

TERRILL L. HILL
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

RUFUS J. BOROM
COMMISSIONER

JUSTIN R. CAMPBELL
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER



CITY of Palatka FLORIDA

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

TERRY K. SUGGS
CITY MANAGER

BETSY JORDAN DRIGGERS
CITY CLERK

MATTHEW D. REYNOLDS
FINANCE DIRECTOR

JAMES A. GRIFFITH
INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

MICHAEL LAMBERT
CHIEF FIRE DEPT.

DONALD E. HOLMES
CITY ATTORNEY

MINUTES CITY OF PALATKA August 6, 2015

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 6th day of August, 2015.

PRESENT:	Mayor	Terrill L. Hill
	Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
	Commissioner	Rufus Borom
	Commissioner	Justin Campbell
	Commissioner	James Norwood, Jr.

Also Present: City Manager Terry Suggs, City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers; Finance Director Matt Reynolds; Interim Police Chief James Griffith; Fire Chief Mike Lambert; Planning Director Thad Crowe; Fire Chief Mike Lambert,

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Hill called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

INVOCATION – The Reverend Wayne Colbert, Sr., Pastor; Victorious Faith Impact Ministries

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Master Edwin Font

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 7/9/15 (Budget) and 7/23/15 Workshops; 7/23/15 Regular Meeting – Commissioner Campbell moved to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

1. PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

Volunteer Recognition – Caroline Parson, Bronson-Mulholland House Volunteer – Mandi Tucker, Cultural Resource Coordinator, joined Mayor Hill in presenting a Certificate of Recognition and gift certificate to Miss Parson for her tireless spirit of volunteerism as a Student Summer Volunteer at the Bronson-Mulholland House.

Employee Recognition – Mandi Tucker and Jonathan Filion – Aid in Missing Child. Mayor Hill awarded Certificates of Recognition to Mandi Tucker and Jonathan Filion for their role in helping to locate a missing child. Ms. Ticker runs the GP Environmental Center and Jonathan Filion works for the Parks Department. Mr. Filion was joined by his father, Joff Filion, a retired City employee. Mayor Hill said they were instrumental in locating a missing child yesterday.

“Edwin’s Happy Bags” – Mayor Hill presented a Distinguished Community Service Award to Edwin Font, who was joined by his family and Superintendent of Schools Phyllis Criswell, to recognize his community spirit and ingenuity for his project to distribute “Edwin’s Happy Bags” to

aid the homeless. Mayor Hill said Edwin is a very energetic man who loves his community. Edwin spoke about his program, Edwin's Happy Bags, described as a once-a week food distribution program to feed the homeless peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and bottled water. He was inspired by watching his father give food to the homeless. He hopes to inspire other youth to feed the homeless, and wants to open a stand to feed the homeless. Mayor Hill said he received a call from Lowe's Home Improvement about this program, and from that call, the article in yesterday's newspaper was generated.

Johnny Barnes, Johnny's & Beanie's Kitchen, Hastings, presented Edwin with a check for \$500 for his Happy Bags program. Mayor Hill congratulated Edwin for his giving spirit.

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

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-54** authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and attest Change Order No. 6 with Scherer Construction of North, Florida, LLC in the amount of \$4,190.00 to provide for additional wayfinding signage associated with hangar improvements at the Palatka Municipal Airport
- b. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-55** authorizing the submission of an application for the FDEP Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) in the amount of \$50,000.00 for federal fiscal year 2016-2017 (Hank Bryan Park)
- c. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-56** authorizing the submission of an application for the FDEP Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) in the amount of \$50,000.00 for federal fiscal year 2016-2017 (Booker Park)
- d. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-57** authorizing the City Manager to apply to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for a loan in the amount of \$75,000; pledging the City's "Utility Enterprise Fund" as the source of repayment for the loan; authorizing the City Manager to provide assurances to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP); and designating the City Manager as the City's representative in carrying out the responsibilities under the loan agreement.

Commissioner Brown moved to pass and adopted all items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

4. **REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT**, Letter of Support and assistance for Bethel A.M.E Church Economic Development Division's City/County Promotional Program – Gary J. McGriff, Representative, 500 Magnolia Street, Bethel AME, said Putnam County has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the state and US and has low wages. They have a need for a job creation and economic development program. This will provide for growth, but their current stats do not support job and economic growth. They need to create more tourism, industry and jobs, which creates a rise in income which creates more local spending

Mr. McGriff said Bethel AME has researched other faith-based economic develop models in other cities and have found them to be very successful. They can duplicate these models with the assistance of the Chamber and the City through development of an Interlocal Agreement. Their first objective is to assist in locating industry and business willing to relocate to Palatka that can use things that are produced locally. They can provide incentives like tax rebates and other incentives and assist in licensing and permitting. They can promote resources and contact prospects, and make inquiries as to what it would take to move operations to the City. They can assist in assessing resources needed to assist these employers. They request technical assistance and minor office supplies, printing supplies and booklets, and endorsement in the form of a sample letter which was included in the agenda package (filed). They would need the name and address of an economic development official to include with the letter. They can read

the package of information he included in their own time. This is a church-based faith-based economic development program. They have included scripture related to their role in economic development.

Commissioner Norwood asked if they have spoken with the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. McGriff said he has spoken with Chamber President Dana Jones. He pulled her Economic Development Program from his presentation as she said she needed approval from her Board for its inclusion in this program. This program compliments what they are already doing. They want to do community outreach.

Dana Jones, President, Putnam County Chamber of Commerce, and John Haley, Economic Development Specialist, said their strategic plan is the one the City and County adopted some time ago. She did ask him to pull the Chamber's plan from his plan. The Chamber's board has not reviewed any of this. He did come to see her and she did express her concern over some of the duplication of efforts included in some of the details he has duplicated. She has read over the economic development initiative, wherein churches have gotten together, bought buildings, and developed business incubators, and she thinks that's wonderful. Commissioner Norwood said any time you can bring jobs to the community, that's a win/win situation, and anytime you can remove blight, that's a good partnership. He encourages the Chamber to work with Mr. McGriff so they can determine whether this is a partnership that would be beneficial to the Community. He doesn't like individuals making a presentation on behalf of a "partner" who doesn't yet believe they are a partner. The community as a whole should benefit. He should have the opportunity to look for another partner.

Commissioner Brown said one way to deter crime is income and quality of life. They are asking people to come up with ideas on making this town better. This church is stepping up with an idea. Tallassee and Atlanta have done something similar and have turned communities around. Bethel AME needs to find a partner. Ms. Jones said his description of "targeting industry" is a duplication of what the Chamber is already doing.

Discussion ensued as to the letter of endorsement. There was consensus that the Chamber's Board will meet in September regarding the request. Mr. Holmes said when someone asks for an endorsement, you have to know if you are committing to designating him as an agent, committing to financial support, and/or committing to something specific. They need to know how and where the sample letter is to be used. Mr. McGriff said this is an example of what other organizations are using. They are taking a back seat to what the Chamber is doing; they just want to be partners with the Chamber, even if it is just helping with research. They want to provide help where it is needed. This is spiritual work; they are not asking for money. They don't want to do things independently. Commissioner Norwood recommended they take no action tonight but direct the Church to come back with a firm recommendation on what they are asking the City to commit to. Mayor Hill said they need a consensus on how to move forward, and believes that will be through a meeting with and consensus with the Chamber, since they are the economic development agent for the City. Commissioner Norwood moved to table the item. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. PUBLIC HEARING: Fire Service Assessment

ORDINANCE adopting a Fire Service Assessment – 2nd Reading, Adopt - The Clerk read an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION AND FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA; AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION AND

COLLECTION OF FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST PROPERTY THROUGHOUT THE CITY; PROVIDING CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISHING THE PROCEDURES FOR IMPOSING AND COLLECTING FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING THAT FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENTS CONSTITUTE A LIEN ON ASSESSED PROPERTY EQUAL IN RANK AND DIGNITY WITH THE LIENS OF ALL STATE, COUNTY, DISTRICT, OR MUNICIPAL TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS AND SUPERIOR IN DIGNITY TO ALL OTHER PRIOR LIENS, MORTGAGES, TITLES, AND CLAIMS; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS SECURED BY ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS RIGHTS AND REMEDIES OF THE HOLDERS OF SUCH OBLIGATIONS; PROVIDING THAT SUCH OBLIGATIONS WILL NOT CREATE A GENERAL DEBT OR OBLIGATION OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Ordinance on 2nd reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion.

Mayor Hill opened the floor for public comment.

Dan Phillips, 109 Karen Court, Pastor, Lemon Heights Baptist Church, said he believes they have wide income variances and parishioners with little means who care little for city budgets and bills. He asks the City to only assess the Tier 2 charge to churches and other non-profits.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, said she was on the Commission for 12 years and they were always a storm away from bankruptcy. This assessment benefits the property, not the people who live on it. Please vote no on this fire assessment.

Rev. Don Hanna, 202 Country Club Terrace, St. James United Methodist Church, said he does not have an alternative on how to raise this money. He understands the City has a serious shortfall. This looks like money is coming from a new source other than from citizens. This is not from a new source but from the same citizens that are already paying taxes.

Kathy Wright, 503 E. Palmetto Street, read her letter into the record which was read during the 4:30 Forum (not filed), and requested the Commission to make a policy decision to exempt property owned by ad valorem tax-paying property owners, entrepreneurs, and those funded by voluntary tithes and offerings.

There being no further comments, Mayor Hill closed the public comment portion of the Hearing.

Commissioner Brown asked if they could explore a quarterly or monthly payment plan, or a flat smaller rate for smaller churches. County government also needs to pay. If they had a storm, or if hydrants stopped working, they couldn't put out fires. She has a small business and people just stop paying her if they get another more pressing bill. If a property goes up for tax sale, it adds 18% to the bill. Mayor Hill noted if this is adopted, the millage rate will be reduced and in the 2nd year there will be a savings. One way to get the millage rate down is through fire assessment; they can cut the millage rate by 40% once this goes into effect. They are almost at the State-mandated cap now. Discussion ensued regarding exemptions, annual reviews on assessments, citizen education on the new assessment program, and assessments for churches and non-profits, and the fairness of all properties contributing to the cost of fire protection. Commissioner Borom said everyone needs to pay and contribute. Everyone benefits from public safety. He is uncomfortable with the piece where individuals begin to lose their property. Commissioner Campbell said what better way can churches stand beside the commissioners they elected than stand beside them in this struggle and the struggle in the community; they have to make decisions that have not been made before. If that means the churches coming around, then that's what that means. Commissioner Norwood said he has no problem with the ordinance but believes certain entities should be exempt. Commissioner Brown said everyone

needs to pay for fire protection. Churches have bought tracts of land and buildings. Everyone can put something in the pot. They can all work together and get things done.

Mark Lawson, Special Counsel, said the first item is a procedural ordinance. This is a tool in the tool box. By adopting this ordinance, they put the tool in the tool box. He encourages them to adopt this "tool". They have another public hearing following this one wherein they talk about how they use the "tool". If you put the assessment tool in place, then by resolution you can decide how to enforce it, or if you are going to enforce it. If you don't pass the ordinance, you can't use it. If you pass the ordinance, you can modify how you use it. You can only get so much information out there. You can learn about this on the internet very quickly. Going forwarding they can repeal the ordinance or change the resolution.

Commissioner Norwood asked Mr. Reynolds to discuss the current Fiscal Year's budget. Matt Reynolds, Finance Director, said when the current Fiscal Year's budget was presented it was \$285,000 in the hole. This year it is \$480,000 in the hole. That is what they are working on now. There is currently around \$800,000 in reserves; this would reduce reserves to \$300,000, which is less than 1 months of the City's normal expenses. City Manager Suggs said this is a vote on whether or not to move to the second level. This just gives them an opportunity to get to the second level. They have done a lot already to get the cost down. A lot of the "fat" has already been cut. The removal of this fee would put another \$90,000 hole in the budget. He encourages them to pass this ordinance.

There being no further discussion or comment, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following result: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, None. The Ordinance was declared passed and adopted on second reading.

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION – Adopt – The Clerk read a Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE AVAILABILITY AND FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION AND RELATED ESSENTIAL SERVICES WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS WITHIN THE CITY TO FUND, IN PART, THE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTINUAL READINESS TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION; IDENTIFYING BENEFITS, BURDENS AND COSTS TO BE ASSESSED; ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF APPORTIONING BENEFITS, BURDENS AND COSTS AMONG SPECIALLY BENEFITED PROPERTY; ADOPTING AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING THE METHOD OF COLLECTION; PROVIDING FOR ASSOCIATED POLICY DIRECTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion.

Mayor Hill opened the floor for public comment. There being no person who presented for public comment, Mayor Hill closed the public comment portion of the public hearing.

Commissioner Norwood said he would like to see non-profits and churches exempted from the Assessment, as well as the poorest of the poor, as in those who only receive \$600 to \$700 in income per month. Some people will not come forward and say they are too poor to pay this, even though they have that opportunity. This is not a time to be proud.

Mark Lawson, Special Counsel, said this is an opportunity to make changes. The Annual Assessment Resolution was written as directed. The biggest concerns are with institutional properties and the least fortunate of those who own properties. They can work that out today or give direction to staff, who can work up a supplemental resolution to be adopted at a later date. This will essentially shift the cost from those who are exempted back to the general fund. They can declare the need to do so, and are going to do that. The process of imposition still rests with

them. They can come back and say they don't want to do it at all. Only when they send the bills out does it create a lien. If they want to work amongst themselves to modify how much is charged, he and Mr. Holmes can guide them, but they can't pick and chose who pays, as that is a constitutionality issue; they have to choose who is exempt by class. It's an exemption across the board. For every dollar they exempt, that dollar is exempt from "legally available funds". If they pass the resolution, people have the right at this time to declare a hardship, and they may have to educate people on how to do it. Some people won't do it on their own. He advises they pass the resolution and then work to set the policy. They can pass it and then lower it or change it. His job is to advise the Commission so as to use the work they've done effectively.

RECESS – Mayor Hill received consensus to call a recess of the August 6, 2015 Meeting Palatka City Commission Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

RECONVENE – Mayor Hill reconvened the August 6, 2015 Palatka City Commission meeting at 7:43 pm and continued with the Orders of the Day.

Mayor Hill asked as to the Commission's thought on reducing the Churches' assessment from 100% to 25%, and revisiting their assessment next year, which would take the hardship from them for now, but would provide them an opportunity to contribute, as they are still receiving the benefit. Commissioner Brown concurred, noting everyone needs to pay something, including the County and other government entities. She inquired as to the definition of "improvements". Mayor Hill said beginning on Page 19 there is a clear definition of statutorily tax-exempt parcels, which include churches, institutions, lodges, homes for the aged, sanitariums, private schools and colleges, etc., and all of these are institutions. This includes hospitals. It is not just churches. It is all or none. Mr. Suggs said this exemption will put the City in the neighborhood of \$75,000 in the hole. Overall the assessment is around \$140,000 for institutions. Discussion ensued regarding who is included versus the numbers on who is included. As to costs of improvements, Mr. Suggs said they found that the largest cost of assessment for an improvement on a property is for a swimming pool, which costs around \$11 per year. The average assessment for a fence is around \$5 per year. The property appraiser doesn't go into the interior of a home, so interior improvements don't affect the assessment. Commissioner Norwood said he is in favor of exempting non-profits. He finds it difficult to raise fees and not deal with the golf course. Commissioner Norwood withdrew his prior motion to adopt the resolution as read and presented, and moved to adopt the resolution exempting institutions per the definition found in the Assessment Resolution beginning on page 19, as they serve the community. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Norwood again moved to adopt the resolution exempting institutions per the definition found in the Assessment Resolution beginning on page 19, as they serve the community. Motion died for lack of second. Commissioner Campbell moved to table the Assessment Resolution to negotiate a reduction for Institutions as defined on Page 19 in the Assessment Resolution from 100% of the assessment to 25% of the assessment before bringing it back for consideration. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no further discussion or comment, a roll-call vote was taken on the motion, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, None. The motion was declared passed and the resolution tabled.

NOTE RESOLUTION – Adopt – the Clerk read a Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF ITS FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2015, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$45,950.69 TO FUND THE ACQUISITION AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE CITY; PROVIDING THAT THE SERIES 2015 NOTE SHALL BE A LIMITED OBLIGATION OF THE CITY PAYABLE SOLELY FROM CERTAIN SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AS PROVIDED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR THE RIGHTS AND REMEDIES FOR THE OWNER OF THE SERIES 2015 NOTE; MAKING CERTAIN

COVENANTS AND AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to table the resolution. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. .

6. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Planning Board Recommendation to amend the Future Land Use Map and Element designation from RH (Residential High) to PB (Public Buildings) and rezone Public Buildings & Grounds bounded by Osceola, Morris, Kirby Streets & Crill Avenue from R-3 (Residential Multi-Family) to PBG-1 (Public Buildings & Grounds) - City of Palatka; Bert Hodge Post 45 American Legion, Inc.; Lions Club of Palatka, Inc.; and Catholic Diocese of St. Augustine - owners/applicants.

FUTURE LAND AMENDMENT ORDINANCE – Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THAT THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BE AMENDED WITH RESPECT TO THE FOLLOWING PARCEL OF LAND (LESS THAN 10 ACRES IN SIZE): FROM RH (RESIDENTIAL HIGH) TO PB (PUBLIC BUILDINGS) FOR PROPERTIES BOUNDED BY CRILL AVENUE, MORRIS STREET, KIRBY STREET, AND OSCEOLA STREET, AND ALSO THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF KIRBY AND OSCEOLA STREETS (SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted.

REZONING ORDINANCE – 2nd Reading, Adopt - The Clerk read an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED FROM R-3 (RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY) TO PBG-1 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) FOR PROPERTIES BOUNDED BY CRILL AVENUE, MORRIS STREET, KIRBY STREET, AND OSCEOLA STREET, AND ALSO THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF KIRBY AND OSCEOLA STREETS (SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Ordinance on 2nd reading as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted on second reading.

7. **PUBLIC HEARING** - 908 Husson Ave - Planning Board Recommendation to Annex and Rezone from Putnam County R-1A (Residential Single-Family) to City R-1A (Single-Family Residential) - Diane and Randolph Jenkins, owners; Palatka Building & Zoning Dept, Applicant

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE - 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA ANNEXING INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA CERTAIN ADJACENT TERRITORY IDENTIFIED AS 908 HUSSON AVENUE, LOCATED IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, PUBLIC RECORDS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA CONTIGUOUS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken,

with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

REZONING ORDINANCE - 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED FROM PUTNAM COUNTY R-1A (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY) TO CITY R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY: 908 HUSSON AVENUE (SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

8. **PUBLIC HEARING - 2404 Tommy Ave - Planning Board Recommendation to Annex and rezone from Putnam County R-1A (Residential Single-Family) to City R-1A (Single-Family Residential) - Vincent McKeever and Edith Velaque, owners; Palatka Building & Zoning Dept, Applicant**

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE - 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA ANNEXING INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA CERTAIN ADJACENT TERRITORY IDENTIFIED AS 2404 TOMMY AVENUE, LOCATED IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, PUBLIC RECORDS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA CONTIGUOUS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

REZONING ORDINANCE - 1st Reading - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED FROM PUTNAM COUNTY R-1A (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE-FAMILY) TO CITY R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY: 2404 TOMMY AVENUE (SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

9. **PUBLIC HEARING - 908 N 20th St - Planning Board Recommendation to Annex and rezone from Putnam County R-2 (Residential Two-Family) to City R-1A (Single-Family Residential) - Gerald and Deborah Ragans, owners; Palatka Building & Zoning Dept, Applicant**

ANNEXATION ORDINANCE - 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA ANNEXING INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA CERTAIN ADJACENT TERRITORY IDENTIFIED AS 908 NORTH 20TH STREET, LOCATED IN SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, PUBLIC RECORDS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA CONTIGUOUS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Mr.

Crowe said this is a mobile home, which is “grandfathered” and can legally stay there for eternity. It cannot be expanded and if it is destroyed more than 50%, it cannot be rebuilt or replaced. The owner can be made aware of these restrictions. He can choose not to annex. This is being done under a pre-annexation agreement. Per the question, Mr. Crowe said he is not aware if the owner fully understands these limitations, which would not apply to this property if he stays in the County. He should make a decision before 2nd reading. He stated the owner will be contacted tomorrow. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on 1st reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. There being no comment or further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

REZONING ORDINANCE - 1st Reading - The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED FROM PUTNAM COUNTY R-2 (RESIDENTIAL TWO-FAMILY) TO CITY R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY: 908 NORTH 20TH STREET (SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. There being no comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

10. **ORDINANCE** prohibiting dogs and other pets from City of Palatka Cemeteries - 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING CHAPTER 22 OF THE PALATKA MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED CEMETERIES; AMENDING SECTION 22-8 TO PROHIBIT DOGS AND OTHER PETS, OTHER THAN SERVICE ANIMALS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. In response to a question posed from the audience by Alex Sharp, it was noted that service dogs are an exception to the prohibition. There being no further comment or discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, with the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood and Mayor Hill, Yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared passed on first reading.

11. **CITY MANAGER & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

RETAINING WALL ON SOUTHWEST END OF RIVER STREET - Mr. Suggs said it was brought to his attention that there is a serious issue with the retaining wall on River Street near Twigg Street. He noted Staff has received one quote to do the necessary work; however, the cost is over the purchasing threshold which triggers Commission approval. He is requesting the Commission take this up as an emergency item and give approval on latitude to get the wall repaired/replaced before it becomes a life-safety issue. Mayor Hill said it is a matter of time before it collapses; it is a well-traveled sidewalk. Mr. Suggs said he has ordered the site be secured and cordoned off. Commissioner Borom moved to give the City Manager sufficient latitude to expend the funds to make the necessary repairs to the retaining wall. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

Chief Lambert reminded everyone of the Explorer Post open house on Monday night, August 10, and following that will be an extrication exercise.

Mr. Reynolds asked for direction on Fire Annual Assessment Resolution. Discussion ensued on exemption and guidelines on exemptions. As to requesting more Gas Authority Funds, Mr.

Reynolds said the Authority doesn't have the cash reserves they used to have due to the amount of money the City has been pulling every year. Discussion ensued regarding options and liens. Mr. Lawson said that is a philosophical issue. If you decide not to lien property for non-payment, people simply won't pay. He can't solve the lien issue because that's the power of government. They have written into the ordinance how to go about it. They are under a deadline on passing an annual assessment resolution. Mayor Hill said they will call another meeting in August to hold the public hearing.

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Norwood said the light at Crill and Elm seems to have no uniform sensor operation. The light changes for no apparent reason at all. Crill Avenue should be a through fare. He asked that someone have that timing checked.

13. ADJOURN – there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. upon a motion by Commission 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