

**VERNON MYERS**  
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

**MARY LAWSON BROWN**  
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

**ALLEGRA KITCHENS**  
COMMISSIONER

**PHIL LEARY**  
COMMISSIONER

**JAMES NORWOOD, JR.**  
COMMISSIONER



**MICHAEL J. CZYMBOR**  
CITY MANAGER

**BETSY JORDAN DRIGGERS**  
CITY CLERK

**MATTHEW D. REYNOLDS**  
FINANCE DIRECTOR

**GARY S. GETCHELL**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**MICHAEL LAMBERT**  
CHIEF FIRE DEPT.

**DONALD E. HOLMES**  
CITY ATTORNEY

*Regular meeting 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month at 6:00 p.m.*

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF PALATKA**  
September 25, 2014

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Vernon Myers  
Commissioner Mary Lawson Brown  
Commissioner Allegra Kitchens  
Commissioner Phil Leary  
Commissioner James Norwood, Jr.

Also Present: City Manager Michael J. Czymbor; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers; Finance Director Matt Reynolds; Police Chief Gary Getchell; Fire Chief Mike Lambert; Main Street Manager Charles Rudd

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION** – The Reverend Don Hanna, Pastor; St. James United Methodist Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Mayor Myers

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 9/11/14 Regular Meeting; 9/11/14 Workshop – Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

1. **PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:**

**PUBLIC RECOGNITION** – Christy Sanford – Community Activism – Mayor Myers recognized Ms. Sanford for her community activism and presented her with a certificate of recognition for her service. Ms. Sanford said her first “activism” project was upgrading the sidewalks throughout her neighborhood. She thanked the Commission for the recognition.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION** – Capt. Keith “J.R.” Grimes, Firefighter of the Year – Sidney Spinks, Sons of the American Revolution, St. Augustine Chapter, was present to present the award and was joined by Chief Lambert, Fire Marshal Lynady and members of the Palatka Fire Department. Mr. Spinks said they are a national society organized in 1889 conceived as a fraternal and civic society for the descendents of those who supported the cause of American Independence and freedoms. One of their goals is to seek out and recognize those individuals in public service who make significant improvements in their way of life. Chief Lambert wrote to him and stated Captain Keith “JR” Grimes was deserving of this recognition in all areas and was recommending him for this award in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments in protecting

human life and property. Chief Lambert said he nominated Capt. Grimes for this award because there is not a time that Fire Service wasn't a part of his life. He has been around the fire station since the age of 5, was a member of Fire Explorers, attended Fire College upon graduation from high school, and joined the ranks of the Fire Department at age 22. He is the lead officer on the HazMat team and is state certified in many areas including instructor. He was an integral part of the recent ISO upgrade team when the Fire Department went from a PC 5 to a PC 2. He is an asset to the Department and mentor to his men.

**PROCLAMATION** – Fire Prevention Week – October 5 through 11, 2014 – Mayor Myers read and presented the proclamation to Fire Chief Lambert and members of the Palatka Fire Department present. The theme for 2014 is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives." Fire Marshal Mark Lynady said residents are urged to test smoke alarms every month and keep them in working order. The firefighters do fire safety on a daily basis. Every time you move your clocks up or down for Daylight Savings Time, the batteries should be changed.

**UPDATE** – Water Works Environmental Education Center – Shann Purinton, Dave Franz & Platt Drew – Shann Purinton presented the update. A PowerPoint Slide presentation was shown. The Center is located the end of Whitewater Drive next to the Ravine Gardens State Park. The RC Willis Water Works was constructed in 1886 in response to the Great Palatka Fire of 1884. Photos of the building, amenities and grounds prior to restoration were shown as well as photos after restoration. Photos of the organic garden were shown, which was dedicated in memory of Jim Townsend. Photo taken during recent events were shown. Mike McDaniel of PCSD created a WWEEC DVD, and she has copies of that available. Ongoing projects were listed. They have local and international visitors. There are educational activities and the Center has hosted school field trips for students from kindergarteners to high school students. They have taken charge of mowing and grounds maintenance. The community organic garden and food orchid are ongoing. The Puc-puggy nature trail is part of the Center. The Turtle and sand hill habitat is also a feature. There is a wildflower walkway. They are connecting with Bartram Trail and received a small grant from GP for restoration of the ponds. They will be reconstructing the lab/research room. Major goals were listed, and emphasis was placed on the importance of completing the fencing of the water works property to the east and north to deter vandalism, trespassers and keep visitors away from railroad track hazards. A slide was shown listing community volunteers, including organizations, regular volunteers and gardeners. Keep Putnam Beautiful has been very helpful and also arranges for volunteer groups to come for work days, like FP&L, Clarke Company, Ravines Staff, Lowes and Home Depot employees. They are open every Wednesday from 8 am to noon, and the first Sunday afternoon of each month. They appreciate the support of the City and its citizens and businesses.

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH – September, 2014 – Commissioner Brown joined Mayor Myers in presenting certificates of achievement to the following students in recognition of academic excellence, leadership, citizenship and attendance at their respective schools:**

Audrey Sweat	Browning-Pearce Elementary
Gabriel Herrington	C. L. Overturf, Jr. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center
Violet Virnstein	Children's Reading Center Charter School
Da'mya Thomas	E. H. Miller School
Tatyiana Henry	James A. Long Elementary School
Kierstin White	Jenkins Middle School
Baylee Pinner	Kelley Smith Elementary School
Nya Flanders	Mellon Elementary School
Daevianna Baker	Moseley Elementary School
Carlie Dennard	Palatka High School
Callie Brauman	Peniel Baptist Academy
Garrett Adkins	Putnam Academy of Arts & Sciences
David "Cole" Ziegler	Putnam EDGE High School

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – There were none.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Adopt Resolution No. 2014-10-118** authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to execute and attest Ayres Associates' Supplemental Fee Request for additional utility coordination efforts not to exceed \$9,480.68 for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation 16<sup>th</sup> & St. Johns Avenue Drainage Project
- b. **Authorize renewal of Palatka Daily News Display Advertising Contract** effective 10/1/14
- c. **Grant Permission to exceed allowable noise levels for Special Events Permit #14-47, FLW Fishing Tournament, Thursday & Friday, October 2 and 3, 2014 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, October 4 from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. – FLW; Alan Gray, Applicant**
- d. **Grant permission to exceed allowable noise levels for Special Events Permit #14-30, Florida Bass Federation State Championship Tournament, Saturday and Sunday, October 11 & 12, 2014, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Florida Bass Federation; Joe Nickol, Applicant**
- e. **Grant permission to exceed allowable noise levels for Special Events Permit #14-25, Florida Bass Nation State Championship Tournament, October 18 & 19, 2014 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. – Florida Bass Nation; David Driggers, Applicant**
- f. **Grant permission to exceed allowable noise levels for Special Events Permit #14-39, Oakley Fishing Tournament, Oct. 25 & 26, 2014, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Oakley Fishing; Keith Odom, Applicant**

Commissioner Kitchens moved to pass all items on the Consent Agenda as recommended. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

4. **SECOND PUBLIC HEARING – TRIM CALENDAR:** FY 2014-2015 Final Budget and Millage Rate for 2014/15 Budget Year – 9.174 mills proposed – Mayor Myers read the Truth in Millage Statement noting the Taxing Authority is the City Commission of the City of Palatka; the rolled back rate is 9.0715 mills per \$1,000 of assessed value; the percentage of increase is 1.14% over the rolled-back rate, and the proposed operating rate to be levied upon adoption of the millage rate is 9.1749 mills per \$1,000 of assess value.

**RESOLUTION** setting the final FY 2014-15 Millage Rate (9.1749 proposed) – Adopt – the Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF PALATKA, PUTNAM COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE in its entirety. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. Mayor Myers opened the public hearing. There being no public comment and no discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The Resolution was declared adopted.

**RESOLUTION** adopting the final FY 2014-15 Budget – Adopt - the Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. – Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. Commissioner Norwood asked if the City is putting any emphasis on parks, as they are not in the shape they need to be in. They have baseball teams utilizing the fields. Mr. Czymbor said the City is making a dedicated effort to put a routine and consistent maintenance program in place for each park. They have been speaking with Putnam County Parks & Recreation regarding an Interlocal Agreement for co-operation of the Parks. They intend to partnership with community groups for cleaning and maintenance.

Jonathan Griffith said for the past two years they have been rebuilding the budget back to address maintenance and cleaning issues. They are still short on manpower. They strive to mow every park facility every two weeks during the growing season and do other maintenance things like painting and cleaning during the non-growing season. They have not had the resources to

drag fields during the summer. As soon as they started getting calls for service, they began doing this as needed. They have drug one field a week over the past several weeks. Mr. Czymbor said they have received a letter of request from the adjacent church for joint use of Shaw Buck field in exchange for using the field for overflow parking. The church proposes to maintain and use the facility. He hopes to bring that agreement back to the next meeting. This is the type of agreement they want to foster in the community. Mr. Griffith said over the next month they will be replenishing playground mulch with certified mulch, starting with Fred Green, moving on to Hank Bryant and other parks. Commissioner Brown said they gave all the ball field management equipment to the County when they turned the parks over to them. There being no further discussion on the motion and no public comment, a roll-call vote was taken, with the followings results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The Resolution was declared adopted.

5. **RESOLUTION** authorizing the City Manager to execute a Letter of Intent to negotiate with BCR Environmental Corp. for the development, installation and co-operation of an Organic Waste/Biosolids Management Solution Facility, to include a long-term land lease to locate said system at the Platt Drew Waste Water Treatment Plant - Adopt – The Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A NON-BINDING LETTER OF INTENT WITH BCR ENVIRONMENTAL TO NEGOTIATE A LONG-TERM OPERATING AGREEMENT AND LAND LEASE TO LOCATE AN ORGANIC WASTE/BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT SOLUTION FACILITY AND ACCELERATED COMPOST (NUTERRA) SYSTEM AT THE PLATT DREW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Resolution as read and proposed. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. Commissioner Kitchens enumerated her concerns. She believes she has not had enough time to consider this and asked it be postponed in favor of holding a public workshop with the County and citizens due to the use of Lundy Road for the increased truck traffic. This needs further study. She prefers Alternative B to C or A. She is open to this. Commissioner Leary said this just starts the City down that “path.” They have to complete a feasibility study first. They can hold a workshop with the public while beginning this process. If they are going to go to the Legislature and ask for funding, they need to get the project in the pipeline as quickly as possible. Mr. Czymbor said this allows BCR to begin a detailed feasibility study regarding the market and needs as well as qualified available labor. They will develop a detailed contract if they get to that point, including a land lease and revenue sharing agreement. Mr. Holmes said a letter of intent is a first step towards serious negotiations, but is not binding on either party. If the Commission isn’t willing to enter into a letter of intent, then BCR wouldn’t want to devote time to the project. This is merely an expression of interest on the part of the City. It is a conceptual plan. This is traditionally how a letter of intent is viewed. Commissioner Kitchens said she is interested in exploring this further. Commissioner Brown said she is in favor of the letter of intent and believe they need to gather more information before holding a public hearing. Commissioner Leary said this is a due diligence process done in every environmental project. Commissioner Norwood said the City has every opportunity to investigate BCR’s operations in other communities. The Public also needs the opportunity to be informed and to provide input.
  
6. **RESOLUTION** authorizing the execution of a Design-Build Agreement with Riverfront Square, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$699,144 for the construction of the St. Johns River Center Project – Adopt – The Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A DESIGN BUILD AGREEMENT WITH RIVERFRONT SQUARE, LLC IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$699,144 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ST. JOHNS RIVER CENTER. Commissioner Norwood recused himself from voting or discussion, citing his employment with G-P Corporation. Commissioner Leary moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Czymbor said at the last Commission meeting the Commission voted to rank Riverfront Square

LLC as the top ranked design-build proposer on this project. All parties have met with the City Attorney and everyone has come to agreement on a document that addresses everyone's concerns. They recommend the Commission adopt this Agreement.

Commissioner Kitchens said she has a copy of the final document, as well as a memo to Mr. Czymbor from Mr. Holmes, the last of three detailed memos (not filed with the record). Every issue has been cleared up except for seven issues listed on the document. She listed those concerns, noting one of them as having been addressed in the final document. She asked if the City Attorney is satisfied with this final contract. Mr. Holmes said he believes many of the issues have been addressed. It is a voluminous document. He can't say every item has been addressed, and he knows some have not been addressed. He believes that in total, the document has been amended through the process to the extent that the City can make it work. He believes that there are a couple of minor things that were overlooked. Since Mr. Diamond is signing as manager, they can add in the name of the LLC he is signing for. This was likely a technical oversight. As to using the word "Certified," he would prefer the word "Accept," but he will accept "Certified." His biggest concern is getting the Letter of Credit crafted in such a manner that the City will have access to the funds in case of default. The City has the right to approve or reject the Letter of Credit. The substantive issue was the reduction of the Letter of Credit; he has asked to include a clause regarding the reduction of the Letter of Credit regarding payment of subcontractors. He believes Mr. Diamond has addressed the substantive matters he was asked to address. He did see that the termination clause has been changed, which he does not agree with, but that can be addressed. He does not believe this should be tabled.

Corky Diamond, 110 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, said in regards to the signature, he is the manager of Riverfront Square LLC. The Word "certified" is throughout the document and is standard AIA language. Mr. Holmes said, as to the additions and deletions report that he does not recall seeing. He read the paragraph regarding termination; he has a problem with the clause stating the contractor gets "50% of the overhead and 100% of the profit on the work not executed," (Section 13.2.4.3, bottom of page 7 of the additions and deletions report) and he has a problem with that. Mr. Diamond said he has no problem with removing that clause. Commissioner Kitchens said she is not comfortable with approving documents she has only just received. Discussion ensued regarding the pages that were inserted entitled "Additions and Deletions Report." Mr. Holmes said he has never seen that before. Mr. Czymbor said this is a "clean" copy of the redlined version they received on Tuesday. This one contains all the exhibits and addendums. Regarding the "convenience clause," Mr. Holmes said a convenience clause is inserted to avoid fights and litigation, to allow people to walk away without finding cause on either side. He has no problem with the contractor being paid for the work done to the point the contract is terminated. He has a problem with the 100% profit part. They've negotiated the earlier contract, and in all fairness, he's been critical with some of the proposed clauses; however, Mr. Diamond has been cooperative and made many concessions. He believes they can put together a clean version with this clause stricken.

Mayor Myers noted the motion to approve is subject to the removal of the amendment to page 29, 13.2.4.3, as noted on page 7 of the Additions and Deletions Report of the design build contract. Mr. Holmes said the critical clause he was concerned about was the clause referring to payment of sub contractors, and the wording of the letter of credit. Mr. Diamond has agreed to the City's terms. The City has the right to reject the letter unequivocally.

There being no further discussion or comment, a roll-call vote on the motion was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Brown, Leary and Mayor Myers, yes; Commissioner Kitchens, no. The motion passed three in favor, one opposed, with one recusal by Commissioner Norwood. The Resolution was declared adopted.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. **ORDINANCE** amending Chapter 94, Zoning Code, Article VI, Landscaping and Tree Protection, and Article VII, Buffering and Screening – *1<sup>st</sup> Reading tabled on Sept. 11 to time certain of Sept. 25, 2014 – Staff recommendation to table first reading pending public workshop* – Commissioner Norwood moved to table first reading of the ordinance. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.
8. **ORDINANCE** amending the Police Officers' Pension Plan Chapter 185 "Extra Multiplier" for FY 2013 and 2014, and adding an option to earn a fixed interest rate on payments made into the DROP – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, BY REVISING SECTION 2-250.185(b), POLICE OFFICER BENEFIT GROUP PENSION AMOUNT FORMULA; AND SECTION 2-250.371(b)(2), AMOUNTS PAYABLE UPON ELECTION TO PARTICIPATE IN DROP TO PROVIDE AN OPTION TO EARN A FLAT RATE OF INTEREST ON PAYMENTS MADE INTO THE DROP; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, yielding the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.
9. **ORDINANCE** amending the General Employees' Retirement Plan to clarify that vested former General employees who separated employment prior to October 1, 2013 would remain eligible to begin collecting earned retirement benefits at age 50 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt - The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING Ch 2, DIV 4, THE CITY OF PALATKA GENERAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN; AMENDING SECTION 2-168 (b), NORMAL RETIREMENT CONDITIONS, BENEFIT GROUP GENERAL TO ALLOW VESTED MEMBERS WHO HAD NOT ATTAINED AGE 50 AND HAD SEPARATED EMPLOYMENT PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 2013 TO RECEIVE RETIREMENT BENEFITS AT AGE 50; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Kitchens moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, yielding the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.
10. **ORDINANCE** amending Appendix "A," Fee Schedule of the Code of Ordinances, for Animals, Parks, Garbage Collection, Vehicles for Hire, Planning and Zoning Actions – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt - The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING APPENDIX A (FEE SCHEDULE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA AS IT PERTAINS TO FEES AND OTHER CHARGES RELATING TO: ANIMALS; PARKS & RECREATION SPECIAL PERMIT FEES; VEHICLES FOR HIRE; GARBAGE COLLECTION RATES; AND FEE SCHEDULE FOR PLANNING AND ZONING ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF OCTOBER 1, 2014. Commissioner Leary moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. There being no comments or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.
11. **ORDINANCE** amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2, Section 2-311 through 2-315 entitled Enforcement of Codes and Ordinances to establish uniform civil penalties

for Code violations and to designate the Code Enforcement Board as the board to hear Code violations and appeals – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA RESTATING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, DIVISION II ENFORCEMENT OF CODES AND ORDINANCES TO AMEND ARTICLE V, SECTION 2-314, ENFORCEMENT GENERALLY, AND SECTION 2-315, VIOLATIONS PROCEDURE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. There being no comments or further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, yielding the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.

12. **ORDINANCE** revising Municipal Code Chapter 46, Nuisances, Article IV, Section 46-251 through 46-258 to designate the Code Enforcement Board as the Nuisance Abatement Board for hearings, violations and appeals – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA TO RESTATE CHAPTER 46, ARTICLE IV, NUISANCES, IN ITS ENTIRETY TO UTILIZE THE CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD AS THE NUISANCE ABATEMENT BOARD, AND TO UTILIZE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO ENFORCE NUISANCE VIOLATIONS; AMENDING DEFINITIONS, PROVISIONS FOR FILING AND PROCESSING OF COMPLAINTS, AND CONDUCT OF HEARINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Leary moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. There being no comments or further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, yielding the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.
  
13. **ORDINANCE** amending Palatka Municipal Code Chapter 2, Signs, Article 1, Section 62-1 through 62-16 providing a more comprehensive definition of snipe/bandit signs and providing for enforcement by the Chief Building Official and Code Enforcement Officers - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA TO REVISE CHAPTER 62, SIGNS, ARTICLE 1, SECTION 62-1, DEFINITIONS, AND SECTION 62-2, ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Leary moved to adopt the ordinance on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Commissioner Kitchens said there is some wording in this ordinance that prohibits political signs on private property. The snipe sign definition is fine; however it states that such signs are not allowed in any district nor may they be placed along any easement the City. That makes every political sign placed on private property illegal, and disallows many signs that are now allowed. This may need to go to a third reading for revisions. Mr. Holmes concurred, saying technically, a home occupation, For Sale, or garage sale sign would be allowed as long as they are on the property where the activity is taking place. Other temporary or snipe signs would be disallowed in all zoning districts. Commissioner Leary said political signs are constitutionally protected as an endorsement by the property owner. Mr. Holmes said this is like a homeowner's association regulation. It seems to prohibit all signs unless they pertain to a function on the property. It wouldn't be hard to fix it; they could just provide an exception for political signs affixed to the property. Commissioner Leary moved to table second reading to a time certain of October 9 to allow for amendments by the Planner and City Attorney. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Holmes asked for acceptable exceptions. Discussion ensued regarding probable changes. Following discussion, the motion was voted upon and passed unopposed.

14. **CITY MANAGER & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mr. Czymbor reported that a year ago they noticed there is a retaining wall on River Street that is leaning. They don't know when it was erected. They have determined through a survey that the retaining wall is on public property. They have received quotes to fix this wall and will be bringing back options to fix or replace the wall. It's leaning at about a 30-degree angle.

Mr. Czymbor said last Thursday a series of events led to and a power outage at the Water Treatment Plant caused by a storm, which caused a loss of pressure, which necessitated a boil water notice and emergency notification by the Water Superintendent. They will be reviewing their processes for public notification with EOC, website, newspapers and television stations. They will make sure the process is in writing. It was noted that Mr. Register followed the proper protocol.

Charles Rudd, Main Street Manager, said they had a successful 2014 Blue Crab Festival. The Festival has been talking about moving to the Fairgrounds. He advised Festival organizers that he would not be moving with the Festival should the festival be moved out of Downtown. Due to the cost of securing the tent in the new Entertainment Tent location, they decided to move to the fairgrounds. He'd like Main Street to step in and create another festival on the riverfront. A large portion of vendors and sponsor would go with the Blue Crab Festival. They would need some financial support from the City. Blue Crab said they would consider coming back in 2016 when construction was complete. Main Street is prepared to put on a festival. People will be coming from all over the State looking for a festival in downtown Palatka with seafood and music. Mayor Myers said the Festival started as a small festival and used boat sale. The purpose was to bring people to downtown Palatka. That's what's it's done over the years. They need to try to maintain that identity over Memorial Day Weekend. Commissioner Kitchens said as the City has taken up more and more of the riverfront, the Festival has had to make accommodations which caused problems. The reconfiguration of the Park will create more issues, at least for 2015. People will still come to the hotels and restaurants. A competing event will be counter-productive. If Main Street wants to do something, they should choose another weekend. Commissioner Norwood suggested this be held for discussion at the next CRA meeting. Commissioner Brown said she believes they need to communicate better with Blue Crab organizers to find some compromise. They could move the central activity to the courthouse parking lot. They don't want to make the people who have worked so hard on building this festival up angry by hosting a competing festival. The festival is tied to downtown and its businesses.

Commissioner Norwood moved to set this item on the agenda for discussion at the October CRA meeting. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Commissioner Leary said time is of the essence; he's for having some event downtown during Memorial Day Weekend. The City brought financial accountability to the organization. Blue Crab organizers have threatened to move to the fairgrounds in the past. Commissioner Kitchens said if the City votes to hold a competing event, it will look as though the City doesn't want to work with them. There being no further discussion, the vote was taken and the motion was passed four in favor, opposed by Commissioner Kitchens.

The Clerk noted the Employees' Safety Luncheon is scheduled for October 3 at the Golf Club.

15. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Kitchens said Blue Crab Festival has been very financially responsible and has donated a lot of money to the City and civic organizations. Every year they donated money to scholarship funds and have been very responsible financially. Mayor Myers said over the past four to five years they have had some financial difficulty and last year when Main Street got involved, they brought accountability to the process and the festival made a profit.

Commissioner Brown said the City needs to begin a dialogue with young people and ask them what it would take to bring them back downtown. She would like the City to talk to college and high school students and get their viewpoint on what would bring them downtown. They need to hold a forum or create a committee to gather information and listen to the young people.

Mayor Myers said there is an Ice Cream Stroll on Saturday night. The Belton Syncopators mural on the 700 Block will be dedicated at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening with a free concert.

16. **ADJOURN** – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Brown.

ANY PERSON WISHING TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE CITY COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE MAY NEED TO INSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED. FS 286.105