



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 9, 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 May 9, 2017.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:36p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

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|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Roll Call: | Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr. | Present |
| | Vice Mayor Nathaniel Holmes | Present |
| | Commissioner Felisia Hill | Present (via phone) |
| | Commissioner Clara Murvin | Present |
| | Commissioner Diane Walker | Present (via phone/arrived@7:23pm) |
| | 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:

Commissioner Murvin added Pastor Patty Presentation to Q2.

Approval of the Agenda with additions.

Motion by Vice Mayor Holmes. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.

Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only): (none)

Public Service Announcements: (none)

Approval of Minutes:

1. **April 25, 2017 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting**

Approval of April 25, 2017 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

1. **RESOLUTION 2017 – 12 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY MANAGER AND THE RETIREMENT PLAN AND TRUST FOR THE CITY MANAGER; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; PROVIDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Approval of Resolution 2017 - 12.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.

Motion carried (4) aye; (1) nay.

Ordinances: (none)

Resolutions: (none)

Public Hearings: (none)

Proclamations:

1. **Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care Month**

**Approval of Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care Month Proclamation.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Babb announced last week was National Volunteer Week (April 23rd -29th) and he had an opportunity to attend the Palm Beach County Volunteer Unit Appreciation Ceremony (myself and Commissioner Murvin). Thanks to Lt. Picciolo for inviting us. Those volunteers for 2016 provided 384, 871 hours and we thought that was very wonderful. The Graduating Class at Pahokee High School extended the invitation to the community to attend their graduation on May 18, 2017. Also, Palm Beach County Criminal Justice, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, and Palm Beach County Community Revitalization are asking that citizens attend their Glades Citizen Community Justice Academy on Monday, June 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th. If anyone is interested in an application, I have them here. I want to start preparing us for our live streaming with the Robert's Rules of Order and Procedures we are not discussing any items that are not on the agenda, items need to be in an orderly manner. We need to be professionals and treat each other with respect. I am not an expert, but I have been reading parliamentary procedure. We will just continue to highlight some of those areas. I have been talking with the City Manager about live- streaming. I think that will help us and move our City forward. The Vice Mayor, Commissioner Murvin, and City Manager and I attended Willie Gary presentation at the elementary school, he gave out five scholarships. It was a great event. Also, the City Manager and myself met with the Director of the Children's Services Council (along with Donia Roberts, Marsha Andrews, and Liz Cayson) to discuss programming here in the City of Pahokee. We discuss having activities after hours and on the weekend because our children don't have a lot to do.

Report of the City Manager:

Mr. Williamson advised we developed a marketing plan which has been sent out in December. We currently have two (2) major investment groups interested in the City of Pahokee. Those portfolios went to a lot of major corporations, franchises, movies theaters, and companies throughout the nation. We have been successful with one (1) group, once they put something on the table I can bring it before the Commission. This week we went into the new Marathon Gas Station and it is a welcome site. He is going to be hiring an addition 15 staff here in the City of Pahokee which brings it to about 25 staff members. We will be without gas until they reconnect the lines. Those conversation are moving but not in a particular order. Every year we pause to talk about the staff here in the City of Pahokee. Our Employee of the Month is Jermaine Bennett and he's really good and does a multitude of things here in the City of Pahokee. We are going to continue looking for folks like that here in the City of Pahokee. He loves to tell jokes and he thinks he's funny. Employee of the Year, this individual shows commitment Mrs. Elea Dean. Mrs. Dean was in law enforcement and came to Parks and Rec. Last summer, she came over to the administrative side and has been dedicated. She has her first level of certification and she dedicates her time.

Mayor Babb announced Mrs. Dean will be presented with an award at the Chambers Annual Banquet on May 20, 2017.

Report of the City Attorney:

1. **Status Everglades Preparatory**

Mr. Brandenburg recommended sending a notice to Everglades Prep increasing the rent by 5% and requiring them to live up to the terms of the contract with regards to all the cost-sharing.

Commissioner Murvin inquired how much is that amount.

Mr. Brandenburg replied increased by \$125.

Vice Mayor Holmes replied we dropped the ball and this all we can do.

Mr. Williamson advised the monthly rent is a little low and it cost a lot of money to maintain this location.

Commissioner Murvin inquired if it can increase any more than 5%.

Mr. Brandenburg replied it can't increase by more than 5% and they will have to pay their portion of the utilities.

Mayor Babb inquired if this starts a new contract.

Mr. Brandenburg noted I did not write this contract, they have the options to extend their contract for an additional ten (10) years.

Mayor Babb replied our hands are actually tied. Is there any way we can change any of the items in there?

Commissioner Hill inquired why we can't just start a new contract.

Mr. Brandenburg explains the contract is only changeable by agreements of both parties and the tenant has the option to renew or not renew the lease.

Commissioner Hill responded that's not a good contract.

Commissioner Murvin inquired how is that school funded.

Mr. Brandenburg replied Charter schools get an amount per student from the School Board, State, and private donations.

Approval of 5% Increase on Everglades Preparatory Lease.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. Status Gymnasium

Mr. Brandenburg announced the work on the Gymnasium has stopped because there is not contract between the Foundation and the Contractor. The Foundation advised they are looking into additional funding and renovations. I would suggest that the City give the Foundation a reasonable period of time to improve the Gymnasium.

Mayor Babb how much time you recommend we give.

Mr. Brandenburg replied I wouldn't want to give a time limited at this point.

Commissioner Murvin inquired why wasn't a contract signed from the time they came.

Mr. Brandenburg explained there was a notice to proceed, but it was a notice to proceed with preliminary work only.

Commissioner Hill inquired are we just allowing them more time.

Mayor Babb replied yes.

Commissioner Hill replied I have a lot of questions and concerns in reference to the gym. I feel there's more to it and I think it's being slowed down for those reasons. I said this from day one.

3. Contract Policy

Mr. Brandenburg would like the Commission to re-impose the contract policy of having individual sign their contracts before they come to the Commission.

Approval of Contract Policy.

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Foreclosure Action on Biomass

Mr. Brandenburg advised the Manager has asked that he start a foreclosure on the property where Biomass is located. I am asking the City Commission permission to do this. Biomass has asked our Special Magistrate for an extension on that time frame. In June, if they don't get an extension then I will ask for your permission to file a lawsuit to foreclose on our lien.

Approval of Biomass.

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brandenburg announced the City was awarded the sale of the Old Hospital Site and the foreclosure should clear all liens on that property.

Mayor Babb announced he would be presenting Pahokee Post Office and Bridges as the Businesses of the Month at the next Commission Meeting. Next, would be Commissioner Hill presenting the Businesses of the Month.

Old Business: *(none)*

New Business:

1. Lieutenant Picciolo (PBSO Report)

Lt. Picciolo advised we are still having issues with Rardin with vehicles being parked in the road and hanging out. After we stopped some of the block party someone tried to set the police car on fire and shoot out the police cameras. We are asking if everyone has any information, please come forward there will be an award.

Mayor Babb suggested putting out a flyer and getting community leaders to help with a solution to assist the police department or having a Town Hall Meeting.

Commissioner Murvin expressed she supports the Town Hall Meeting ideal.

Commissioner Walker presented a plaque to Mr. Gary Brandenburg for his dedication to the City of Pahokee.

Citizens Comments:

Mr. Ralph Walker praised the Commission for meetings following smoothly and in a timely manner. Thanks the Mayor for managing the meetings, thanks Commissioner Murvin for attending majority of community events or meetings, and thanks the City Manager for his effort and being engaged.

Mr. Carl Morrison expressed concerns with the aggressive policing here in the City of Pahokee which I have been a victim of an unlawful stop. We would like to know who gave instructions in this community for this type of policing and recommend a Community Town Hall Meeting.

Lt. Picciolo replied my information is on the website and you can call anytime to make a complaint or get information.

Mr. Bobby Colvin expressed concerns with the point of order and Mayor should always vote last.

Mr. Brandenburg replied after the last meeting the City Clerk and I looked up that information and the vote is did in alphabetical order. We can change that by ordinance.

Commissioner Walker responded I expressed concerns with that at the last meeting and that never should have taken place. In the future, we need to discuss the issues as a Commission and allow the City Attorney time to research the information to bring back to the Commission.

Commissioner Walker inquired are we required to use the Robert's Rules of Order.

Mr. Brandenburg replied Robert's Rule of Order is called for in your ordinance.

Approval of City Attorney creating an Ordinance on Voting Procedures.
Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Holmes.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Sanquetta Cowan thanks the Commission and Mr. Brandenburg for their support and donations to the elementary students.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Walker sends her deepest sympathy to Commissioner Hill and Commissioner Murvin for their lost. Also, thanks Mr. Brandenburg for addressing the Old Hospital Site and State Market Road. I need clarification as to public records requests from the Commissioners. Are we required to submit a public records request when asking for information from the City Clerk?

Mr. Brandenburg replied no.

Commissioner Walker inquired can I go directly to the City Clerk.

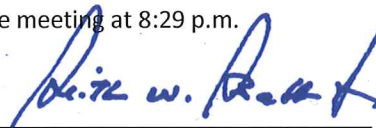
Mr. Brandenburg replied yes, you can.

Commissioner Walker expressed concerns with the Mayor proceeding with negotiating the City Manager's Contract after I advised I neither have nor read the contract. I wasn't aware of how much we paid out to terminate Ms. Tammy Jackson-Moore and Ms. Bellamy. Then, we voted to give the City Manager an \$18,000 raise and we need to take time as a Commission to research and gather information before just voting on it or allow other Commissioners that want to research it time to do so. I want to ask the Commission for approval to miss three (3) meeting because I have been transferred to Palm Beach and don't want the hardship on my family.


Approval of Excusing Commissioner Walker from the next three (3) Commission Meetings.
Motion by Vice Mayor Holmes. Seconded by Commissioner Walker.
Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Murvin thanks the Mayor and Commissioners for their condolences.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 8:29 p.m.



Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor


ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk