marina. They are not just restaurant owners they have experience in how to assist the City in increasing their tourism and infrastructure.

- Mayor Babb concerned with it not being on the agenda, could the Commission vote on it and will the City Commission be receiving a presentation.
- Mr. Williamson replied they will be able to come present to the City Commission. As far as the voting, he discussed this with the City Attorney and he advised the Marina RFP is no longer available for responses; therefore, you are able to vote.
- Mr. Brandenburg explained the City Manager is asking for the Commissions blessing to continue negotiating with the owners. So, your vote today will just allow him to do that and there will not be any commitment on behalf of the City. It would explore what they have to offer to the City.

- Commissioner Walker inquired would it be out of order to require them to present to the Commission.
- Mr. Brandenburg suggested before any proposal is submitted to the Commission, they come in and present to the Commission.
- Vice Mayor Holmes inquired why this company didn't respond to the RFP, if they were interested.
- Mr. Brandenburg advised he had no contact with the owners and no knowledge to why they didn't respond to the RFP.
- Commissioner Walker inquired if the City Manager could answer that question.
- Mr. Williamson advised Miller Group came along at the end of the RFP and they didn't know about the RFP.
- Vice Mayor Holmes asked for some background information on the Millers Group.
- Mr. Williamson explained Millers Group background and advised if additional information is needed he would provide it to the Commission.

**Approval of City Manager negotiating with Millers Group about Marina Restaurant.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Hill.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Williamson announced there are several different programs for education and employment in the Glades area and placed the flyers on the table (in the rear of the Commission Chamber) for the residents to retrieve.

Report of the City Attorney:

1. Everglades Prep

Mr. Brandenburg explains Everglades Preparatory Academy requested for an amendment to the lease deleting their right to use of the gymnasium. Mr. Brandenburg advised he's prepared those documents and sent them to Everglades Prep, but their attorney has been out of office; therefore, that item will be presented to the Commission for consideration at a future date.

2. Gymnasium

Mr. Brandenburg advised Mr. Boldin asked for a workshop and for an extension on the gymnasium. After asking for that workshop, Mr. Boldin and the City Manager got into a discussion about the best way both parties can proceed to the completion of the gymnasium. There were some tentative ideas acknowledged between the groups and I prepared a proposed contractual arrangements. It's been sent to the Foundation and will bring by to the City Commission for consideration. He acknowledged Mr. Boldin's tremendous input/achievement that has been accomplished by the Foundation and the expenditure on jump starting the project. Now, that the City is receiving funds from the legislature and other governmental entities to complete the gymnasium, it's best that the City repair the gymnasium on their own. As oppose to a Foundation seeking legislative support, we think it would be best if a municipality seek that support. So, the documents will presented to you at the next meeting to cancel the agreement.

- Commissioner Walker inquired how long would this process take.
- Mr. Brandenburg replied I have no idea, but the proposal is for the City and Foundation to jointly seek legislative funding for the gymnasium.
- Vice Mayor Holmes inquired has anybody from the City approached the Foundation to inform them that they can carry on with this project.
- Mr. Brandenburg replied I think it was a discussion between Mr. Boldin and the City Manager.
- Vice Mayor Holmes replied he is hearing a totally different story and that's why we need Anquon hear to explain. He's hearing that Anquon still wants to complete the project and the City Manager suggested the Foundation back-down.
- Mr. Brandenburg responded if Mr. Boldin had the \$2million to complete the project, he would do it. The project has stopped because of the funding.

- Mayor Babb advised he reached out to Anquon and it was a mutual agreement. The Foundation has been struggling to raise funds and Mr. Boldin had to come out of his pocket to pay that expense.

Old Business: *(none)*

New Business:

1. **Lieutenant Picciolo (PBSO Report)** *(none)*

Citizens Comments:

Mr. Santiago Boiton (*Resident*) informed the City Commission of 200 South Lake and asking for an extension on painting until the weather is at 70 degrees.

- Mr. Brandenburg explained the Ordinance and the situation to the City Commission. He explained to Mr. Boiton that he will go before a Special Magistrate and ask for an extension.

Ms. Ra'Shonda Love (*Heavenly Gifts*) advised she is still waiting on this phone call for the City Manager and she went live about the situation. She went to the City Hall and the City Manager wouldn't come out and talk to her. She's still waiting on a phone call and an email from the City Manager. She just got a phone call from the City Clerk in reference to a request she made two weeks ago because the City Clerk was out of office, so what's the problem with the City Manager reach out to me. The City Manager has not responded to me nor turned any of my calls.

- Mayor Babb replied a year or two ago we signed a policy which we don't just give the facilities out.

Mr. Sam McKinstry (*Resident*) expressed concerns about Commissioner Walker violating the City Charter because she has missed well over four consecutive meetings. If you can't follow the rules, how do you expect the residents to follow the rules.

- Mr. Brandenburg explains Mr. McKinstry concerns and advised the City Commission excused Commissioner Walker absence; therefore, the Commission is following the Charter.

Mr. Andre Rolle (*The Union*) came to bring some of the guys that have been working with his company and advised that they offer training/certifications. He explained the need to partner with the City, so that we can get these residents to work. He advised he is the President of the Labor Union and that he need to get work here in the City of Pahokee.

- Mayor Babb thanks Mr. Rolle for the information and advised we want businesses in the City of Pahokee for our residents, but we'll try to work with you.

Rev. Lonnie Spry (*Resident*) inquired how much money has the City spent on these trips and is the Commission attending these courses the City is funding. Also, Rev. Spry advised the Mayor to talk to the Commission because he has already talked to his attorney about an incident that occurred.

- Mayor Babb replied a report was given, but Rev. Spry wasn't present that day.

Mr. Richard Bryant (*Resident*) inquired have the City Commissioner spoke with the businesses. Why he's only hearing about the restaurant on the Marina. But, what about restaurants within the City? We have sports and after games people have to go elsewhere to get something to eat. Is there a franchise business going to come to our City?

- Mayor Babb replied we are working on that and we need to support our current businesses to attract the attention we need.
- Mr. Bryant advised the City Manager has talked to a couple of investors, was the Commission apart of the meeting.

- Mayor Babb replied no because that's day to day operations. Yet, the City Manager cannot do anything without the City Commission approval.

Mr. Mike Hughes (*Muck City Tattoos*) advised he's trying to bring a business into this town, but he's being stop by the City Manager. His question is why he's not being allowed to operate at 159 Bacom Point Road, but he's allowed to open on Rardin Road. Please keep in mind that he was supposed to open on June 1, 2017 and he's losing money. He think it's bias or discrimination from the City Manager because it's a tattoo parlor.

- Mayor Babb replied because it maybe a zoning issue.
- Mr. Hughes advised the City Manager told him he can open on Rardin Avenue or South Lake (which are both in the core areas of the City).
- Mayor Babb replied I certainly support your right to open in any areas that you are allowed by zoning. But, the City Manager is also allowed to deny you opening in certain areas.

Mr. Ulrik Williams (*Resident*) expressed concerns with the gymnasium and recreation activities.

- Mayor Babb replied in the last fifteen (15) months the City has been blooming and we are moving in the right direction.

Mr. Jason Crawford (*Resident*) advised he thinks the City is becoming complacent and repetitive. He has came and spoke with the Commission and the City Manager about the baseball diamond which is not usable to the City. He informed the last time he saw work did in the core areas it was did by a church from West Palm Beach. He advised the residents should have access to the public park for activities with the kids, yet we have to pay to use the park. Everyone on the dais is saying we are moving forward, but I don't see it.

- Mayor Babb replied I do think we are headed in the right direction and we do listen to what the residents are saying. He explained that the City is doing what they can to move forward.
- Mr. Crawford inquired why the City doesn't operate the Marina like they use to do. Let's invest in ourselves.

Rev. Benny Everett, III (*Resident*) asked the community do you want to be made whole. These problems that we are facing in the community did not happen overnight. Education needs to be number one, but nobody is sounding the alarmed about that. Where are the community folks? Another one is public safety, we have to be constituent. We can't support our oppressor. These problems have existed long before Mr. Williamson came to the City of Pahokee. We need to talk about solutions, we had a great American Clean-up and no one participated. Before anything can move forward it has to be approved by the Commission and the Commission has to unify. We can talk about problems all day, but we need to be talking about a solution.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Hill expressed it's not what you do, but how you do it.

Vice Mayor Holmes advised we have a Commissioner that has been through sickness and you shake your head when she speak. Our City Manager has to start calling citizens and we have to address that. We had someone said when we go places we don't give a speech. If they were here, they would've heard at the last meeting. Yet, you come up here and you point fingers.

Commissioner Murvin announced Ma Bea 198 South Lake Avenue is open and the residents should go support her restaurant.

Commissioner Walker announced there's a workshop tomorrow at the Lake Shore Center in Belle Glade. She expressed concerned about the slash pad and wanted to know how long it's going to take us to get it repaired. She advised if that splash pad would have been available to our youth, it's a possibility they wouldn't have ended up at the ocean. I want to know the potential date of the slash pad.

- Mr. Williamson replied the Commissioners Park is a part of our legislative agenda. There's no timeline when it's going to start or finish. We are waiting on the response on when the State will be releasing the funding.

- Commissioner Walker replied at what level the splash pad is costing the City, the life of a child.
- Mr. Williamson responded it didn't cost the death of a child and I would never say that.
- Commissioner Walker responded it's a possibility for it when you choose not to open it.
- Mr. Williamson replied it wasn't maintained for several years and now we have to make the necessary arrangement to have it repaired.

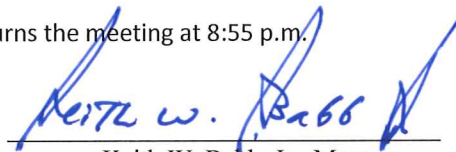
Commissioner Walker inquired why we don't have a designated Deputy City Clerk, so when we need assistance (while the City Clerk is out) we can have it. Since 1988, we've had a Deputy City Clerk.

- Mr. Williamson replied we have someone to stand in when the City Clerk is absent for the meetings.
- Mr. Brandenburg advised Section 2.63 of the Code says that the City Clerk appoints the Deputy City Clerk and it gets approved by the Commission. So, it's not up to Mr. Williamson to appoint a Deputy City Clerk it's up to the City Clerk and the Commission.
- Mayor Babb suggested putting the Deputy City Clerk as an agenda item.
- Commissioner replied well place it on the next agenda.

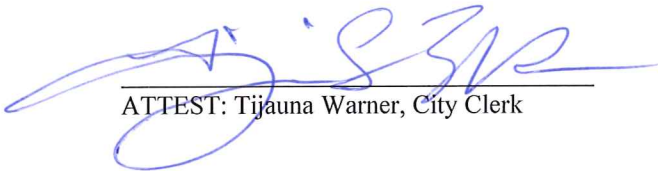
Commissioner Walker has concerns about the use of the park. She's being told you have to request and pay to use the park. Commissioner Walker asked why do we have to have permission to do a baseball game or family event in the park.

- Lt. Picciolo replied if it's a special event, they have to have a permit.
- Commissioner Murvin responded if it's an organized event, they have to get a permit.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 8:55 p.m.



Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor



ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk