

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 28, 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, June 28, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:31p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.	Present
	Vice Mayor Felisia Hill	Present
	Commissioner Nathaniel Holmes	Present
	Commissioner Clara Murvin	Present
	Commissioner Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Chandler Williamson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present (via phone)
	Sergeant At Arms Sgt. Ken Froster	Present
	City Clerk Tijauna Warner	Present
	Deputy City Manager Tammy Jackson-Moore	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items:

Mayor Babb amending agenda order L1-4 to G1-4.

Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only): None

Public Service Announcements: *Ms. Tijauna Warner (City Clerk) announced all public service announcements cards.* Mrs. Margaret Smart (resident) announced that Red Cross now has a shelter at Pahokee Middle School, if needed for an emergency. The Middle School has been inspected and approved for shelter. We ask that citizens bring the own blankets, but we will provide food and water. If and when an emergency happens, we will assign rooms for everyone. You are not required to leave your home unless it's a flood zone. Thanks for listening, contact me if you have any questions.

Approval of Minutes:

1. May 10, 2016 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting

Approval of May 10, 2016 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

Presentations:

1. JP Sasser

Mayor Babb presented a plaque to Former Mayor JP Sasser recognizing his dedication and service to the City of Pahokee.

Mr. JP Sasser announced his appreciation for the recognition and announced we need to work together. He advised a couple of weeks ago he attended a meeting in Ft. Myers with the Deputy City Manager and some Commissioners and we are under attack. We are being blamed for everything that's going on. If you don't think that they will drag us under in a heartbeat, you don't know what's going on. Please be aware. Mr. JP Sasser thanks every one and advised it was a pleasure to serve this City.

2. Wayne Whitaker

Vice Mayor Hill presented a plaque to Former Mayor Wayne Whitaker recognizing his dedication and service to the City of Pahokee.

Mr. Wayne Whitaker advised it was truly a privilege to serve the City of Pahokee. You get the good, bad, and the ugly even at home and everywhere. Some individuals want to destroy the Glades, they want to turn it back into swamp lands to furnish the Golden Coast. I like Pahokee and will continue to try to work with Pahokee. God bless Pahokee and I really enjoyed being the mayor. Thanks.

1. A1- Fish & Chicken

Commissioner Holmes presented a certificate to A1 Fish & Chips as Business of the Month.

Mr. Mike and Mr. Alex thanked everyone for the recognition and advised that you can always succeed in a small town. All our employees are from the City of Pahokee.

2. Marathon

Commissioner Murvin presented a certificate to Marathon as Business of the Month.

Resolutions:

- 1. RESOLUTION 2016 - 21 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PAHOKEE AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.**

Approval of Resolution 2016 - 21.

Motion by Vice Mayor Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously

Public Hearings:

- 1. ORDINANCE 2016 - 05 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, CREATING CHAPTER 17, SEC. 17-78. COMMERCIAL PROPERTY-DUMPSTERS; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND AUTHORITY TO CODIFY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Mr. Bobby (resident) advised that he doesn't support any of the ordinances and we need to take some of them off.

Rev. Lonnie Spry (resident) advised he supports the ordinance and we shouldn't give suggest a long time to comply.

Mrs. Joanne (resident) advised that we should require businesses to lock the dumpsters up first and foremost.

Pastor Robertson (resident) advised I fail to see how this ordinance is going to beautify this City and influence the people of this community to keep the community a certain way. I am a pastor and we are getting ready to open up a child care facility to provide jobs in the City. Now, that's going to be a commercial property and I will have to comply

with this ordinance. We will have a problem, I don't see the strength, I don't see the weakness, I don't see the threats, nor the opportunity of his ordinance being presented. Businesses are struggling and you are putting extra on them. The people have to be built up before we start putting the dumpsters in. Our social and economic development is going down.

Mr. JP Sasser (resident) advised code enforcement in this City has been an issue for years. Commissioner Holmes said his number one mission is to bring businesses to our community, we have to be a welcoming community. When you drive into town and you see buzzards behind SaveALot, what kind of signal that gives people coming into our City. That's a symbol we have to overcome. Dumpsters have lids on them. We can pass all the ordinances we want to pass, but if we don't have the heart to enforce them there's nothing. We have to clean our City up. This community has to support our local businesses.

Ms. Deborah Abner (resident) commented I appreciate everything that the City is trying to do. All of us love our City, but have we assessed the problem truthfully. I certainly agree that businesses are struggling in this City and this would cause some hardship. We need to bring everyone together and get everyone's feedback in reference to this ordinance.

Commissioner Holmes expressed I think we should consider not passing this ordinance from listening to the citizens.

Mr. Chandler Williamson (City Manager) advised when you think about economic development and trying to recruit businesses to come into your community, there's an assessment that has to take place within your community before expecting any investment from external sources. We could have provided some really heavy handed ordinances, but it's the simplest things that need to be corrected for economic development. We have dumpsters everywhere in the City, so we took a look at how they were located. Most of these dumpsters are eye sores to the community and there are a lot of things we need to address in the City of Pahokee. There are infrastructure challenges that have not been addressed for decades, that we are continuing to address. This particular ordinance is something that is prevailing throughout the City of Pahokee. We wanted to first study the issue around town and be fair to the local businesses. We wanted to present an ordinance that doesn't cause local hardship, but provide economic development. We want our businesses to do very well here. Current businesses promote a new business, that's a fact. This ordinance allows us to correct an issue, if you go to other cities they already have this ordinance.

Mayor Babb advised that the businesses get a total of a year to comply with this ordinance.

Commissioner Holmes agreed with Mr. JP Sasser, we need to start enforcing businesses to close and lock their lids on the dumpsters because if we don't the buzzards will keep coming.

Vice Mayor Hill agreed with the City Manager, but we need to go back and make sure we enforce all of the ordinances that we have. We need to do some more research and try to find funds to assist the businesses.

Commissioner Walker inquired what types of research are we doing and why are we doing this before we come to a conclusion on the research. Are we going to require that those enclosures be uniformed? Have we taken all this into consideration?

Mr. Williamson replied at the last commission meeting we described the take of enclosure that is needed.

Mr. Brandenburg advised that information is in the back-up of the ordinance.

Commissioner Walker suggested a sample of what that's going to look like. Are we able to give the citizens an ideal of what this is going to cost them? We need to be considerate to the businesses.

Mr. Williamson responded that we can provide some additional information on the enclosure.

Commissioner Walker announced we need to consider our citizens concerns.

Commissioner Murvin suggested sitting this aside until we get more information from the City Manager.

Approval of Ordinance 2016 - 05.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Amended Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Second by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried 1-4 (Failed)

Approval of Revisiting Dumpster Ordinance at later date.

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations:

1. Lorena Whitaker

Commissioner Walker presented a proclamation to Ms. Lorena Whitaker celebrating her 100th Birthday.

Approval of Proclamation for Lorena Whitaker.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried on unanimously.

2. ORDINANCE 2016 – 06 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, CREATING CHAPTER 17, SEC. 17-79. MULTI-FAMILY RENTAL UNITS; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND AUTHORITY TO CODIFY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mr. Williamson advised this ordinance is to have the multi-family units come into compliance by upkeep of the property (such as painting, parking spaces, and cleaning of property). We have to play catch-up in order for us to create economic development. This is not a residential ordinance, this is for commercial property and multi-family units.

Commissioner Walker inquired have we had any discussion about this ordinance with the property owner that will be affected.

Mr. Williamson responded over the last several months we have had conversations expressing this information. There were some that agreed and some that disagreed because of the physical challenge.

Commissioner Walker advised I don't see where we have space for parking. We need to see which properties will be affected by this.

Mr. Williamson replied he can provide this information.

Commissioner Holmes advised the City Manager is trying to address when you go to these units, it's mud holes or pot holes. One example, right next to your mother's house.

Commissioner Murvin advised I think we need to go ahead and put this ordinance forward and hold these landlords accountable.

Commissioner Walker advised for my piece of mind, please provide me with pictures of properties that will be affected by this ordinance.

Approval of Ordinance 2016 - 06.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried 4-1.

3. ORDINANCE 2016 – 07 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 17, SEC. 17-281.

MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, AND AUTHORITY TO CODIFY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Approval of Ordinance 2016 - 07.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried on unanimously.

4. **ORDINANCE 2016 – 08 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, TO BE DESIGNATED AS THE CITY OF PAHOKEE PARKS TRESPASS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR A SHORT TITLE; PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS INCLUDING CRITERIA ON WHEN A TRESPASS NOTICE MAY BE ISSUED; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE TRESPASS NOTICES; PROVIDING FOR APPEAL OF TRESPASS NOTICES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR CAPTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Ms. Deborah Abner (resident) announced I noticed that the signs went up in the park, but the bathrooms are not open during park hours. Is this ordinance for all hours or just when the park is open?

Mr. Williamson replied Parks and Recreation opens the restroom until 5:00pm because of an incident that occurred.

Mayor Babb advised that's separate from the ordinance and we need to address that at a later date.

Ms. Tammy Jackson-Moore (Deputy City Manager) advised there was an incident where a young girl was raped in the restroom and we had a discussion with PBSO.

Commissioner Walker suggested extending the parks hours because of daylight savings time.

Mr. Williamson replied that will mean designating a staff to work after hours.

Commissioner Walker advised I will go lock it.

Commissioner Holmes advised if our parks are open from 8:00am-8:00pm, then our restroom should be open from 8:00am-8:00pm. If we have an incident, that's what PBSO is for (they can control our parks and stuff).

Mayor Babb agrees with Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Murvin inquired about the cleaning the restroom because they are not clean.

Mr. Williamson advised we are going to implement an inspection of our facilities on regular bases to make sure their clean.

Commissioner Walker advised this is not the first time this has come up about the MLK Park restroom.

Mayor Babb suggested discussing this at a later date because we don't want to get off topic.

Approval of Ordinance 2016 - 08.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried 4-1.

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Babb announced I will hosting a mayor forum and invite all the previous mayors to sit down to have general discussions to input ideas or suggestions on moving the City forward. We will try to do that a least a couple times a year, hopefully it will be a nice turnout. In addition, I would like to create some forums with community leaders looking at different sectors (such as education, health, housing, and business). For those that are interested, I will be sending out invitations soon. I would like to reinstate or implement the youth council, we need to do more to reach our youth. My concern is how do I establish that, do we have each commissioner appoint a youth to serve on that or just do it on a rotating bases where several youth serves on the committee? We will have them to talk about some issues and have them to decide on some things (afterschool programs, college, health, & etc...). We got to make this community help with jobs, education, and better health. I encourage the City Manager to address his vision, so we can determine how we are going to address that vision. My major goal is to unify this commission and get everybody working together as one. I am rating the City Manager on helping me to create jobs, improving our infrastructure, making our City cleaner, and safer for all of us to live, work, and play. We are not successful, I am certainly not successful. I am asking staff to look specifically at Pahokee, as our goal. We can send out marketing packages, knock on some doors until we get some yeses. Last week, we met with HUD to talk about affordable houses. We are working with Mr. Ricky Jackson, encouraging him to invest in affordable housing in his home city. I want to make sure we have things that are going to improve our community (stimulate growth and increase our population). We need signs posted at the campsite and the marina warning of the alligators. The last two vendors had signs, I don't know who moved them. Yet, to limit our liability we need to replace those warning signs. In addition, it has been requested that recognition be place at the marina for the commission who assisted in the reconstruction of the marina. We have a sign that list the mayor and commissioner that has been sitting there for three years. There's a rock that they want it placed on.

Ms. Jackson-Moore replied our equipment isn't strong enough to push it up. We've tried before and the equipment almost tilted over, so it's not safe for our equipment. We will have to hire a company to come in and sit it up right.

Report of the City Manager:

Mr. Williamson introduced our new Director of Community & Economic Development Ms. Jongelene Adams.

The City Commission welcomes Ms. Jongelene Adams aboard.

Commissioner Holmes advised grant writing was a priority. Isn't that the reason you got rid of Mr. Raju?

Mr. Williamson replied I didn't get rid of Mr. Raju, he decided to take some other opportunity.

Commissioner Holmes responded we need a grant writer.

Mr. Williamson advised that's what we are working on.

Mayor Babb announced the County also advised they would assist in that area. We are looking forward to working with the County.

Commissioner Holmes advised our City needs some help, we need somebody who can help our City.

Commissioner Walker inquires would it be an additional expense for the grant writer or consultant.

Mr. Williamson replied with the salary being less than the previous director, we have funds to pull from the same department to pay a consultant. East Main Project is progressing well, hopefully we will be completed by the time school starts in August.

Ms. Jackson-Moore advised we need to take into consideration the weather.

Mayor Babb inquired do we have a backup plan as to the route for the kids just in case it's not completed by the start of school.

Ms. Jackson-Moore replied we had initial conversations with the School Board and they included secondary routes.

Mr. Williamson announced we had two bidders for Phase II Road Resurfacing in Pahokee (which includes Barack Obama Blvd.). We opened the bids on June 22, 2016 and we are sending that information to FDOT for their recommendation. Once we get their recommendation, we'll bring it back to the City Commission for approval. I think we can get that project off the ground by August depending on FDOT.

Mayor Babb advised to at least encourage local hiring.

Mr. Williamson advised we can have that conversation with the vendor.

Commissioner Walker inquired where is Second Street.

Mr. Williamson replied that's part of this project.

Mr. Williamson advised the City is developing a recruitment package for businesses. We are going to establish a portfolio of Lake Okeechobee and advances of being in Pahokee. We are going to start sending that out to all the corporations across American. That's why we talk about code enforcement and improving our community. We think we can have this package ready by August. There has been a conversation about annexation and we took the opportunity to look at what annexation will require (*passed around a report*). Take a look at this report before you have a discussion on annexation. We have to talk about the current services we are paying for and how that will change (all cost will increase with the City's contracts). Also, we will have to hire additional staff and buy additional equipment. Now, that's the facts.

Commissioner Holmes advised that's because you don't negotiate, you sit there and let it happen.

Mayor Babb suggested it would be appropriate to have a workshop, this has come up in the past.

Mr. Williamson stated it's a reality in any city, you need revenue to operate.

Commissioner Holmes replied we have Dove Land, we have Sugar Cane Villas, and Streamline. Those are tax payers, those are people paying taxes. We need to get a professional, like we had to do this because we almost had annexation in some of these areas. The professional that we had did not throw statistics like you have.

Mr. Williamson responded it's not statistics, it's operating cost.

Commissioner Holmes announced we have so many disenfranchised people in our City that feel left out. We got to do something. If you can't do it, find somebody that can.

Mr. Williamson advised this is about operating cost of the City, before you can make the annex you have to take a step back and look at what it actually cost (look at the numbers).

Mayor Babb suggested setting a workshop to discuss annexation with all the necessary information.

Commissioner Holmes announced every city can move forward, but us. We still standing in the same place! If we couldn't find somebody to move us forward, I think this is sad. Every city is building and got construction going on. Belle Glade got construction going on, South Bay got construction going on, and they building.

Mayor Babb advised let's move forward.

Report of the City Attorney:

1. Old Hospital Site (discussed earlier in meeting)

Mr. Brandenburg advised I had continuing discussions with the attorney representing the owner. As of now, we have not reached an acceptable agreement that I would present to the City Commission for you to take a look at. In the end, the foreclosure is moving forward, I have set a trial date for it. Unless there is something more satisfactory in the terms presented by the opposing counsel, then we will move forward with the foreclosure.

Mayor Babb inquired have you spoken with the attorney concerning the maintenance of it as a good faith method that they begin to take care of the property. Have they had any discussions in that area?

Mr. Brandenburg replied he initially told me that he was going to do that. The folks that they hired were going to start yesterday. So, I do not know if anybody has been to that site as of this time.

Old Business:

1. **Gymnasium Update (none)**

Mr. Brandenburg advised I have had discussions with the folks that are offering to make the improvements to the gymnasium. I drafted a contract and it's being reviewed by the City Manager and the Deputy City Manager. Hopefully, we will get it to the folks that are offering to improve the gymnasium. We are hoping that we will have some very positive information for you soon.

New Business:

1. **Lieutenant Piccolo (PBSO Report) (none)**
2. **Phase II Road Resurfacing (Bid Recommendation Letter)**

Citizens Comments: *Ms. Tijauna Warner (City Clerk) announced all public comment cards.*

Rev. Lonnie Spry advised businesses that are coming into our City are not going to be decent because they are going to look at the number of voters in our City (it details the amount of money they are going to make). After all this, we don't have annexation so our numbers can go up; then, we are not going to get no decent businesses. We need to put pressure on these businesses to make them do what they are supposed to do.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Murvin advised I have one concern with the Marina. Going up and down the ramps are confusing, I don't know which one to go down or which one to come up. There are no signs.

Mr. Williamson replied there are one way signs, we'll make sure they are visible.

Commissioner Murvin advised once you go up the hill and turn right, there's a big pot hole. If you don't really know it's there, it would mess your car up.

Ms. Jackson-Moore replied that's the Army Corp. Project Site and we can't go in pave that.

Commissioner Murvin announced I noticed that the City has put trash cans around the City. I think that's a good thing. Good Night.

Commissioner Holmes announced I had a couple of individuals that came to this meeting to talk about 800 McClure (dumping). I see I don't have any kind out power because he said he would put signs up, but there are no signs up. I still see crap in front of these people homes.

Mr. Alvin Johnson (Public Services Director) replied that's private property, it belongs to Applegreen and they stopped me from picking up over there. If you go over there, there are water meters over there. That's why they stopped us from picking up there.

Commissioner Holmes announced we are the City, it's within our City. We can't sit around and let our City look like this. We need to sit down at the table with Applegreen.

Mr. Williamson replied the problem there is when we send public works out to pick up the trash, then someone comes along and out more trash out there (sofa, chair, etc...). So, it goes back to the conversation we had at the Town Hall Meeting. It takes a community working together to identify these behaviors, it's not a performance issue on the City.

Commissioner Holmes inquired what happened to our finance director.

Mr. Williamson replied as I said in the weekly report, that advertisement goes out this week.

Commissioner Holmes questioned what's going on with the Marathon.

Mr. Williamson replied they had some issues with their plans with their engineers, it has nothing to do with neither the City nor the staff.

Commissioner Holmes responded I seen designs of this hospital and for some reason we can't get at the table to make this thing happen. Belle Glade is making things happen, Belle Glade annexing, Belle Glade including their people, Belle Glade building up, and South Bay building up. Why aren't we doing it? You've been here about a year, it's time that we see something more than your Town Hall. I represent people that want to see something and we are not seeing anything. Our City standing still, there's no progress in our City. You came here with all these ideas and I want to see something.

Mr. Williamson replied before you start to build this vision, you have to have a foundation. We are not going to solve these problems over night.

Commissioner Walker inquired what's the hold up with Marathon.

Mr. Williamson replied their planners are the hold up. A lot of the things in their plans were not included when they sent it to Giordano. Basically, they left out a lot of small things. So, their planners and Giordano were communicating. It has nothing to do with the City of Pahokee.

Commissioner Walker thanks Ms. Jackson-Moore on the update of the fire debris, however that needs to be taken care of. It's been there too long. I would like the staff to do something about cutting the cane on 441. I rode through town yesterday, are they picking up the trash?

Mr. Williamson replied yes, we pick it up every morning and they put it right back out on the street.

Commissioner Walker inquired well what are we doing about this.

Mr. Williamson responded we sent code enforcement out with violations.

Commissioner Walker inquired about the credit card statement and the gas statement.

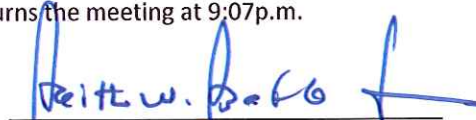
Mr. Williamson replied I will bring that report at the next Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Walker asked that the slogan be added to the agenda.


Vice Mayor Hill said good night.

Mayor Babb thanks everyone.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 9:07p.m.



Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor



ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk