



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 11, 2011**

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, October 11, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sasser at 7:01 p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor J.P. Sasser	Present
	Vice Mayor Henry Crawford	Present
	Commissioner Keith Babb	Present
	Commissioner Allie Biggs	Present
	Commissioner Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Derrek Moore	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Alonso	Present
	Interim City Clerk Anika Sinclair	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approvals of Agenda Items:

Addition:

Proclamation: Roswell Harrington and Desmond Masters

Presentation: Debra Edwards, Glade Correctional Institute

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

1. Regular Commission Meeting – August 23, 2011
2. Regular Commission Meeting – September 12, 2011

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Vice Mayor Crawford.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Consent Agenda.

Motion by Vice Mayor Crawford. Second by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation:

1. Recognizing Willie Mae Scarlett
2. Recognizing Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

Approval of Proclamations.

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes- Tuesday, October 11, 2011

Presentations:

1. Community Asphalt

The Mayor presented a plaque to Community Asphalt

2. Debra Edwards, Glade Correctional Institute

Ms. Edwards advised:

- Thanks the Commission and City Manager for assisting with the processing of trying to keep Glades Correctional Institute (GCI) open.
- GCI will be closed as of December 1, 2011
- Tallahassee should be providing official notification as of October 14, 2011
- Determining what positions are allocated and vacant at the satellite locations in Loxahatchee, Sago Palm in Pahokee, West Palm Beach Work Release and Palm Beach Atlantic to place staff at these locations.
- There are not many jobs available, some may get transferred to Okeechobee or Martin and others may not have a job.
- Prepared a proposal requesting additional positions

Mayor Sasser added that he attended a Tri-County meeting at the Dolly Hand and the Palm Beach County Legislation Delegation was present. The Legislation Delegation states they were close to getting Secretary Buss to agree but he later lost his job.

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Sasser advised:

- At the last Tri-Cities meeting information was given showing a list of equipments stolen from the schools in the City of Belle Glade.
- Assuming that the Pahokee schools do not have a problem with theft because he hasn't heard anything about it.
- Contacted Lt. Alonso and he is here with Mr. Cano to explain the situation.

Lt. Rey Alonso advised:

- Introduced Commander Cano, the head of the School Board Law Enforcement Division West of the Turnpike.
- The School Board has own police department but works together with Palm Beach County Sheriff Department (PBSO).
- In 2010 PBSO handled 21 cases between Pahokee schools (elementary, middle and high school).
- In 2011 PBSO handled 16 cases, year to date in Pahokee
- If there is a problem at the schools the principals and Commander Cano usually notifies him.

Commissioner Biggs asked if Pahokee High School was not burglarized within this school year.

Commander Cano and Lt. Alonso advised yes that did occur over a period of time but both PBSO and school police will continue to work together to minimize those activities.

Commissioner Biggs asked if there has been activities at the Middle School and have the principal been contacted.

Lt. Alonso advised that there has been little activity at the middle school with the exception of some gang activities. Commander McDonald advised Lt. Alonso that the gang unit is working on it.

Commissioner Biggs asked if there is a reason for the school being as dark as it is.

Commander Cano advised that the School District is in energy efficient mode. If there is an alarm the dispatcher will be notified to turn the lights on. The contact number for the school police dispatch is 561-434-8700.

Commander Cano advised that they work 24 hours/7 day per work and any suspicious activities should be reported to the dispatch.

If anyone has any questions or concern Commander Cano can be reached at 561-719-3030.

Mayor Sasser continues:

- Attended Tri County Meeting today, Palm Beach County, Hendry County and Glades County to discuss obstacles we faced due to government policy/action.
- Commissioner Park need to be maintained
- Remove the Rickey Jackson signs
- The Glades Utility Authority (GUA) Board voted to close the pay stations the City of Pahokee and City of South Bay and removed the City Manager as chair of the GUA Board

Report of the City Manager:

City Manager Moore advised:

- Received notice on Thursday that the pay station would be close effective Monday, October 10, 2011.
- City staff distributed the notice at various locations in the City
- County staff presented a recommendation to Palm Beach County Commissioners to merge the GUA into the Palm Beach County Water Utilities and the negotiation will begin tomorrow.
- Introduced Mr. Herbert Crawford, Director of Parks & Recreation to discuss homecoming events for the weekend.

Mr. Crawford advised:

- Friday, October 14th will be Pahokee High School homecoming parade and Park & Recreation will participate in the event.
- Parks & Recreation youth football team will also have homecoming celebration on Saturday, October 15th.
- Palm Beach County Communication Action Board will be meeting on Tuesday, October 18th at 6 p.m. to discuss programs and partnership to assist the Glades community
- On October 18th there will be a rally "Lights on for Afterschool Programs" from 4 – 6 p.m.

City Manager Moore advised FEMA information that was inquired about is on the dais and because staff is working on the audit they have not been available to gather all the information.

City Manager Moore calls upon Senior Account Leanne Criswell to elaborate.

Ms. Criswell advised:

- She will have more detailed information at a later date.
- Information was taken from Hurricane Wilma and will add Tropical Storm Faye once additional information is gathered.

City Manager Moore continued:

- Waiting on an estimated from FPL for the removal of FPL lines
- County Commission Workshop is schedule for October 25, 2011
- Interim City Clerk Sinclair and Deputy Clerk Warren will be attending Elections training on October 13 and conference on October 23 – 28, 2011
- Town hall meeting will be November 1, 2011
- Review how holiday is paid at other entities pay. PRM was contacted and advised that only eight (8) hours are paid for vacation and two (2) hours are taken from vacation or sick time.

Commissioner Walker advised she does not support taking sick time from employees.

Commission discussed the four - ten work week

City Manager continued:

- Provided information to the marina advising the cost to maintaining the Marina
- Requesting vacation from October 17 to 23 and will appoint Mr. Art Ivester as Interim City Manager.

Approval of City Manager to take vacation from October 17 – 23, 2011

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Second by Vice Mayor Crawford.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sasser asked about Commissioners Park Restroom Project

City Manager Moore advised he went to meet with Ed Lowery and by Friday bid documents will be in his office and Mr. Lowery assured that he will expedite the process, once approved we will go out to bid then select the company and resend to County for approval.

Mayor Sasser advised that on October 25th at the Special County meeting, the City should be prepared to discuss all options. Also, wants to know the amount of money is truly County money versus monies funneling down from Federal or State funds.

Report of the City Attorney:

City Attorney Brandenburg advised he does not think Mr. Gonzalez will be moving forward with Pahokee Plaza and is requesting permission to prepare a RFP.

Mayor Sasser advised there is a company that is interested in the facility but does not need the entire property.

Approval of for City Attorney and City Manager to prepare new RFP for Pahokee Plaza

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Brandenburg continued

- Anyone who is interested in the property can come in and discuss with Commission and staff, once RFP is done the proposals will be reviewed and selected.
- Attended the County Commission meeting where the County staff presented the GUA options to County Commissioners with City Manager Moore and Commissioner Biggs.
- Request an absorption study from the County and found that in each County customers pay \$670 per year and Glades customer pay \$1003 per year.
- The expense they have for maintaining the Glades is 2.2 times the average expense for each of their water customer.
- The projection has the expense staying the same even though the County will be doing capital improvements into the system.
- The average County debt for each of their customer on their system is \$940; prior to the GUA it was \$2,500 per customer and after the GUA was put together it is total \$5,000 per customer.
- After the GUA was formed it entered into a contract with the County to pay for those expenses at 2.5 times the normal year at \$10,000,000 per year but the whole system produces \$13,000,000 per year.
- The water volume went down by 15% because the rates are so high totaling \$1,950,000 leaving \$1,050,000 to pay all the expenses, all the debt from the three Cities.
- The only way the system will be fixed is (1) GUA gets a \$50M influx of funds from the Federal Government or (2) the County takes over the system and spread all the debt to all 240,000 customers in their system.
- (3) The negotiations with the County should focus on the residents in the Glades residents' rate gradually decrease and/or the County purchases the utility system.
- (4) The host fees should continue as we are getting them and the Pahokee pay station should be opened two (2) to three (3) day per week.
- (5) The fees that they collect on the City's behave they should continue to do so.

The Commission discussed the GUA options.

**Approval that Mr. Brandenburg should pursue GUA negotiations with the five (5) points mentioned above.
Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Second by Commissioner Babb.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Ordinance:

Ordinance 2011-03 – SECOND READING – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, ALLOWING SCHOOLS (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY, INTERMEDIATE AND SECONDARY) AS A PERMITTED “P” USE IN THE “CORE” ZONING DISTRICT, PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE DATE

Public Hearing Open at 8:48 p.m.

Richard Cannone, Planning Administrator advised will permit school both public and private and will be consistent when the Comprehensive Plan was adopted and will be a cleanup item.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:49 p.m.

Approval of Ordinance 2011-03

**Motion by Commissioner Walker. Second by Commissioner Biggs.
Motion carried unanimously**

Ordinance 2011-04 – SECOND READING – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, CORRECTING A SCRIVENER’S ERROR IN THE ZONING MAP CONTAINED IN THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AND DESIGNATION IN THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP, PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE, SEVERABILITY AND INCLUSION IN THE CODE.

Public Hearing Open at 8:52 p.m.

Richard Cannone, Planning Administrator advised the an updated future land use amendment map was provided showing the corrected zoning.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:54 p.m.

Approval of Ordinance 2011-04

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Second by Commissioner Babb.

Motion carried unanimously

Old Business:

Okeechobee Land Company Lease Amendment

RESOLUTION 2011-72 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PAHOKEE AND OKEECHOBEE LAND COMPANY

City Manager advised he is recommending that the rent increase to \$2000 per month with an increase of \$100 each year. This information was based on what other properties in the Tri-Cities are rented for. Other Cities charge more but because Mr. Perez is already an occupant his rent would be raised from \$1,200 to \$2,000.

Mayor Sasser has two concerns, (1) the lease should reflect light mechanic work and (2) several years ago there were discussions of making that property a parking garage because there is no parking for the downtown revitalization project. In the future we need to have an adopted downtown revitalization plan.

Commissioner Babb thinks it is too much of a raise in his rent to \$2,000 and should consider raising the rent to \$1,500 with a gradual raise each year.

Vice Mayor Crawford agrees with the \$1,500 recommendation unless there are records showing that the mechanic work is bringing in additional expenses and a percentage of his earning is additional to his rent.

Commission directed the lease to be amended to add light mechanic work on cars and light truck and an increase of \$1,500 with a \$100 increase each year.

Motion by Commissioner Babb. Second by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carries unanimously.

Code Enforcement:

Mrs. Susan Feltner advised:

- The Hill building at 176 Bacom Point Road will be demolished soon
- 154 E. Main Street and 124 Cypress Avenue were demolished
- Five (5) liens are being recorded to the County
- Two (2) liens have been satisfied
- Attached are picture of the new Thriftway
- List of Vacant Properties is provided and it is an ongoing list
- Case Log shows all the case that we’ve been working on starting January 2011

- Next Special Master Hearing is November 9, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.
- Code Advisory Board Hearing is October 21, 2011 at 6 p.m.
- Visited a property on 2nd Street that had an issue with water when the rain falls and the problem is that the sidewalk is low, almost street level, and will get with Mr. Johnson to see if we can do anything.
- Working on a letter to send to the residents about garbage and garbage bins.
- Will move report to the second meeting

Prince Theater:

No report

Annexation:

City Manager Moore advises still working with Calvin & Giordano on the Urban Services Report and once complete the he will get it to the Commission.

Pahokee Plaza:

No report

Citizen Villas:

No report

East Lake Village:

No report

Boxing Arena:

City Manager Moore advises Deputy Lastrange is working on the funding.

City Hall:

No report

Citizens Comments:

Kirk Patrick of P.O. Box 563, Pahokee, FL 33476 addressed the Commission:

- Understands and support s what the City is trying to do but thinks that the Recreation Department is being left out.
- Wants to work with Mr. Crawford to assist in any way necessary.
- The MLK Park, the gymnasium, and other parks need attention and possibly can generate funds.
- The lights at MLK Park in the past use to stay on until about 11 p.m.

Mayor Sasser advised that he agrees with everything being said and at the last Commission Meeting the Recreation Department was discussed. Funds are being allocated to the Recreation Department and the Commission would like to grow the recreation department to involve more of the Community.

City Manager Moore advised that he has a meeting scheduled with Mr. Kirk Patrick to get a better understanding of what Mr. Patrick is proposing on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Pearl Freeman of 331 Banyan Avenue, Pahokee, FL 33476 addressed the Commission:

- Always pay water bill on time and went to pay the bill and was advised that GUA pay station is closed.

Mayor Sasser advised that at the GUA Board voted to close the Pahokee and South Bay pay station.

Commissioners Comments:

Vice Mayor Crawford thanks everyone for attending the meeting and have a good night.

Commissioner Walker advised:

- Recommend moving staff report under the City Managers report.
- Workforce Alliance, Jessica Garcia is in the audience and thanks her for attending
- Workforce has job programs and wanted to know if the City was participating.

City Manager Moore advised that the City is participating and is processing a potential employee now. Mrs. Waugh is working with Workforce Alliance.

Commissioner Walker continues:

We should encourage staff to participate in Take Stock in Children.
Add Rickey Jackson sign to the agenda until they are corrected and the collection staff for GUA payments Will continue to be concerned about staff, citizens, and the community
Does not have a personal agenda, wants us to be a group of people working for a common cause, the future of our City

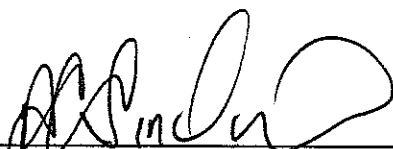
Commissioner Babb:


- Requesting staff to contact FPL and invite them to the next Commission Meeting in reference to the numerous power outages on Bacom Point Road
- Veterans Day program will be on November 11, 2011 at 10 a.m.

Commissioner Biggs:

- Asked Interim City Clerk if she received the information from Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County.
- See me if you or anyone is interested in the Dr. Pepper Million Dollar tuition give away is for students 18 years and older to continue college education
- City of Riviera Beach is hiring a Business and Economic Development Manager and Deputy City Manager

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Sasser adjourns the meeting at 9:43 p.m.


ATTEST: Anika Sinclair, Interim City Clerk


J.P. Sasser, Mayor