



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

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 March 28, 2017.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 6:36p.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

Roll Call:	Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.	Present
	Vice Mayor Felisia Hill	Present
	Commissioner Nathaniel Holmes	Present (6:41pm)
	Commissioner Clara Murvin	Present
	Commissioner Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Chandler Williamson	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Present
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Picciolo	Present
	City Clerk Tijauna Warner	Present

Additions, Deletions, and Approval of Agenda Items:

City Attorney added City Clerks Salary to Q2. Commissioner Walker added Selection of Vice Mayor to Q3.

Approval of the Agenda with amendments.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments (Agenda Items Only): *(none)*

Public Service Announcements:

Rev. Margret Smart (resident) announced Red Cross placed 100 smoke detector last week Saturday (which was their goal).

Mrs. Lisa Wilson (Rep. PBC Commissioners) announced Commissioner Mckinlay is in Tallahassee fighting for some issue, but she appreciates the Commission working as a team. If there's any assistance their office needs, please advise.

Approval of Minutes:

1. **February 14, 2017 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting**

Approval of February 14, 2017 Scheduled Commission Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Vice Mayor Hill.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. **February 28, 2017 Regular Scheduled Commission Meeting**

Approval of February 28, 2017 Scheduled Commission Meeting Minutes.
Motion by Vice Mayor Hill. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.
Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances: (none)

Resolutions:

1. RESOLUTION 2017 – 09 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR STATEWIDE SCHOOL READINESS CHILD CARE SERVICE.

Approval of Resolution 2017 - 09.
Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. RESOLUTION 2017 – 10 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR CSC SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDER FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018.

Approval of Resolution 2017 - 10.
Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Murvin.
Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings: (none)

Proclamations: (none)

Presentations: (none)

Report of the Mayor:

Mayor Babb announced it's his one year anniversary here in the City of Pahokee as the Mayor. During the past 12 months the City has secured nearly \$7 million which is a lot for a small city through the legislative process. The City of Pahokee have paved and resurfaced at least 12 roads and it will continue with Glades, McClure, and other roads. The City also has developed a marketing tool to promote and attract businesses for the City of Pahokee. We are trying to bring residents back to the City of Pahokee and to develop some housing. Also, we hired a qualified Finance Director, we were without a director for about a year. We are really close to hiring a Grant Specialist. Palm Beach County has offered to assist us with the grant writing, along with Palm Beach State College. I personally took two trips to New Orleans to promote Pahokee, they are interested in the City of Pahokee. During the past year, the City of Pahokee has hosted many high profile legislative events with Senator Joe Negron, Senator Rubio, and Congressman Al Hasting. Pahokee is on the map and people know about Pahokee. We are knocking on doors and making sure the Glades are being heard. We will continue to raise the bar here in the City of Pahokee with the Tri-Bar-B-Que, Veteran's Day Program, and encouraging these event in the City of Pahokee. We need more participation from our residents. The first Prayer Walk with Unity Festival to get everyone working together as a unit went great, we prayed on every block or corner. We provided a parade for our Championship Football. We had three (2) high profiled Town Hall Meetings and the 1928 Storm Remembrance which we thank the citizens for that. At some point, I will be purposing have a movie night in the park for free. We are thinking outside the box to provide some activities with all of youths and citizens. Also, we honored/acknowledged past mayors which was the first time this has been did. Majority of this Commission attended the Prevent Crime in the Black Communities, we are rebranding ourselves. Our #1 concern in the City of Pahokee is to make Pahokee safe. If you would like to do Turn-Up Sunday,

you have to do it the right way by getting a permit, PBSO, and everything did properly to make sure that event is safe. I also participated in the Mayors Roundtable. Our City Commission attended the 9th Florida League of Cities Annual Conference in Orlando, the Legislative Conference in December in Orlando, the National League City Summit in Pittsburgh, and the Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. We have been very busy rebranding ourselves. We are only going to get bigger and better and I thank you.

Report of the City Manager:

Mayor Babb presented a certificate to Circle S Pharmacy for Business of the Month.

Commissioner Walker presented a certificate to Pahokee Housing Authority Inc. for Business of the Month.

Mayor Babb announced the opportunity of letting Commissioner Holmes select the next two (2) businesses of month.

Mr. Chandler Williamson announced he appreciate those updates and we try to promote as many of our activities on the City's website. We have been to Tallahassee for Palm Beach County to have discussions with our State-wide Representatives. We had an opportunity to meet with Senator Joe Negron, I think others were jealous when we went to the side in a private meeting with the Secretary of Transportation about the complete reconstruction of Barfield Highway and McClure Rd. We are addressing aggressively all of our streets here in the City of Pahokee once we finished we will be at about 85%. I presented an issue that we have with Barfield Highway and we have received an additional \$1.4million towards Barfield Highway which gives us a total of \$4.7 million as of tonight. One of our requests has made it into the budget on the Senate side and we are pretty confident. We are up to about 9 million now, we still have storm water that we need to address. We should head something soon. Barfield Highway will be next summer. In addition, we went to Washington DC to meet Federal Elected Official here in the City of Pahokee. I think it was very beneficial for the City of Pahokee. This team here works very hard to benefit you. There's some activities going on with the gymnasium that will be addressed by the Foundation. It's exciting to see all those relationships build and this has been a good evening for the City of Pahokee.

Mayor Babb inquired about the status on the RFP.

Mr. Williamson advised we have two (2) interested parties and have extended the deadline. The RFP has taken a larger picture and we want to give those interested parties the opportunity to prepare.

Commissioner Walker inquired if we are in compliance legally.

Mr. Williamson replied yes.

Report of the City Attorney:

Mr. Gary Brandenburg announced the foreclosure of the Hospital that will go up for a clerk's sale. The City will do a credit bid for the Old Hospital Site. Please be prepared about what you want to do with it.

Old Business: (none)

1. **Appoint Board Liaison (Beautification Advisory Board and Cemetery Advisory Board)**

Commissioner Murvin volunteered to be the liaison for the Beautification Board.

Approval of Commissioner Murvin appointed liaison for the Beautification Board.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Babb suggested Commissioner Holmes.

Approval of Commissioner Holmes appointed liaison for the Cemetery Advisory Board.

Motion by Commissioner Holmes. Seconded by Commissioner Walker.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

1. City Clerk's Salary

Mayor Babb advised the City Clerk has been working on her certification and the City Manager suggested she received the \$2,000.00 raise that was budgeted.

Vice Mayor Hill inquired will the Salary be \$45, 000.

Mayor Babb replied once she gets certified her salary will move up to \$45,000 automatically. This discussion is how much of the \$2,000.00 she will receive.

Commissioner Holmes announced she is one of the lowest paid City Clerks in Florida, we did that because she was not certified when she took this position. She is attending classes to receive her certification and she's doing a good job. I believe when you are doing a good job, you should be rewarded.

Approval of City Clerk's Salary raise \$2,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Murvin. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Commission Chambers Usage

Commissioner Walker inquired when did it become difficult for a Commissioner to use the Commissioner Chamber for a meeting. I was told the Chamber can only be used for a Commission Meeting or Board Meetings. When did that become a policy?

Mr. Williamson advised that's always been a policy. A community meeting is not held it, they can be held in the Cafeteria, the Senior Room, or Marina Conference Room.

Commissioner Walker inquired who made that law.

Mr. Williamson replied it's not a law, it's common practice. This room is designed for Commission Meetings or Board Meetings. We have other locations for community meetings. You have to remember when we do Town Hall Meetings, we have them in other places.

Commissioner Walker responded another location was not offered. I admit it was a last minute decision, but this has never been an issue.

Mayor Babb replied the City Manager advised that he would make alternative arrangements, if needed.

Commissioner Walker advised he didn't give me a choice.

Mr. Williamson responded you never talked to me.

Commissioner Walker replied I texted you.

Mayor Babb advised in the future we should try to give advance notices for staff.

Commissioner Murvin advised we have our Commissioner Office for meetings to be held.

Commissioner Holmes replied I just don't understand what the problem is. The City Manager works for the Commission.

Vice Mayor Hill advised I agree with the City Manager.

Mayor Babb suggested at some point we have to look at these policies.

Commissioner Murvin inquired if Commissioner Walker had her meeting.

Commissioner Walker replied no. I didn't know we couldn't use the Commission Chambers for a meeting.

3. Selection of Vice Mayor

Mayor Babb advised the Charter indicates the Vice Mayor is selected annually after an election. We didn't have an election this year.

Commissioner Walker replied if that's the case, why was I elected twice? Two (2) years straight I had to be elected.

Mr. Brandenburg replied the Charter is conflicting, therefore every three (3) years there have not been an election. We should change that in the Charter. It's up to the Commission to determine what you want to do.

Commissioner Walker replied you all are being selective about what you do and who you do it for. We have selected the Vice Mayor every year.

Ms. Tijauna Warner (City Clerk) advised at first the Commission were having two (2) year term, then it changed to three (3) year terms. Therefore, it conflicts with the Charter which needs to be updated with the terms.

Commissioner Walker advised making a selection this year until we change the Charter.

Mayor Babb a motion is needed to determine the selection of vice mayor.

Commissioner Holmes states if those get agreed, we should have time to think about it.

Approval of Selection of Vice Mayor Annually.

Motion by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Holmes.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Lieutenant Picciolo (PBSO Report)

Lt. Picciolo reported burglary here in Pahokee and are asking the residents to report anything they know to PBSO.

Citizens Comments:

Mr. Carl Morrison, Sr. (resident) inquired have we received the funds for the installment of the 1% sales tax.

Mr. Williamson replied we have received \$26,000.

Mr. Carl Morrison inquired in a year's term it should be \$275,000.

Mr. Williamson replied it varies.

Mr. Carl Morrison recommended that when we receive our funds the \$40,000 should be placed back into the reserves.

Mr. Williamson responded we can't do that because funds have to be used on infrastructure.

Mr. Carl Morrison inquired if the tennis court area a priority.

Mr. Williamson replied no, it not a priority because the City of Pahokee infrastructure is. If it pleases the Commission, I can schedule this conversation in my office with Mr. Morrison.

Mr. Carl Morrison expressed concerns with the horse manure being dumped ion Pahokee and saying it's not going to have an odor.

Mayor Babb replied it's going to be in a closed facility and I was told it's not going to have an odor. We will include that in the contract.

Mr. Morrison replied I'm concerned about my health not just the odor.

Ms. Sandi Davis expressed concerns with the receiving a notice of violation and completed everything, than still had to attend a Special Magistrate Meeting because of a law that was passed after I completed everything. I am asking for the Commission help with an extension for time to pay my violation. The City should get all the landlords to come together to get help.

Mayor Babb advised that the City was supposed to gather resources to assistance the landlord as much as we could.

Ms. Sandi Davis replied when I reach out to the Code Officer (Mr. Randy Burden), he does not respond.

Mr. Williamson responded we made a very important discussion and we can't keep giving extensions while allowing our City to look the way it looks. We gave everyone and opportunity and a grace period to get everything completed. I gave them another thirty (30) days and I am going to violate everyone in the City that does not comply with this ordinance. No one should live this way. You are not going to live in those conditions. You drive down South Lake and you see those rental properties. The hardware owner on Barfield Highway went out and got his parking lot pave and realized the importance of beautifying this City. It's time to say "No" to the stuff we see every day. If you don't want me to enforce that, find somebody else for this seat.

Mayor Babb replied all we are asking is for you to assist as much as you can. We did say we would try to identify companies for them.

Mr. Williamson replied we have people living in horrible conditions and we have to hold them responsible. They can come into City Hall and retrieve a list of companies. When we passed that Code of Ordinance, we sent a letter out encouraging them to come into compliance. I knew we were going to get to this point, that's why we kept all those letters.

Commissioner Murvin advised everyone to look around and see. We have people that don't want to move back to Pahoee because of the living conditions. If we don't have landlords to comply, it will continue to be this way.

Vice Mayor Hill announced I understand what Ms. Davis is saying and I do feel that someone need to come together to help. Is there anything that can help these landlords get building painted and paved? I want to know how my family is going to pave as well my dad is ill, therefore we will have to figure it out. Is there a way we can get a group rate?

Rev. Benny L. Everett, III (resident) thanks the City Commission for the Proclamation. Also, expecting the City Manager to get all the landlords together and assistance them in funding resources is expecting the rapist to assist the rapist.

Mayor Babb replied all we are saying is we are trying to reach out.

Rev. Benny L. Everett, III responded id you assist landlords with their responsibility to provide adequate housing. We have to get to the point that we provide our people with the same quality of service that the people east of the 20 Mile Bind receive. If you are going to assist these landlords (who's making money off citizens), are you going to assist the private owners who's houses are subpar? Don't get yourself into something. If you can't do it for all, don't do it for some.

Mayor Babb replied we are not talking about money, we are just assisting with having resources.

Rev. Benny L. Everett, III responded you asking more than what's required. You are talking about having a heart for landlords, you need to have a heart for people who live here.

Mayor Babb replied point well taken.

Mr. Anthony Lindsey (non-resident) concerned with the City not having more event due to an incident that happened two (2) years ago in the park. After that happened, they stopped the event. I try to do events in the park to give the kids more activities to do. I did the same event in Clewiston for two (2) months. I didn't have to pay the officers in that area or anything. We have nothing to do here in Pahokee. We are trying to do something for the community and we shouldn't have to play that much money for officers to come patrol.

Mayor Babb replied even the City's have to play PBSO to patrol our events as well as Fire Rescue. You should come in and plan with the City for the event. You have to do it the proper way and complete the permit process. Until we can get that done, you may want to go to Henry County and have your event.

Commissioner Walker replied their just being told no and getting the door closed in their face. We need to assist them to make it a bigger thing in the community by getting sponsors or something. I am trying to make a point that we can cooperate with the citizens.

Mayor Babb advised we have guidelines and procedures that need to be done the proper way with permits.

Commissioner Murvin inquired did you receive an application and complete it.

Mr. Anthony Lindsey replied I never received an application.

Mayor Babb advised I've outlined exactly what to do to complete the process on my Facebook page.

Mr. Anthony Lindsey responded we don't have money to issue out.

Commissioner Walker advised Mr. Lindsey to organize a committee that will plan and have PBSO to assist. You may be able to come up with some sponsors.

Lt. Picciolo inquired how many times I've reached out to you (Mr. Lindsey) to try to assist.

Mayor Babb advised we are going to try to work with you.

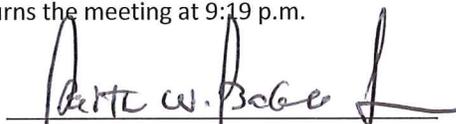
Commissioner Walker replied we need to stick with our commitment to assist Mr. Lindsey.

City Commission Comments:

Commissioner Walker bids the citizens good night and thanks them for attending.

Commissioner Murvin thanks Public Works for their great work coming from the citizens.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 9:19 p.m.


Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor


ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk