

**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 November 12, 2015

Proceedings of a Regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 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; Grants Administrator Jonathan Griffith

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

**INVOCATION** – Minister Sheila McCoy, Pastor; God's Manna Ministry

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Eron Carter

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 10/22/15 – Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

### 1. PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

**PROCLAMATION** - National Hospice & Palliative Care Month – Nov. 2015 – Haven Hospice – Debra Strickland, Administrator, was present to receive the Proclamation, which was read and presented by Mayor Hill. Ms. Strickland thanked the City and community for trusting Haven Hospice to care for family, friends and neighbors for the past 30 years.

**VETERAN RECOGNITIONS** - Mayor Hill recognized the following City Employee Veterans:

Airport:	John Youell	US Air Force
	Robert White	US Army
Fire Department	Austin Davis	US Army
	Kenneth Sugden	US Navy
Police Department:	Sgt. Cornell Brown	US Army
	Cpl. Todd Bryant	US Navy
	Shirley Edwards	US Army
	Ofc. Juston Hale	US Army
	Sgt. Brian Hawkins	US Marine Corps
	Det. Demetrious Johnson	US Naval Reserve
	Det. David Lazo	US Navy
	Sgt. Scott Reinhold	US Army

201 N. 2ND STREET • PALATKA, FLORIDA 32177

PHONE: (386) 329-0100

www.palatka-fl.gov

FAX: (386) 329-0106

Parks & Maintenance:	Timothy Brooks	US Army
Streets & Utilities Maint:	Gordon Brown	US Army
	Daniel Gibbs	US Army
	Raymond Hirniak	US Air Force
	Johnny Lewis	US Army
	William Neely	US Army
Water Treatment Plant:	Melvin Register	US Air Force & Army National Guard
Waste Water Trmt Plant:	Ron Asbury	US Air Force
	Brian McCann	US Army

Mayor Hill recognized all veterans in the audience and presented each with a veteran's lapel pin.

**STUDENT OF THE MONTH – November, 2015** – Commissioner Campbell joined Mayor Hill in presenting certificates of recognition to the following students for academic excellence, leadership, citizens and attendance at their respective schools:

Lillian Devergara	C. L. Overturf, Jr. 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Center
Caleb Moore	Children's Reading Center Charter School
Jared Halliday	E. H. Miller School
Ruby Doran	James A. Long Elementary School
Daija Shaw	Jenkins Middle School
Bradley Sorrows	Kelley Smith Elementary School
Everett Youngblood	Mellon Elementary School
Savannah Fleming	Moseley Elementary School
Eron Carter	Palatka High School
Haylie MacGibbon	Peniel Baptist Academy
Michael Smith	Putnam Academy of Arts & Sciences
Cade Hansford	Putnam EDGE High School

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Webster Marlowe, 120 Kirkland Street, said the City will be wasting time and money planning for another vacant restaurant on the waterfront. He participated in yesterday's Veterans Day Parade. His wife walked to the parade route from Kirkland Street; she is almost blind. People stopped to help her across the street. He thanked those people and praised the community.

Robert Svetlik, 511 N. Third Street, said as to red light cameras, he was commuting to Jacksonville five days a week. He related a story about getting red light tickets in Green Cove Springs. He researched the cameras and timed the lights. Soon afterwards he got two more tickets in Palatka. Yellow lights now only last 3 seconds, but used to last 5 seconds. He believes whoever designed the red light cameras purposely lowered the yellow light intervals to 3 seconds as collusion between the red light camera corporations and people who time the lights. This is fraud. They should remove the red light cameras and look into the fraud issue.

Mayor Hill said they are having on-going conversations with ATS regarding the cameras.

## 3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-78** amending the FY 2014-15 Budget through 9/30/2015
- b. **Adopt Resolution No. 2015-11-79** supporting and authorizing submission of an application for the Florida State Surgeon General Healthy Weight Community Champion Recognition
- c. **Reappoint LaSandra Williams and Butch Puryear to the Palatka Code Enforcement Board** for three year terms to expire September, 2018
- d. **Appoint Christopher Hollister to the Palatka Code Enforcement Board** as member with architectural experience for a three-year term to expire September, 2018
- e. **Appoint C. Edward Killebrew to the Palatka Planning Board** for a 3-year term to expire Dec., 2018.

- f. **Grant permission to exceed allowable noise levels and closure of Memorial Drive for Special Events Permit #15-43** – Palatka High School Gospel Ensemble's "A Christmas Joyful Holy Night," to be held on December 5, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. – Jennifer Wright-Purifoy, Agent
- g. **Adopt 2015 City Commission Holiday Regular Meeting Schedule** (November – December, 2015)

Commissioner Norwood moved to approve all items on the consent agenda as proposed. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Mayor Hill recognized Ed Killebrew, who was present for the appointment.

- 4. **RESOLUTION** authorizing execution of the Third Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between American Traffic Solutions (ATS) and City of Palatka dated 11/16/09 for Palatka's Red Light Camera Program – Adopt – The Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS, INC. (ATS), ORIGINALLY ENTERED INTO ON NOVEMBER 16, 2009. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. Mr. Holmes said this resolution is the result of discussions between the City and ATS in an attempt to deal with billing issues and performance of cameras. The City has looked into reducing or removing the cameras, but they are under contact with ATS and the red light camera systems in Florida have not been ruled unconstitutional or improper. If the court were to rule the cameras illegal, they could get out of the contract, but until that happens, they will have to buy out of the contract at an excess of \$400,000. It expires at the end of 2017. Concessions have been made by ATS and the amendment is the net result of those. There being no further discussion, a voice vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Resolution was declared adopted.
- 5. **RESOLUTION** adopting and creating policy, direction, procedure and criteria relating to the City of Palatka Fire Service Protection Administrative Hardship Deferral – Adopt – The Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE HARDSHIP DEFERRMENT ASSOCIATED WITH FIRE SERVICE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR ASSOCIATED POLICY DIRECTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Campbell moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. Commissioner Brown said she looked through the Form of Application and information the City is asking for to process the application. They are asking for income of those living in the house and year, make, and model of their cars. She would like to make sure whomever processes these applications considers that sometimes they have people in a family who pass away and pass their vehicles down to relatives and spouses. In this instance the income level has changed, but the car might be worth more than \$5,000. They need to take this into consideration. Older people have grandchildren who live with them and they may have a more expensive vehicle. She'd like these to be considered on a case by case basis.

Commissioner Borom said nothing is specified as to the time period an individual would have to pay the deferral. They also need to look at the percentage of interest; that is not included in the information. As to the custodian, that should be the City Manager and/or Finance Director. Mr. Suggs said the form itself is straightforward. The documentation required to be attached is listed. The City Manager is the custodian and will be bringing recommendations to the Commission. As to the time period, that is open-ended. If the property sells or when a mortgage is taken out on it, or changes hands amongst family members, that will cause the deferral to end and the deferred portion will need to be paid immediately. The interest rate will be set by the

Commission. The Custodian of Record is the City Manager and he has the authority to designate others in the office. He and Mr. Reynolds will be handling those duties.

Commissioner Brown said if people have mortgages on their property, they normally put tax money in escrow. If they have to put this in escrow their payment will go up. They don't want to put people at a disadvantage. Mayor Hill said they reduced the millage rate so after the first year people will see a benefit as well as a lower millage rate, which they got this year. They can't look at this short-sightedly; they have to look at long term benefits. It won't be a hardship with the reduction of the millage rate. They don't want to take people's homes away, but they need to make decisions that will benefit all citizens.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S.12<sup>th</sup> Street, said she looked over the agreement and found it to be vague. The assessment coordinator should be a City employee, not Mr. Lawson. On page 2 of the resolution, first paragraph, it states the owner shall be required to execute a "binding agreement encumbering the tax parcel. . ." to include payment of the assessment, plus recording costs and interest. She finds nothing that says how long they have to pay it back. Appendix A on page 4 talks about what happens if this goes to a tax bill. They can't defer certain parcels once this goes on the tax bill. If you are paying taxes in escrow, it will affect your mortgage payment. In theory the millage decrease should offset it, but total taxes are actually higher by a half mill. They need to define "sound public administration and judgment." Some of the small mom and pop businesses will have a hardship and should be considered. It doesn't address what a catastrophic situation is. They need to also look at loans and bank statements. The City Attorney should go over this and "tighten it up."

Commissioner Norwood asked if individuals have to apply for the deferral annually. Mr. Suggs answered yes, and went over the application process for the public, noting it is a one-page form and a straightforward process. Commissioner Norwood asked if "Mom and Pop" businesses can make payments. Mr. Suggs said this is for residential properties. The bills will be mailed out on Monday. They have a process set up for periodic payments through May. When it goes back out on the tax roll the next year, what has been deferred but not paid will roll over to next year's tax bill. Discussion ensued regarding aid for "Mom & Pop" businesses. Mr. Reynolds said some small business owners own their property as individuals. Mr. Holmes said there is a consistency issue they will have to honor. The 'equal opportunity' issue probably dictated some of this language. As he reads it, he is not the expert, but the City is going to have to make up for the deferments with funds that are otherwise available and not generated by the fire assessment. It has to come from other "legally available" sources. They may not be able to afford too many deferments. Discussion ensued regarding criteria for setting an interest rate. Mr. Reynolds said there are objective criteria as to who will be eligible for a deferment. The interest rate is going to be set by the Commission and will apply across the board for all hardships.

Discussion ensued on what rate of interest to set. Mr. Holmes said the office of the comptroller sets an interest rate each year for all judgments on across the board. At this time it is 4.75%. This is by statute. Mr. Reynolds said any interest rate collected would be over and above what they budgeted to collect. Mayor Hill noted the interest collected will cover administrative costs. After discussion, Commissioner Norwood moved to establish the interest rate at 4.5%. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which passed four in favor, one opposed (abstained) by Commissioner Brown. There being no further discussion on the main motion to adopt the resolution, a Roll Call vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Resolution was declared adopted.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

6. **PUBLIC HEARING** - 521 S. 13<sup>th</sup> Street – Planning Board recommendation to amend the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (FLUM) Designation from RL (Residential Low) to PB (Public Buildings & Grounds) and rezone from R-1A (Single-Family Residential) to PBG-1 (Public Buildings & Grounds – City of Palatka Owner/Applicant

**FUTURE LAND USE MAP 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 RL (RESIDENTIAL LOW) TO PB (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) FOR 521 SOUTH 13TH STREET, LOCATED IN SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Campbell moved to adopt the ordinance as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no public commend or discussion, the public hearing was closed and a voice 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO PBG-1 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) FOR THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY: 521 SOUTH 13TH STREET (SECTION 42, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Campbell moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no public commend or discussion, the public hearing was closed and a voice vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted.

7. **ORDINANCE** - Planning Board Recommendation to amend Zoning Code Sec. 94-2, 94-149 and 94-153 to define “food pantries” to be allowed by conditional use permit in C-2 (Intensive Commercial) and PBG-1 (Public Buildings & Grounds) zoning districts – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, CREATING A DEFINITION FOR FOOD PANTRIES AND ALLOWING SUCH USES IN C-2 (INTENSIVE COMMERCIAL) AND PBG-1 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) ZONING CATEGORIES THROUGH THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. – Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. There being no public commend or discussion, the public hearing was closed and a voice vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted.
8. **ORDINANCE** - Planning Board Recommendation to amend Zoning Code Sec. 94-2, 94-149, 94-153, 94-161, 94-162 and 94-207 to define “food trucks,” allow such uses in C-2 (Intensive Commercial), DB (Downtown Business) DR (Downtown Riverfront) and PBG-1 (Public Buildings & Grounds) zoning districts, and establish supplementary zoning standards for such uses – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, CREATING A DEFINITION FOR PRODUCE TRUCKS AND ALLOWING SUCH USES IN C-2 (INTENSIVE COMMERCIAL), DB (DOWNTOWN BUSINESS), DR (DOWNTOWN RIVERFRONT), AND PBG-1 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) ZONING CATEGORIES, MEETING SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR

SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown declared a conflict of interest, stating her son owns a food truck and plans to operate it within the City limits. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no public comment or discussion, the public hearing was closed and a voice vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted four in favor, one recused (Brown).

9. **ORDINANCE** - Planning Board Recommendation to amend Zoning Code Sec. 94-2, 94-149, 94-153, 94-161, 94-162 and 94-208 to define "produce trucks," allow such uses in C-2 (Intensive Commercial), DB (Downtown Business) DR (Downtown Riverfront) and PBG-1 (Public Buildings & Grounds) zoning districts and establish supplementary zoning standards for such uses – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, CREATING A DEFINITION FOR PRODUCE TRUCKS AND ALLOWING SUCH USES IN C-2 (INTENSIVE COMMERCIAL), DB (DOWNTOWN BUSINESS), DR (DOWNTOWN RIVERFRONT), AND PBG-1 (PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS) ZONING CATEGORIES, MEETING SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Campbell moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Borom seconded the motion. There being no public comment or discussion, the public hearing was closed and a voice vote was taken, which yielded the following results: Commissioners Borom, Brown, Campbell, Norwood, and Mayor Hill, yes; Nays, none. The Ordinance was declared adopted.
10. **ORDINANCE** - Planning Board recommendation to amend Municipal Zoning Code Sec. 94-204, Supplemental District Regulations, to allow the City Manager to hear appeals for waiver or modifications to Exterior Building Standards on Major City Thoroughfares – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 94 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, DIV. III, ARTICLE 3, SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS, SECTION 94-204 TO RESTATE PROVISIONS FOR EXTERIOR BUILDING STANDARDS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION ALONG MAJOR CITY THOROUGHFARES TO AMEND THE APPEALS PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance on second reading as read. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion.

City Attorney Don Holmes said this was considered by the Planning Board on 11/3/15, as provided for by Code, and was recommended for adoption on a vote of 3 in favor, 2 opposed. He advised the Planning Board that he would bring to the Commission's attention their concern that the public would not receive any notice of an appeal filed with either the Planning Director or the City Manager. They had discussion about having a letter sent to property owners within 300 feet of the project to notify those who are potentially aggrieved that an application was being made to the City Manager. There are pros and cons to this, if they want to discuss it. On one hand, the Planning Director already has the ability to grant a waiver, and there would be no notice of that. That is already in place. They could ask why there is a requirement for the public to be noticed of an appeal to the City Manager when the public isn't noticed of a request to the Planning Director. There will be notice if the appeal goes to the Planning Board. He doesn't see the logic in giving potentially aggrieved people notice when it goes to the city manager when it doesn't go in the case of an appeal to the planning director. In his opinion they have to place trust in people they put in certain positions to make good decisions. This is being put in place to save people time and money. He has no legal concerns with this.

Commissioner Brown said sometimes they have time sensitive issues; they have lost some businesses because the appeals processes took too much time. If it doesn't work, they can change it.

Jerry Hafner, 122 Hilty Lane, East Palatka, asked if the zoning administrator has guidelines to consider when considering waivers. Mr. Holmes said there are guidelines and the suggested provision states both the city manager and planning board shall have authority to reverse a decision if there is a finding there would be a significant hardship; he read the passage verbatim. These limitations will also apply to the planning director. Mr. Hafner said he has a problem with this, or anything where there are rules & regulations set up that are supposed to be followed. He believes it is wrong for a city employee to have the power to overturn something like this and take it out of the "public arena." That is why they have appointed a planning board. He could see where this could be taken advantage of. He asked if someone is aggrieved by a waiver, if they have a course of action. Mr. Holmes said anyone who believes they have been aggrieved that has standing can appeal a zoning decision. He used 300 feet as being those property owners that would have standing to challenge a decision. The ordinance reads "any person who is aggrieved." As to recourse, the public doesn't have the right to sue over a zoning decision. Mr. Hafner said everyone has an interest in what happens on main thoroughfares. They have an appointed board that can publicly hear these requests. Commissioner Brown said they are making this change because it has come to their attention that they have lost businesses due to lengthy permitting processes. They are looking for the best possible solution. Mr. Hafner said they shouldn't give businesses a way around certain regulations that apply to everyone else.

Danny Sheffield, 720 S. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, said he is Chairman of the Palatka Planning Board. He asked if the Planning Director has the authority to hear an appeal. Mr. Holmes read aloud the passage from the Code and said at this time appeals go to the Planning Board. There is no one individual who can grant a modification or variance. Mr. Sheffield said at the Planning Board meeting, Mr. Holmes said he was going to add language to the ordinance that property owners within 300 feet be notified. Mr. Holmes said during the meeting he said he would bring those concerns to the commission, which he has done. It is up to the Commission to add that language to the ordinance. Mr. Sheffield asked that this language be added to the ordinance in the interest of transparency. Discussion ensued regarding possible language for an amendment in instances where a request for waiver comes to either the Planning Board or the City Manager. Mr. Sheffield said he'd like to see the language added and the ordinance come back to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Mr. Holmes said the Planning Board has already approved the ordinance as it is now written on a vote of 3 in favor, 2 opposed, without that language included.

Commissioner Norwood said he concurs with transparency, and noted the City Attorney has stated said this is a legal amendment. He believes they need to be transparent, but doesn't want to create another process within the process as that would defeat the purpose of this amendment. He just wants to be sure any further amendment to the ordinance won't further slow down the process. Mr. Holmes said he misspoke earlier when he said the Planning Director already has appellate authority at this time; however, he does have discretion to interpret the ordinance. The ordinance isn't "cut and dried" at this time. The Planning Director is required to interpret plans; there is a lot of room for interpretation. There is already a judgment call required. Some of this depends upon the "eye of the beholder." No one gets notice of that.

Mayor Hill said they have lost businesses over lengthy processes. They need to be more customer friendly and more inviting of new businesses. He has no issues with the current language in the ordinance. They can add another layer of insulation related to bringing business into the community. They have to put things in place to attract new business. There being no further discussion, the question was called and 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 on second reading.

## 11. COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

Mayor Hill said he wanted to recognize Jared Dollar's son. Mr. Dollar said every 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month they cook breakfast at St. Mark's Church and he helps with Bread of Life. They cook extra blueberry muffins and sell them after church, and he donates that money to Bread of Life.

**YARD SALES FOR CHURCHES** - Commissioner Brown asked Mr. Crowe to discuss yard sales for churches. Mr. Crowe said it is not a zoning issue; Code states that no one can hold a yard sale more than two weekends in a row. It is almost impossible to regulate yard sales. Mr. Holmes said this provision was put in place to address perpetual yard sales that were more or less permanent. Complaints about those perpetual yard sales brought this to the attention of the Commission, and are what prompted that regulation. Commissioner Brown said this is a way for churches and non-profits to make money to pay their fire assessment. They used to let churches hold sales on her corner lot, but had to stop that because of this regulation. Small organizations and churches need a way to raise funds to pay these fees. If they allowed churches to hold festivals or food sales in parks one or two Saturdays a year, that would be a way to help out.

Commissioner Campbell said he spoke with Mr. Skip, one of the individuals who helped make repairs to the riverfront fountains. They asked about a schedule to cut the fountain on and off for operations. He's asked the Commission to come up with a schedule for the timers. There is a break that will soon have to be addressed. They want to know if they can utilize City equipment and labor to dig up the infrastructure to make the repairs. Mayor Hill said that is an operations question that should be directed to Mr. Suggs. There have been two different groups that have participated in rebuilding the fountains. Rotary has donated some money for the parts and labor. Both Mr. Diamond's and Mr. Sharp's groups have worked on the fountain. A vendor has donated parts. A timer is an easy way to deal with operating hours. These groups can work with Mr. Suggs and Mr. Griffith on these matters. Commissioner Norwood said these folks are looking for opportunities to come in and volunteer their services and talents.

Mayor Hill said there were over 500 people at Hank Bryan Park along with several community groups for the cleanup and Fall Festival. SJRSC and Florida School of the Arts did an awesome job with the kids. They cleaned up the park and had fun. They dedicated their first Little Free Library at the pavilion. He was proud of the way that staff came together and worked together. They created a nature-based parking area where the round-about used to be. Several employees came together to do landscaping and irrigation. This created a big cost savings. This is happening all over the community and people are buying into making Palatka a better place.

Commissioner Brown said the community has approached her with thanks for tearing down the nuisance housing, as it has cleared out drugs and crime from the neighborhood. Mayor Hill asked to recognize Matt Newcomb, Brad Forsythe, Laura Jones, Mylinh Reeves and others involved for their work on clearing out nuisance and blight and seeding in positive things in their place. He commended the Police Department for taking the initiative on this. This changes the dynamic of the community.

Mr. Suggs said employee cooperation comes from employees taking pride in the community.

Mr. Suggs said the City of Palatka is hosting the Florida Association of Code Enforcement's local Chapter meeting on Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Beef O'Bradys. He's asked Captain Newcomb and Laura Jones to host that meeting and to give a presentation on the courses they took to learn these skills. They saved the City a lot of money by doing this work in-house.

Mayor Hill recognized Jonathan Griffith and Jason Shaw for the job they are doing in the community.

**12. CITY MANAGER & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS –**

John Youell, Airport Manager, thanked the Commission for recognizing veterans. He was recognized for his service in the Air Force. Commissioner Norwood congratulated him on his service and presented him with a Veteran's Lapel Pin.

Mr. Youell said this week a large airplane was brought in to the airport for service; this has provided jobs for six people. The business owner who recently started this business said this is the first of many planes coming in for service. The Hangar Project is two weeks from completion. This is funded 100% by the State with REDI funds. The Airport Advisory Board has started planning for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Airport Fly-In, to be held on January 30, 2016. It is an entertaining and well-attended event.

Mayor Hill congratulated Fire Chief Mike Lambert on the Fire Explorers Program.

Mr. Suggs said they are ready to send out Fire Assessment bills on Monday. He does not agree with Mr. Lawson's suggestion that they need to draft and place an additional letter in with the bills. He doesn't believe the letter is necessary.

Mr. Suggs said Corky Diamond, the 100 Block developer, has asked him to approach the Commission on his behalf to petition the Commission on changes to his Agreement. He doesn't believe that is his responsibility. That should be up to Mr. Diamond. There was Commission concurrence on this point.

Mr. Suggs said he has finished reviewing the applications for Chief of Police and anticipates having the list narrowed down as of Monday. They will begin requesting further information on Monday and will begin background checks.

**13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Campbell said he is excited about the future of Palatka. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Commissioner Norwood spoke of the spirit of Thanksgiving and saying thanks to everyone and each other. He is grateful to be able to serve as a city commissioner and be a part of the community. The community is more caring and united. He thanks God for the opportunity.

Mayor Hill said he and Commissioner Borom had the opportunity to visit the City of Orlando and look at how they operate. Valencia College has indicated they are interested in coming to Palatka. The City of Orlando has interest in helping Palatka and in creating a partnership with Palatka to work with Staff and the commission to develop plans. They have offered assistance.

**14. ADJOURN –** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Campbell at 8:10 p.m.

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