

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016**

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, February 23, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Walkes at 7:03p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Colin Walkes	Present
	Commissioner Allie Biggs	Present
	Commissioner Felisia Hill	Present
	Commissioner Nathaniel Holmes	Present
	Vice Mayor Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Chandler Williamson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Daniel Picciolo	Present
	Deputy City Manager Tammy Jackson-Moore	Present
	City Clerk Tijauna Warner	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items:

Vice Mayor Walker suggested adding the City Manager's Evaluation to the Agenda under New Business Q2.

Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Holmes. Seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

1. January 26, 2016 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting.

Approval of Minutes.

Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Ordinance:

1. ORDINANCE 2016 (second reading) – 01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE AMENDING SECTION 17-216, PERTAINING TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF NOISE CONTROL REGULATIONS IN THE CITY, ADDING SECTION 17-216(c), PROVIDING FOR ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF ENFORCEMENT BY A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTING, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Walkes opens the floor for public comments, there were no comments from the public. Mayor Walkes then ask if the Commissioners have any comments.

Commissioner Biggs asked if during the City Commission Workshop, did the Mayor explain what the ordinance was about.

Mayor Walkes advised the City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg to explain what the ordinance is all about.

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg explained that this ordinance resulted from a request from the Sheriff Department. The City has a current noise ordinance that's only enforceable through Code Enforcement. The Sheriff Office has requested the ability to assist in enforcing it as well. This ordinance is necessary for them to enforce the noise ordinance.

Mayor Walkes stated that he thinks Commissioner Holmes had a real valid question about the ordinance with noise in car or vehicles.

Commissioner Holmes advised it was just a statement.

Mayor Walkes advised he thinks it is the concern of the community, does the ordinance affect car with loud music.

Commissioner Hill wants to know how would the Sheriff determine how loud the music can be.

Lt. Picciolo advised cars on the road way are not affected by this ordinance. If it's a parked car, now it becomes enforceable with the noise ordinance.

Mayor Walkes advised he wanted to explain to the citizen if the car is in motion, it can't be stopped for loud music. But, if the car stops then the ordinance can be enforced.

Vice Mayor advised it was her concern as it relates to some type of grace period, then that afternoon she was told that they could not stop vehicles and it eliminated her concerns. "Now, I am hearing if the car it sitting then it can apply. So, what are we going to do to make the citizens aware of this"?

Commissioner Hill advised she had similar concerns. "I've had a couple of experiences with the Sheriff Office that was not great".

Lt. Picciolo advised he don't mean to interrupt, but they have dealt with those two isolated incidents. I assure you that wasn't through this command.

Mayor Walkes advised he thinks the Vice Mayor and Commissioners bring up a good point, the education of the community and the citizen is important.

Lt. Picciolo advised like the attorney stated at the last commission meeting, this is nothing new. The only change is now instead of code enforcement, the Sheriff can enforce it.

Commissioner Hill inquired the only things she's saying is how we are going to make the citizens aware of this? Is it going to go on the website, town meeting, or something? This is something we have to elaborate on to make the City understand it. We have a Sheriff that will use this to their advantage to get what they want out of the situation. Let me say this, I am very supportive of PBSO.

City Attorney advised the officer that's called to the scene has the right to determine which noise incident is unreasonably loud that it becomes a nuisance to the neighbor and exercise his authority to go up to the door and ask the occupants to turn it down.

Commissioner Holmes advised if it outside of 100ft., then it's in violation.

Vice Mayor Walker still had a concern, not so much that it's transferred over to the Sherriff Office but if Code Enforcement ever enforced that rule. Now, that it's going to the Sherriff Office because their more visible in the community they're going to enforce it. I just hope they're a little lenient in the community.

Commissioner Holmes asked do we have that problem in the City.

Vice Mayor Walker advised she think it became an issue during Turn-Up.

Commissioner Biggs advised somewhere along the line we have to let each agency do their jobs and have trust among ourselves. In the case if someone is done wrong, I am sure that it would come to circle. At this point, we know that all our laws haven't been enforced. We just want to try to make it better, we say we want a better Pahokee. Let's work with the Sheriff Office and our people instead of feeding into mess, we got to let them know this is going to happen. If a young man's driving a car, make sure your music is not too loud. If it doesn't work, we bring it back to the Commission and we change it again. We got to work to try to make it a better Pahokee or let it go. I mean it's just one way or another. At this time, we got to think about it and not just worry about people being upset; that's why people get elected. We can stand firm and make sure people will be able to live peacefully in Pahokee. That's just my opinion.

Commissioner Holmes advised he don't think that's feeding into mess, he thinks that's why the citizens put us up here. So, we can get on these things together.

Mayor Walkes advised that's what we here for.

Vice Mayor Walker advised it's nothing against the Sheriff Office, but we must allow the citizens to education on this ordinance. I know there's a saying that ignorance is no excuse, but sometimes we don't all know everything. It would be helpful if we all have an opportunity to be educated about the changes that are taking place.

Mayor Walkes thanks the Commissioners and thanks if there's any other further discussion.

Approval of Ordinance 2016 – 01.

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Seconded by Commissioner Hill.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Resolutions:

1. **RESOLUTION 2016 – 03 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FUND (EDTF) AGREEMENT WITH STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.**

Approval of Resolution 2016 – 03.

Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Proclamations:

1. **American Red Cross Month 2016**

Approval of American Red Cross Month 2016 Proclamation.

Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Presentations:

1. **Honoring Anquan Boldin –plaque present by the City of Pahokee.**

Mr. Anquan Boldin thanks the City for putting him on the spot. I want to thank the City Commission, Mayor, Vice Mayor, citizens of Pahokee, and the City Manager. There's a lot of time you get honored in different place, but it's more important to get honored at home. I am honored to come back to it ever year because this is where my heart is, first and foremost. I don't do it by myself; it's a lot of people that help me. Two of them are here now, my father and Hakeem. The rest of my board members couldn't be here, my wife, Bishop Banks, and many more. It's a lot of times I am out of town at work and their handling my foundation. Those are the people who really should be honored because they put in a lot of time and effort. Not because somebody's doing something for them, but because they all do it out of the kindness of their hearts. I am happy and proud to be a part of them, as well as they are to be a part of

my organization. Like I said for us, it starts in Pahokee; this is where our heart is. We all grew up here and our heart is here, the potential is here. I Love Pahokee!

Mayor Walkes thanks Mr. Bolding for accepting our honoring and representing Pahokee. It's really refreshing. Once again we thank you for keeping our home in your heart. I listen to you when you are on the Grammy's, I listen to you when you do everything you do and you do it with class and you do it with dignity. I really thank you for keeping God first in everything that you do. My sons they watch you and listen to you. Thank You!

Commissioner Biggs couldn't even think about rewarding for the many time you showed acts of kindness. From the youngest, from the riches to the poorest, you have shown kindness. We thank God for you not just Mrs. Biggs, we may not show it but we really do. Thank you for not forgetting about where you came from, thank you for not forgetting this place, and thank you for be concerned about Pahokee and we love you.

Vice Mayor Walker advised she admire his humbleness, it's an inspiration and I hope that anymore pattern after you.

Commissioner Hill thanks Anquan Boldin and asked that he continue to do what he's doing.

City Manager Mr. Williamson wants to personally thank Mr. Boldin for being here tonight, your family, and especially your foundation. You've had some conversations with this administration and one thing that's important is that we relate to you the integrity your resources provided here in the City of Pahokee. I can assure you your contributions will be accounted here in the City of Pahokee. Your diligent and your support for this community, you can fairly see that the love for you is truly in this community and we won't take that for granted here. Moving forward, we look forward to working with you. Thank You!

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Walkes advised he only have two things he would like to mention here this evening. A big thank you to AJ and the staff for putting up our Q81 signs for Man of the Year. If you haven't noticed in the community, there are a lot of signs popping up; this is the work of the Public Works Department. They're stepping up to the plate and utilizing the skills and resources that they have at their disposal to make out city beautiful. I want to thank them. The other report is if we can all come out and meet and have coffee with our Chief on Monday, March 14 at 5pm at the Bank of Belle Glade that will be great. Come out and hear what our chief has to say to us when it comes to safety in our community. That's it for the report of the Mayor. City Manager.

Report of the City Manager:

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised he heard by from the Department of Health and they are willing to come out to a Town Hall meeting to inform the citizens in Citizen Villa about the Bio-Mass incident. I also spoke with Mark the executive director for SWA and he's also willing to come out and help host that Town Hall meeting to give out important information on the next step forward. We have been discussing this in Commission meeting for some time and I think it's time we provide our citizen with some information that they need. Also, there was a conversation about insurance company not returning or not being responsive to the citizen out there in Citizen Villa. That's certainly not our area, but expressing that the insurance company needs to do their diligent to their needs. I know that the City Managers' Evaluation is on the agenda and currently HR's completing a packet. All Commissioners will receive that evaluation packet on Thursday, you will have several days to complete it. Once you get that back to HR Manager, there's also opportunities for you to ask questions. We have a short window for that evaluation, so we'll move fairly quickly with that. If you have additional questions, the HR Manager is here and she can explain that process with a little bit more details. We had a short conversation about the economic development in Pahokee and what we need to do to move the City forward. I briefly mentioned that we may need to start researching bonds in the City of Pahokee for economic and restructure development o recruit what we need in the City of Pahokee. We are going to be looking into that to gather some information. This is the time and place to be having these conversations coming off the State of the City Address. Like Commissioner Biggs said we are going to have to be honest about what it's going to take to rebuild our infrastructure to address our company and also provide economic development right here in the City of Pahokee. Lastly, there's another conversation about amending the budget when travel it not an approved budget. Moving forward, we do need to amend the budget when there's travel that's not pre-approved within the budget for the year. Moving forward, I need to be mindful of that as well even if it's just for \$500.

Commissioner Biggs questions for two incidents she knows of, we will just going back and amend the budget or leave it where it is at this time.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised that the second trip to Tallahassee was practically funded by the organization. We expect that refund here shortly for the hotel stay and the first trip was approved by the Commission with the Tri-Cities.

Commissioner Biggs advised that wasn't amended, approval of the event is different.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised from now on, we need to amend the budget.

Commissioner Biggs advised the citizens that she was late due a doctor's appointment, she just wanted the citizens to know.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised we just need to be mindful that we must amend the budget for activities outside of the budget. We are going to make sure it's amended before the travel or shortly after.

Vice Mayor Walker advised in the future the Mayor may call special meeting to eliminate the concerns we are having now and hopefully the majority of us can be there to handle business.

City Manager Mr. Williamson responded yes ma'am.

Report of the City Attorney:

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg advised he has no items to report on.

New Business:

1. Peach Palm County League of Cities – Delegation of Voting Delegate

Mayor Walkes asked the Commissioners if all Commissioners names should be on the list and advised that we do have to vote on it as well for the Palm Beach County League of Cities.

Commissioner Biggs advised in the past they only had one alternate.

City Clerk Ms. Warner advised that all Commissioners could be alternates on the voting delegation for Palm Beach County League of Cities. If the primary delegate is not there, then the alternates can vote.

Commissioner Biggs advised let her correct that, it's either one of us not just the Mayor. Either one of us can be appointed, I'm just saying.

Vice Mayor Walker suggested selecting the Mayor as the delegate and it would be appropriate that whoever the Vice Mayor is at that time be the first alternate and there after each Commissioner afterwards.

Approval of all City Commissioners on Voting Delegation.

Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Mayor Walkes begins to discuss the City Manager's Evaluation.

Vice Mayor Walker motioned it be removed because the City Manager discuss it in his report.

Approval of removing City Manager's Evaluation from the Agenda.

Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Citizen Comments:

Ms. Deborah R. Abner (representing Big Mama's) requested for purchase documents presented. As you know, I am the owner and operator of Big Mama's Kitchen. That business have stagnated and moved to another location. I've found that the City had property available at down town on Buddy White Avenue and Rardin Avenue. What you have in front of you is a presentation for a request for purchase. Big Mama's is a mobile business, but it's not like your regular mobile business where you can just get your truck and put it anywhere. It's a big truck; so once you set it, it

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cannot move around because it will cause too much danger to the truck. It has to be stable, so having said that if you look at the back sheet of the property description. It was a for sale sign there, but recently it was removed. If the City can combine those properties and give me a reasonable price I will purchase the properties. The Commissioners know I have had many challenges with Big Mama's Kitchen. Now, Sara Perez has offered me some relief by putting it inside her gate. It's in her fence and it's safe, but now it's not operating though I just paid taxes and late charges for a business that's not operating.

Mayor Walkes asked when we conduct the sale of City property does it have to go out for bid or can the City Manager work with Ms. Abner.

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg advised it's going to have to be advertised, there's a specific requirement in your code requiring that.

Mayor Walkes advised Ms. Abner to work with the City Manager, if she hasn't already done so.

Ms. Abner advised I have been working with Ms. Warner for several months, I've been told several times that the property was going out for bid. It was supposed to go out for bid in January, but it didn't. Now, since everybody is focus on getting everybody from the outside in, they're forgetting about us. I want to legally run my business, I can do it the wrong way but I won't. I have been in business for more than 10 years now.

Mayor Walkes advised he think we can help you come to some type of conclusion.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised those properties did go out for bid last year here in the City of Pahokee. Beyond that, the City's required once a year to put those properties on sale and we will be developing that list this year. In the process of researching and developing the list for 2016, we came across an ordinance that was passed in 2007 that stated every three years the City must provide a listing of properties for affordable housing. We are in the third year. We are also developing a food truck park here in the City of Pahokee, here you can permanently park your truck and we want to do that in the City of Pahokee. We have other investors interested in this property as well for affordable housing. So, give us an opportunity to work for you and the City of Pahokee.

Commissioner Biggs advised she hear all of that but it's suppose to be a certain amount of land before you can build a house on it and this property doesn't meet the requirement. Pahokee is supposed to be the poorest city in the State of Florida. I have heard fight by other Commissioners that have came up here and been granted. It hurts my heart, but we have the right to look beyond some things and reach out to try to provide for people that are trying to make it. We work with different people all the time and throw out the book about what the charter said. I know Ms. Abner has been at this for the last couple of years and it's sad because we couldn't help her. A lot of people sale stuff and the City don't get one dime and they're getting rich off it. I'm not running anymore, but I still have a voice now. It's the right thing to do. There's not enough property there to build a house, if it was I could understand that. The Perez has bought property that's been out there for so many years and now it's going to waste. So, why we can't sale this little piece of property to help her get her business going? Who knows, she might give somebody a free meal sometimes. I am talking about us helping each other in the City. That's all I'm asking. We can work with her.

Commission Hill asked with her situation; she has been at this for about 2 to 3 years fighting, can we lease the space or rent it out. Give her some type of agreement, just to let her see if it's beneficial. Believe me, I have been in this business for years and I know you never know what may happen. We have situations where people can come in from out of town and they sale food from out of their trunks. When you are dealing with a business like that it's all about locations. So, if we were to grant her a space or lease it to her give her a guideline. Let's give her a six month lease, after those six months she may not even decide to come back.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised he will certainly look into leasing as an option to make sure that her business is open. I haven't had an opportunity to sit with her and have that conversation on how we can help you as much as possible. City Manager advised Ms. Abner to come see him in the morning at 8am. We are in the middle stage of creating that list of properties.

Ms. Greta Godaert (representing Reap/resident) asked for your support in REAP project, it's a letter of support.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Biggs thanks everyone and thanks God she's able to be here tonight. I say what I mean and I say what I feel is right, I have nothing against Perez it was an example. We need to work with Ms. Abner to get the property done. The second thing is many years ago when I ran, it was a very very nasty election and I pray to God it's not like
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that. I told everybody I would never run again. Make sure that your heart and minds are right and vote for who you want to get in. Look at what you are doing and do it right. With that being said, continue loving this City, loving each other, and that's make us. Have a good night, love all of you.

Commissioner Hill advised everyone to have a good night.

Commissioner Holmes advised the only thing is when he first came on board I said I would not make decisions in reference to certain things, that's why we hired our City Manager. Keep in mind, don't over step him. We need to sit back and let our City forward him because we are moving in the right direction finally. We just have to be patient with it.

Vice Mayor Walker advised many times we have had the Children's Day Event and Pahokee have basically taken the duties of reserving the Rardin Park for this event. We have always support this event in the past and I want to make sure we continue to do so.

Mayor Walkes asked if there was a cost associated with it.

Vice Mayor Walker advised no, there's a fee waiver.

City Manger Mr. Williamson advised the City will be liable for this event, which means we will have to get insurance to cover the event for any liability and incident.

Vice Mayor Walker advised the organization doesn't have the funds for the event.

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised it's a risk for the City to cover the organization for this event.

Mayor Walkes advised the City Manager to do research on the cost of the liability insurance for this event.

Vice Mayor Walker advised that everything that's come up, she has gotten the response that we are not going to do it instead of researching and getting the Commissioners approval. That's all I am asking is to have that done instead of just telling me it's not going to happen.

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg advised the Commissioners to have a motion to sponsor the event with the condition that adequate insurance coverage is in place.

Approval of Sponsoring Children's Day with conditions of adequate insurance.

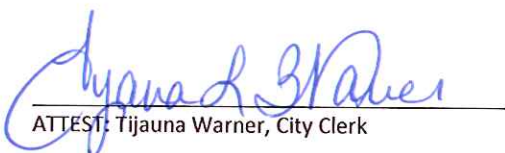
Motion by Vice Mayor Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Vice Mayor Walker said good evening everyone and thank you all for being here tonight.

Mayor Walkes thanks the Commissioners and thanks everyone for being here.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Walkes adjourns the meeting at 8:13 p.m.


ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk


Colin O. Walkes, Mayor