

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 8th, 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, March 8, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Walker at 7:12p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Colin Walkes	Absent
	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:

City Manager Mr. Williamson requested adding an amended Resolution 2016 – 02 to P3.

Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

1. Feb. 23, 2016 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting.

Approval of Minutes.

Motion by Vice Mayor Biggs. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Resolutions:

1. RESOLUTION 2016 – 04 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN PALM BEACH COUNTY AND THE CITY OF PAHOKEE

Approval of Resolution 2016 – 04.

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Presentations:

1. Honoring Commissioner Allie Biggs –plaque present by the City of Pahokee.

Report of the City Manager:

City Manager Mr. Williamson states “There’s nothing new to add. We are going to fill some pot holes around the City, in Citizens Villa, and other projects around town”.

Commissioner Holmes asks “Do we have a successful bidder for the East Main Project”?

Mr. Williams responds “Yes, when we get down to that”.

Report of the City Attorney:

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg states “I have nothing to add today”.

Old Business:

1. Gymnasium Update

City Manager Mr. Williamson states “In our workshop the private donor is still working on their plans for the gymnasium. We look for them presenting their plans to the community for the renovation of the gym. Hopefully, we’ll get that wrapped up in a couple of weeks. The individuals will be hereto present those plans to the City”.

2. City Manager’s Evaluation

Vice Mayor Walker suggested setting a date for the City Manager’s Evaluation.

Ms. Bellamy (Human Resource Director) commented “Once I receive all the evaluations, I will prepare a report for the Commissioners. Hopefully, we can get them all back before the week is out”.

3. Amending Resolution 2016 – 02

City Manager Mr. Williamson advised we are changing the language for the purchase of the City Manager’s vehicle.

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg asks “Are you purchasing this vehicle out right”?

Mr. Williamson responds “Yes”.

Mr. Brandenburg asks “With City cash”?

Mr. Williamson replies “No, PNC is financing”.

Mr. Brandenburg states “To finance there’s an agreement and you have no authority to execute that without it coming before the commission for them to approve it. When is that agreement coming in? You can’t sign off on that agreement, the City Commission has to agree on it. So, if you are going to finance a car the finance agreement has to be put on the Commission Agenda for them to look at and approve before you can sign a purchase order to buy the car. If you’re going to finance it”!

Mr. Williamson asks “Is that in addition to the resolution that has already been approve”?

Mr. Brandenburg responds “The resolution says that the City approves spending up to \$37, 000 for buying a car. It didn’t say anything about financing anything. So, any contract that’s above \$10,000 or any contract to borrow anything has to be approve by the Commission”.

Mr. Williamson inquires “Right, what the resolution was for? That was the intention of the resolution, I believe”.

Mr. Brandenburg replies “No, it wasn’t. I wrote the resolution. All it said was you were authorized to buy a car, it didn’t say anything about financing”.

Mr. Williamson states “If you wrote the resolution, then whether we are purchasing or financing the language is not in there. We have to bring this back to the Commissioners. Why didn’t you tell us that earlier”?

Mr. Brandenburg responds “City Manager, you didn’t tell me you were borrowing money from PNC to pay for this car nor did you tell me if it was going to be a lease or purchase. If it was going to be a lease, the lease agreement had to come back. Had you asked me any of these questions in advance, I would’ve advised you how to do this. But, you did not”.

Mr. Williamson replies "We had a resolution that came before us, we all agreed, and you were here. Why didn't you advise us then if it was going to be a purchase or a lease"?

Mr. Brandenburg responds "Because you didn't tell me what it was going to be".

Mr. Williamson states "You're talking apples and bananas".

Mr. Brandenburg replies "I'm not talking apples and bananas. You have a purchase agreement, but you don't have a finance agreement".

Mr. Williamson asks "We need a finance agreement"?

Mr. Brandenburg responds "If you are going to borrow money from the bank to pay for it".

Mr. Williamson asks "What's the next step"?

Mr. Brandenburg replies "Bring the finance agreement for \$41,000.00 to buy this vehicle, put it on the agenda, and have the board approve it. The resolution you are asking them to approve was given to the City Clerk about 3:30 this afternoon".

Mr. Williamson advised it was just a language change.

Mr. Brandenburg advised it's not a language change.

Commissioner Holmes asks "I think our agreement for purchasing the City Manager's vehicle was \$37,000. Does this say \$41,000"?

Mr. Williamson advised the vehicle came in a little higher than expected, therefore we had to change the language.

Vice Mayor Walker inquiries about section two (2) of the resolution in regards to credit cards.

Mr. Williamson states "When we first came here, the City really didn't have any credit. We had the credit, but it was very low. As far as our credit, we didn't have much spending power. So, it took us about a year to increase our credit limit. I am happy to say that paying bills on time and going automatic pay system has paid off. Now, our purchasing on our credit cards has gone from \$10,000 to \$40,000. That's just a credit to us paying our bills on time with PNC Bank".

Commission Biggs advised everyone doesn't know the truth about what happen in the City of Pahokee during the time of acting City Manager and we are still trying to figure it out.

Commissioner Holmes advised when we agree on a certain price there's vehicles you can get under the price range.

Mr. Williamson advised this isn't permanent, we can certainly go back to the drawing board and come in under that number.

New Business:

1. East Main Place Road Improvement Tabulation/Recommendation Letter

Approval of Rio-Bak as the awarded bidder.

Motion by Commissioner Biggs. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

2. City of Pahokee Properties Sale/Bid

Commissioner Biggs comments "I believe somewhere down the line we have citizens trying to get a piece of property for their food truck. Was that ever figured out what we are going to do"?

City Manager Mr. Williamson replies "Yes, that property is on the list. She will have the opportunity to bid it like any other interested party".

Commissioner Biggs responds "The last meeting we agreed that she can lease it. What happened with that"?

Mr. Williamson states "We had a conversation about that. Seeing that these properties will be going out for sale, I thought it was best to prepare them for sale than leasing and someone else buy it".

Commissioner Biggs replies "When our citizen comes to us for help, we can reach out. The said Pahokee is not such a friendly place. I am so proud of A1, they're here. But, when we have someone in our own community that can't get help. I'm just saying let's give her consideration. We have to encourage the City Manager to look out for our citizens. Everybody's important. Let's be more considerate of our own. Thanks Mr. Chandler, it's not just you, it's all of us".

Mr. Williamson advised the list will be out in about ten (10) to fifteen (15) days.

Commissioner Holmes inquired about Bio-Mass because of a statement he heard at the L.O.R.E. meeting by Ms. Kelly Smallridge.

Commissioner Biggs suggest the City do their research because she didn't get sick from Bio-Mass and the company can bring jobs to this community.

Commissioner Holmes advised that Bio-Mass is a safety matter.

City Attorney Mr. Brandenburg advised "There's two (2) issues here. One (1) is the SWA they have set up safety measures that they want accomplished for the company to move forward. They also have questioned whether or not the company is doing what they told us from the beginning that they were going to do. My main concerns there is that the report the SWA gave themselves said that only materials was coming into the site and it wasn't leaving the site. Then, it really becomes a landfill which is a violation of the SWA rules and a zoning violation for that property".

Approval List of City Property for Sale/Bid.

Motion by Commissioner Holmes. Seconded by Commissioner Biggs.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Citizen Comments:

Mr. Carl Morrison (resident) advised there are a couple of concerns with the buying of the City Manager's vehicle and the City's property list that's going out for sale. He feels there should be some language with the bid documents that states the use of the property, so the City won't have a back lash. Also, he feels that with the purchase of the City Manager's vehicle we need to be aware of the interest rate.

Mr. Jason Crawford (resident) has general comments not in reference to any of the agenda items. He advised everything the City comes up to election time it becomes a racial issue. He responds "We need to come together. We got to do better. When you look at it a lot of our kids are going up in this environment. Basically, we all can just agree to disagree. If you don't like a certain issue, then vote on it. If it doesn't go your way, just let it go. Just still get to the table to accomplish our goals".

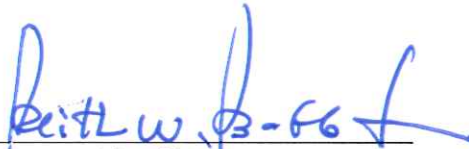
City Commission Comments:

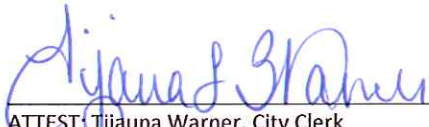
Commissioner Biggs bids everyone a good evening or good night. Commissioner Biggs advised "It has been an adventure. Tonight, I look back and thank God for one thing. He helped me in my right mind and I prayed so hard for this City. It's not about me. I didn't choose this God choose me to do this. Jason said a mouth full. I just said from day one, they will stab you behind your back. But, it doesn't matter. I'm not gone sit back and tell you what I accomplished because I alone did not accomplish anything. But, working together with Commissioners since 2002 we have many accomplishments. One of the things is where we are sitting at right now. Don't come to the meetings when you are mad about something, you should come to these meetings every day. See what you can do to make it better, each of us have minds. This may be my last time, but I want to let you know. Don't talk about each other behind each other's back, instead left each other up. Love is not what is said, but what is done. Good night people and forget about the past. Life is too short. I love everybody, so have a blessed night. It's been a pressure serving you. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. But, guess what? It's not over until God says it is like Mr. Chandler said. Good night. And you all can give me a hand".

Commissioner Holmes advised he was at the L.O.R.E. meeting this morning and spoke with a businessman on reconstructing the hospital. Commissioner Holmes states "I saw the diagram and it was beautiful. He said the people helped him move forward. When I first came here, I didn't know anything. I have learned how to do business without fussing. We can disagree and still do well for the City. I have seen so much. Whatever new person or current to stay in, we have to agree to disagree. If you are blessed to come up here and serve your city, please come with a positive attitude and try to move our City forward. It's sad we are sitting up here fussing and fighting. I want to have a meeting where we are smiling. Stop bringing up the past. Guy Harvey is over and gone. You still talking about Guy Harvey. Let's come with a positive view. Now, give me a hand".

Commissioner Hills states "You guys know I normally don't take long. But, I must say bring that Commissioner Biggs and Commissioner Holmes has discussed the moments of them being in this sit. I must discuss it as well. I am one of those persons that endured a lot of bitter sweet moments during my term. You can say let's be positive until you are in the situation I have been in and still standing. My mind frame has literally changed; I am not the same person I was when I came on board. I came in with an open heart, very positive person, and I never was the type that talked about people or meant harm on people; after going through some of the things that I've gone through with some of the Commissioners and some of the citizens. I am going to tell it like it is. I don't say much because of the legal issues, but they're closing now. There are new things trying to open, but I'm not worried about that because I know God has me. I know in my heart what was done to me and who did it. For people to come here and say let's keep it positive, I want the same attitude when it shifts. Make sure you keep that positive attitude. Citizens teach yourselves the real knowledge of what's going on in these seats. Don't listen to a lot of the things that people say, come to these meetings and hear it for yourself. You will be in shock. There was a time I thought Ms. Biggs was the craziest person on the earth, but I've learned different. I'm not afraid to say that anymore because I know in my heart what I did. I know the type of person I am and I think a lot of the citizens know that too. That's why I'm still here and I won't be going anywhere. If you went through what I've gone through and had to sit in a jail cell and know it was done wrongfully and still come out on top. I still happy and I am still positive, but I observe. Like Ms. Biggs say love is an action. I am going to keep it real, people will sit here and say all these things about love. It's a lie. We need to learn how to respect one another. While I've been in this sit I haven't done a lot, but I've endured a lot. I apologize to my citizens. Am I angry? Yes. Citizens I love you and always will. Younger citizens you need to get involved and come to these meetings and change a lot of this stuff because a lot of it is why we can't move this City forward. Thank you".

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Mayor Walker adjourns the meeting at 8:27 p.m.


Keith Babb, Jr., Mayor


ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk