

**CITY OF PAHOKEE  
MINUTES  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, February 26, 2008**

**Mayor J. P. Sasser** called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Commission Chambers of City Hall, 171 North Lake Avenue, Pahokee, Florida.

**Invocation:**

**Commissioner Biggs** delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call of Elected Officials:**

Mayor J.P. Sasser	Present
Vice Mayor Henry Crawford	Present
Commissioner Allie Biggs	Present
Commissioner Keith Babb	Present
Commissioner Diane Walker	Present

**Others in Attendance:**

City Clerk Raquel Diaz, Interim City Manager/City Attorney Mimi McAndrews, Sergeant at Arms Lt. Ray Alonso, Finance Director Derrek Moore, M/M Ted Gallo, Susan Feltner, Dipak Parekn, Kokeysia Foster, Mr. Darbrow, A. J. Johnson, Naji Tobias (Sun Newspaper), Wayne Whitaker (Mayoral Candidate), Nathaniel Holmes, Art Ivester (Port Mayaca Cemetery Director), Ciro Raul Diaz, Jim Sheehan (Everglades Adventures), Emily O'Mahoney (Gentile Holloway O'Mahoney & Assoc.), Capt. Gray (Ret.), Michael G. LeStrange (PAL), Margaret Strohm (sp.), Nathaniel Holmes, and Regina Bohlen

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

Notes were taken by hand and recorded on DVD.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

1. January 8, 2008.
2. January 22, 2008

Commissioner Babb moved and Commissioner Biggs seconded approving the minutes and the motion passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. **Resolution – 2008-04** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PIGGYBACK OF THE CITY OF PUNTA GORDA CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF WATER METERS AND OTHER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGREEMENT NO. LP6849, PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON NOVEMBER 13, 2007, FOR THE CITIES DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.
2. **Resolution 2008-11**- A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, URGING MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ISSUES DURING THE 2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION.
3. **Resolution 2008-12** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA APPOINTING PALM BEACH COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS, ARTHUR ANDERSON AS AN ADDITIONAL MEMBER OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE CANVASSING BOARD FOR THE CITY ELECTION TO BE HELD MARCH 11, 2008.
4. **Resolution 2008-13** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA RATIFYING THE APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY GARY BRANDENBURG AS INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY.

5. **Resolution 2008-14** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA RATIFYING THE APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY MIMI MCANDREWS AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER.
6. **Resolution 2008-15** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA RATIFYING THE SERGEANT AT ARMS POLICY.
7. **Resolution 2008-16** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE REVISED SECOND ADDENDUM TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REFLECTING A 2% DISCOUNT IN THE COST OF SERVICE FOR FY 2008.
8. **Resolution 2008-17** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF A WESTERN LANDFILL; SUPPORTING THE LOCATION IN WESTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY COMP PLAN; PROVIDING THE CITY'S SUPPORT FOR THIS SITE.
9. **Resolution 2008-18** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN PALM BEACH COUNTY AND THE CITY OF PAHOKEE RELATED TO THE CANAL POINT SEWER PROJECT.
10. **Resolution 2008-19** - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA ACKNOWLEDGING THE RELEASE OF LIENS AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAME.

Commissioner Walker stated for the record that she would abstain from voting on Resolution 2008-16 because of her employment with the Sheriff's Department. Commissioner Babb moved to approve the Consent Agenda, and Commissioner Biggs seconded it and the motion was approved unanimously.

**Departmental Report:**

1. Finance
2. Public Works/Roads and Streets
3. Cemetery
4. Parks and Recreation
5. Community Development/Code Enforcement
6. City Clerk – Elections

**Proclamations:**

1. 2-1-1 Awareness Week  
No recipients present to accept the award. Adopted by viva voce.
2. Make a Difference Day  
Three of the five recipients were present to accept the award. The proclamation was read into the record by Mayor Sasser and Naji Tobias of the Sun Newspaper took photographs of the event. Adopted by viva voce.

**Presentations:**

1. Power Point Presentation Eco-Island Study – Emily M. O'Mahoney. A series of slides depicting the Barrier Islands project was shown to the audience and the Commission.
2. Pahokee PAL Youth Center – Michael G. LeStrange – Mr. LeStrange spoke of the boxing program to get kids off the street, saying that it was initiated by the Sheriff's Department and how the participants must follow strict rules and guidelines. He also gave us a handout of the rules that govern the participants and played a videotape of the program.
3. Black History Month – Margaret Strohm – Presented an award to the first black police officer in Pahokee in 1963, Captain Gray (Ret.). The Captain is a retired Palm Beach County Sheriff's office.

**Resolutions:**

**Old Business:**

1. Mobile home parks – No trailers parked illegally can even apply for permits. Ms. McAndrews suggested looking at ordinances implemented by other cities and said that staff would be coming back with recommendations.
2. Middle School – Representatives will be here at the next meeting.
3. Sago Palms – Mayor Sasser spoke of his two trips to Tallahassee, his meeting with Secretary McNeil. Said DJJ is being turned over to the Department of Corrections. The issue is money. The closing of the facility is due June first. The intent was a seamless transition to an adult facility. The outcome hinges on legislators in April. Also, the Mayor praised the lobbyists (advocacy group) for having mediated all the meetings for him.
4. Herbert Hoover Dike – Mayor Sasser said that “all the Feds will be here tomorrow”. He mentioned the Secretary of the Interior, CORPS, South Florida Water Management, and others and said the outcome of the meeting tomorrow at the Marina will affect the city for the next 30 years.

**New Business:**

1. City Clerk – Not heard.
2. 2007 Annual Uniform Crime Reports Arrest Form – FDLE Central Section Records– Lt. Alonso passed out a handout with the crime stats for the year, showing considerable drop in crime rate.

**Report of the City Manager:**

Regional Water Plant – Ms. McAndrews spoke of having attended a funding issues meeting. South Bay will be first in making the transition and the City of Pahokee will be the last. She also spoke of her meeting with USDA about Pahokee’s share.

Everglades Prep’s initial use agreed upon vs. the space they are going to use was discussed and Interim City Manager McAndrews said that in order to complete the lease, additional information is needed.

**Report of the City Attorney:**

Not present.

**Citizens Comments/General Concerns:**

Mr. Nathaniel Holmes complained that at the end of street is dark and he would like additional lighting. He also spoke of the trash, filth and people drinking on his block. He left Pahokee in 1972, moved to Royal Palm Beach and regrets having moved back.

**Correspondence, Comments and Concerns of the City Commissioners:**

**Commissioner Biggs:**

Thanked all the Departments and audience present. She asked that the Ferdinand family be kept in prayer. Mentioned the college scholarship from the American Association of Scholarships for Women application on their Website. Commissioner Santamaria’s coming to Belle Glades’ West Technical Education Center on Friday, February 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Commissioner also spoke to her being called by the Chamber asking for a moderator for the candidate debate on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Pahokee High gym, 6:00 p.m. She urged everyone to attend and meet the candidates. Thomas Roberts will be the moderator.

**Commissioner Babb:**

Spoke of the City Manager's, Cobb and Moore's tour of the city. The Commissioner would like for the City Manager to set up a schedule for other groups to tour. The Commissioner wanted to know the outcome of the land swap with Ms. Smith and was told by Ms. McAndrews that it would have to wait until summer. He praised the new flow of information and thanked the audience for coming.

**Commissioner Walker:**

Ms. Walker spoke about the dedication of the sign next to the Jellyroll Restaurant and thanked the participants. Wanted an update on Habitat for Humanity and wanted to know if only three properties had no title problems. Finished by thanking the audience for their attendance and the staff for the information they were provided.

**Vice Mayor Crawford:**

The Vice Mayor was very hoarse, so he said he was going to be brief. He asked about Palm Beach County Day event being in Tallahassee in March. He asked who else planned to attend from the Commission and said the information was running a month behind.

**Mayor Sasser:**

The Mayor said he was proud of the job being done by the PBC Sheriff's Department. Also mentioned that Rardin could use improvement, but was 1,000 times better since the Sheriff's Department took over. Offered the audience the availability of a DVD which could now be obtained as a public records. Said that McAndrews was a God-send\_and after mentioning the new website and thanking the audience adjourned the meeting.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:35 P.M.

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J.P. Sasser, Mayor

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ATTEST: Raquel Diaz, City Clerk