

KARL N. FLAGG
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

ALLEGRA KITCHENS
COMMISSIONER

VERNON MYERS
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER



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

ELWIN C. "WOODY" BOYNTON, JR.
CITY MANAGER

BETSY JORDAN DRIGGERS
CITY CLERK

RUBY M. WILLIAMS
FINANCE DIRECTOR

GARY S. GETCHELL
CHIEF OF POLICE

MICHAEL LAMBERT
CHIEF FIRE DEPT.

DONALD E. HOLMES
CITY ATTORNEY

MINUTES CITY OF PALATKA October 28, 2010

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 28th day of October, 2010.

PRESENT: Mayor Karl N. Flagg
Commissioner Mary Lawson Brown
Commissioner Vernon Myers
Commissioner James Norwood, Jr.

ABSENT: Commissioner Allegra Kitchens

Also Present: City Manager Elwin C. Boynton, Jr.; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes, City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers, Finance Director Matthew Reynolds, Police Chief Gary Getchell, Fire Chief Mike Lambert, Planning & Zoning Administrator Debbie Banks, Parks & Cemeteries Superintendent Jeff Norton

CALL TO ORDER: Student Mayor Cadet Shawn Derby called the 2010 Students in Government Special Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION - JROTC Cadet Olyvia English, Honorary Vice Mayor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – JROTC Cadet Color Guard

ROLL CALL - Roll Call: Presentation of Honorary "Cadets in Government" City Officials

Commission:	Appointed Officials:
Mayor Shawn Derby	City Manager Hunter Hayes
Vice Mayor Olyvia English	City Attorney Danielle Kirby
Commissioner Cecelia Wilson	Finance Director Kaishia Robinson
Commissioner Matthew Rosenberger	Director of Planning Abdel Aldick
Commissioner Jamell Passmore	

PUBLIC RECOGNITION:

PROCLAMATION - PHS Junior ROTC Cadet Corps Day – November 5, 2010 – Honorary Vice Mayor English joined Honorary Mayor Derby in presenting ROTC Colonel Charles Coxwell with a proclamation designating Friday, November 5, 2010 as PHS JROTC Cadet Corps Day in the City of Palatka. Colonel Coxwell said 37 years ago he was a 9th grader in JROTC and is one of the few instructors who's returned to pass it forward to today's students, as did those who mentored him. You don't learn leadership and character from a book; it takes conversation, mentorship, teaching and counsel to teach students

morality, character and citizenship during school hours, as well as after class. There are well over 500,000 cadets throughout the nation who set the example for and amongst their fellow students throughout their communities. They'd like to see more parents encourage their children to join JROTC to learn how to be successful in the future.

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Cadet Commissioner English moved to go to a four-day school week and add one hour to each day Monday through Thursday to make up the hours. Cadet Commissioner Passmore seconded the motion. Following discussion regarding feasibility, cost, pros and cons, the question was called and the motion passed, three in favor, two opposed.

Cadet Commissioner Rosenberger moved to give all City employees a raise. Cadet Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed unopposed.

Cadet Commissioner Rosenberger moved to ask the School District to purchase more comfortable, padded chairs with arm rests for students' use at school to replace wooden/metal classroom chairs. Cadet Commissioner English seconded the motion. After much discussion regarding the benefits of having more comfortable chairs, a vote was taken and the motion passed unopposed.

ADJOURN SPECIAL MEETING: Honorary Mayor Derby announced that this concluded the items on the Special Agenda, and returned the gavel to Mayor Flagg at 6:20 p.m.

STUDENTS IN GOVERNMENT - Mayor Flagg thanked the members of the Honorary Cadet Commission for their leadership, noting it is a pleasure to have such dynamic youth as current and future community leaders. He thanked the Cadets and Colonel Coxwell for taking the time to share their wisdom and guidance as part of Palatka's City Government Week activities. He then presented Good Citizenship Awards to "Cadets in Government" Student City Commission members recognizing their participation in City Government Week activities.

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Flagg called the regular 10-28-10 Palatka City Commission meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 10/14/10 – Commissioner Myers moved to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

1. **PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:**

PROCLAMATION – City Government Week – October 24 through 30, 2010 – Mayor Flagg read and presented the proclamation to Colonel Charles Coxwell, Commander, PHA JROTC, and asked him to post it in a prominent place at Palatka High School.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – Kenny Downs was present to receive the award in recognition of his 14 years of service as Palatka Codes Enforcement Board Chairman.

CITY OF PALATKA VETERANS OF ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL RECOGNITION – The Clerk read the roster of City Personnel who are veterans of US Armed Forces (filed). Veterans in the audience were recognized and presented with a Veteran's Pin in recognition of service.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH – October, 2010 – Vice Mayor Brown joined Mayor Flagg in presenting the following students with certificates in recognition of their academic excellence, leadership, citizenship and attendance at their respective schools:

Branden Bennett	Beasley Middle School
Jerome Strong	Browning Pearce Elementary School
Emily Ritch	Children's Reading Center Charter School
Robert Grimes	E.H. Miller School
Deneriya Greene	James A. Long Elementary School
Lauren Futch	Jenkins Middle School
Slaten Sweeting	Kelley Smith Elementary School
Shekia Thomas	Mellon Elementary School
DaeSean Stephenson	Moseley Elementary School
Elizabeth Smith	Palatka High School
Tiera Cleveland	Peniel Baptist Academy

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS -**

Bob Taylor, Project Architect, updated the Commission on the Price Martin Center facility upgrades and distributed a schematic (filed). He said this is for upgrades to the roof. The gable will create a nice entry element. He's included a couple of alternate entry elements in the schematic. There will also be improvements to the air conditioning system to make it much more energy efficient. If sufficient money is available, they will increase the efficiency. The second plan shows a hip roof, taking advantage of the existing pediment. It will look more contemporary. The third drawing is a color drawing showing the addition of the improved entrance element. It will be reminiscent of the Train Station. The approximate budget is \$200,000, and if money is available for the a/c it will be \$250,000. It will be more the color of the Chamber building and look metal in character, and very attractive.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. **Authorize execution of Amendment #2 to a contract with Ayres Associates in the amount of \$15,000** for engineering, plans and bidding assistance for the WWTP Reuse Project Ph IV
- b. **Authorize execution of contract with Ayres Associates in the amount of \$25,500.00** for engineering services for drainage improvements at St. Johns Ave. at 15th St. (FEMA HMPG Grant)
- c. **Issue Class A Special Event Permit for River Blues Festival – per staff recommendations:**
 1. **Class 'A' Permit for Festival Area** - Nov. 20 & 21, 2010; 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. St. Johns Avenue from 2nd Street through 8th Street
 2. **Grant Noise Ordinance Exception during festival hours –**
Nov. 20, 2010; 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
(no amplified sound on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2010; 12:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
11/21/10 prior to 12:30 p.m.)
 3. **Close St. Johns Avenue from 2nd Street to 8th Street** during festival hours to parking and vehicular traffic.
 4. **Set Fees – Class A Permit Fees (2 days @ \$100.00/day); police Security Fees @18.00/hr. per officer for both required and requested security, Green roll-out bins @ \$15.00, Deodorizer @ \$15.00/gallon, and festival to pay all Putnam County Tipping Fees. Estimated fees to be determined and paid prior to festival. Actual fees to be determined after close of Festival.**

Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt all items on the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

4. **PRESENTATION** – Planned Vegetation Management – Tim Wilson, Senior Arborist/Forester, and Jeff Womble, Major Accounts Manager, FPL – Mr. Womble introduced Tim Wilson, Senior Arborist, and said they are here tonight as a result of a presentation they made to the Tree Committee. Commissioner Kitchens asked them to make the same presentation to the City Commission. Material was distributed (filed). Mr. Womble read Mr. Wilson’s credentials, noting his vast experience and former employment with the National Parks Service.

A video presentation was shown regarding the “Right Tree, Right Place” program. Mr. Wilson said they do planned maintenance on a three-year cycle, and “customer requested” maintenance. They receive calls regarding the appearance of trees. Through the course of research, they changed from “rounding over” trees to the way they trim them now, which is a recognized standard adopted by the National Arbor Day Foundation. The material he distributed speaks about who does the work and the qualifications they have. It talks about different forms of trimming, distances to keep trees from lines and transformers. They spend millions of dollars each year on tree maintenance; this year’s budget is around \$61,000,000, to trim trees which they don’t own. They try to get as many “proper” trees planted as possible. They work with cities to provide them with the information they need to develop a good tree program that doesn’t create the need for massive trimming.

Commissioner Brown asked how they know what type of trees to plant. Mr. Wilson said he covers that in the brochure, but he also encourages people to get advice from a local nursery. The “Right Tree, Right Place” brochure covers this topic. Mayor Flagg asked if they are proactive in distributing information on planting. Mr. Wilson said most nurseries are aware of utility-friendly tree planting and “tag” trees as to whether or not they are utility friendly. Many times tree plantings are well-intended but get out of control. Commissioner Norwood said there is a benefit to the customer by planting the right tree as power service interruptions are minimized. Mr. Wilson said people want uninterrupted power, which is difficult to do. Underground utilities will solve the problem of trees interfering with the lines, but it will take a long time to accomplish. The drawback is that when underground power goes out, power is out for a much longer time. Commissioner Myers said he granted a 55’ easement to FP&L and he’s had good experience with them and their care of his property.

5. **PLANNING BOARD APPOINTMENTS** – Appointments for two (2) at-large positions (applicants interviewed at 10/14/10 meeting) Applicants: Joseph Michael Petrucci
Joe Pickens
Clem Saccareccia

Ballots were collected and the Clerk read the results. Joe Pickens and Joseph Michael Petrucci received the majority of votes. Commissioner Norwood moved to appoint Joe Pickens and Joseph Michael Petrucci to the Palatka Planning Board. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

6. **REQUEST TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT for Parcel #37-09-26-0000-0060-0082**, consisting of 9.99 acres of property at the northeast corner of Comfort Rd and Crystal Cove Drive east of US Hwy 17 (River Watch Subdivision) – Environmental Consulting & Design, Agent for Thirty-Ninth Avenue Professional Center, Inc., owner/petitioner - Planning Board Recommendation to Approve and Accept – Tabled August 26, 2010. Commissioner Myers moved to approve the final subdivision plat. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed unopposed.

7. **REQUEST to Issue Permission** to exceed noise levels established by Chapter 30, Palatka Code of Ordinances to John Lyon, owner, Steamboat Willies, from 10:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m., for the following dates: October 29, November 5, November 12, November 19 – 21 (St. Johns River Blues Festival dates), November 26, November 27, 2010 – John Lyon, owner, Steamboat Willie's, was present to speak. Mr. Lyon said on Sunday, Nov. 21 during the River Blues Festival they will close at midnight, so he's amending his request to end at midnight on that date only. Mayor Flagg asked if an event at his place of business took place without a variance. Mr. Lyons said there was an event on the 16th of October, and he didn't get the request for the variance in on time. It was his fault.

Police Chief Gary Getchell said on the morning of October 17th officers at the Police Department heard the noise and went to check it out. While on the way, they received two complaints. They made contact with Mr. Lyons and had to return again because of noise. Mr. Lyon was cited for a noise violation. He was told that Mr. Lyons stated to Sgt. Hawkins that he didn't agree with the ordinance and was going to fight the citation. Given the nature of the complaint, and that he didn't receive permission to exceed the allowable noise levels, they cited him. Mayor Flagg asked Mr. Lyon if his was willing to comply with Code. Mr. Lyon said in the past they would warn him to turn the noise down, but this time they simply cited him. Mayor Flagg asked him if he could get his own decibel meter and meter his own noise. Mr. Lyon said he has a decibel meter and has gone a block away and the sound does not break the decibel meter; it depends on if it is a clear night or not. Mayor Flagg said if Mr. Lyon is going to ignore Chapter 30, they may need to take a different stance on these requests. Voluntary compliance is desired. Mr. Lyon said they had a national touring group come in that night and there were five bands. They each had different equipment and the sound levels differed. Mayor Flagg noted Mr. Lyon is still responsible for noise levels.

Commissioner Norwood said if Mr. Lyon doesn't get his variance request in on time, that's not an opportunity to ignore the Code. They've had a good relationship with Mr. Lyon and his business. If he doesn't get a variance, he's out of compliance. To hear that Mr. Lyon doesn't agree with the ordinance baffles him. Mr. Lyon said it's not that he doesn't agree to the ordinance, but he was cited for having an outdoor loudspeaker. It wasn't decibel noise he was cited for. Commissioner Norwood asked if that's part of the ordinance. Chief Getchell said there are several provisions in the ordinance. After a certain time you can't have amplified sound outside without a variance. That was the provision cited. Commissioner Norwood said citizens and business owners need to comply with the ordinance, even though Mr. Lyon didn't do what he needed to do on the front end. It may cost him some money to cancel an event, but they need to find another way to hold the event if they aren't going to comply with City Code. The Police Dept. has other more pressing issues to handle than noise issues. He believes Mr. Lyon wants to do the right thing. Mr. Lyon said as soon as he received the compliant from the officer, the music stopped. He didn't know you couldn't play music outside after 10 pm; he didn't believe he was violating the decibel level requirements.

Commissioner Myers moved to approve the request to issue permission to exceed noise levels established by Chapter 30, Palatka Code of Ordinances to John Lyon, owner, Steamboat Willies, from 10:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. the following morning, for the following dates: October 29, November 5, November 12, November 19 & 20, November 26 and November 27, 2010, and from 10:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight on November 21, 2010. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

8. **RESOLUTION** urging citizens to vote in opposition to Florida Constitutional Amendment No. 4 requiring ballot initiatives for all Comprehensive Plan Amendments, no matter the size, per Florida League of Cities Legislative Agenda Request – Adopt - The Clerk read the memorandum from Commissioner Kitchens supporting the passage of Amendment 4 and opposing the adoption of this Resolution into the record (filed). Mr. Holmes said he was asked to look into the legality of the expenditure of public funds to advocate for the failure of Amendment 4. The only one he is aware of is if this action is posted on the City's website by way of the minutes of the meeting. In his opinion there is not an issue or a problem with this, and it is not unlawful for the City to post the results of this discussion on its website. There are cases where cities have spent many thousands of dollars on advocating a position and there's been discussion as to whether the money was spent to help citizens form an opinion, but that amounts to campaigning. In most of these instances, they have been local ballot initiatives. The City has not mounted any campaign and is taking this up at a public meeting. If the City chooses to take a position, and those results are posted on the website which is already up and running, in his opinion it is not unlawful.

Mayor Flagg noted the request to adopt this resolution came from Commissioner Myers, which is also the position of the Florida League of Cities. Commissioner Myers said it is very important that the City goes on record as opposing Amendment 4. It is their duty and responsibility to take a position on this. Every newspaper in the State has come out in opposition, as has organized labor and other entities.

The Clerk read a resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, OPPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD FORCE VOTERS TO DECIDE ALL CHANGES TO A CITY OR COUNTY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the resolution as read. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion.

Ben Bates, 3400 Crill Avenue, stated for the record that he's in total agreement with the resolution. He provided information and facts to substantiate his position. It will cost jobs, raise taxes and hurt the economy. He has a 40-page document that shows it will likely cost over 260,000 jobs and reduce economic output by \$34 billion dollars per year. Florida's working families will suffer the most. In today's economic climate, Florida cannot afford to lose 260,000 jobs. A local version of Amendment 4 has always caused these problems in St. Pete Beach, where this has been thoroughly tested. According to the St. Pete Times, this has been invasive, expensive and an impediment to local development. Since adopting this, the citizens have seen nearly a dozen lawsuits that have cost taxpayers over \$1 million in legal fees. When voters approved four comprehensive plan changes, lawyers sued to overturn the election. Amendment 4 will cost taxpayers millions and lead to chaos in the polls. It is so poorly written it doesn't even provide exceptions to hospitals, schools, police/fire stations or other public buildings, leaving these community projects to become victims of politics. The opposition among most organizations in the State of Florida is strong. Both democrats and republicans agree this should not be approved. He quoted from five newspaper articles from newspapers that are not pro-business newspapers, which all concluded this will lead to higher government costs, chaotic ballots, and all ask the public not to make the solution worse than the problem. They all cite St. Pete Beach as an example of what this amendment will do to the State of Florida. He encourages the City to approve this resolution. They will be doing the citizens a great service.

Dana Jones, President, Putnam Co. Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the passage of this resolution on behalf of her Board of Directors. In 2007 they joined many

organizations in an effort to defeat Amendment 4. Florida is beginning to see economic recovery, and if this amendment passes, that will all be for naught. If this passes, every community in Florida will be marked off developers' lists; there will be no more jobs and no more prospects. She urges all to vote against Amendment 4.

Phil Leary, 1821 Carr Street, provided his professional planning credentials, and stated the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association supports the effort to defeat Amendment 4. This will accomplish the exact opposite of what Commissioner Kitchens claims it will do. The law requires all utilities be in place before development can take place. There is a specific platform for public participation in place now. DCA does an intensive evaluation of the comp plan and land development regulations to make sure amendments comply. These changes go before the local planning board and then it goes before the commission. If people are not happy and want a decision overturned, it goes before the circuit court. If this amendment passes, the American Association of Planners says the result will be to produce a seemingly random set of land use outcomes that will render unworkable any attempt at rational land use patterns. Mr. Leary said he hasn't seen any rampant, out of control growth in Florida. This amendment is as important as any other vote anyone will make. He applauds the Commission for taking this subject up. He's never seen a more draconian law proposed. He urges passing the resolution.

Commissioner Brown said the Regional Planning Council also takes up comp plan amendments. There are several processes they go through. If they have to hold an election every time someone wants a land use change, someone has to pay for it. Education and balloting is costly. The City aligned its elections with State and Federal elections because individual elections were too expensive. They were elected to study these issues and decide what's good for the community. They take the necessary steps to do what's right for all.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Myers, Norwood and Mayor Flagg; yes. Nays, none. Resolution 8-82 was declared adopted.

9. **ORDINANCE** amending Chapter 78 of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to Business Tax Receipts to levy a tax on all insurance companies doing business in the City, regardless of their permanent location – 2nd Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 78, ARTICLE V, SECTION 78-162 OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO BUSINESS TAXES TO REFLECT STATUTORY LANGUAGE RELATIVE TO THE LEVY OF A BUSINESS TAX ON INSURANCE COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A PERMANENT LOCATION IS MAINTAINED; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the ordinance as read. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Myers, Norwood, Brown and Mayor Flagg; yes. Nays; none. Ordinance No. 10-29 was declared adopted.
10. **ORDINANCE** repealing Ordinance #87-14 (Chapter 38 of the Code of Ordinances) and adopting the City of Palatka Flood Prevention Ordinance – 2nd Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA FLORIDA, REPEALING CITY OF PALATKA ORDINANCE 87-14 AND ADOPTING THE CITY OF PALATKA FLOOD PREVENTION ORDINANCE; STATING THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY, FINDINGS OF FACT, PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES THEREOF; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; STATING THE LANDS TO WHICH THE CHAPTER

APPLIES AND BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD; ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PERMITS; COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE REGULATIONS; ABROGATION OF EXISTING AGREEMENT OR RESTRICTIONS; INTERPRETATION OF CHAPTER; WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY; PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, ADMINISTRATION; SPECIFIC STANDARDS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the ordinance as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Norwood, Brown, Myers and Mayor Flagg; yes. Nays; none. Ordinance No. 10-30 was declared adopted.

11. **ORDINANCE** amending Chapter 94 of the Code of Ordinances to allow sidewalk displays for businesses in the Central Business District – 2nd Reading, Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA AMENDING THE PALATKA MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 70, SIDEWALKS; CHAPTER 94, ZONING; AND APPENDIX A, FEE SCHEDULE OF THE PALATKA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING PLACING MERCHANDISE, BENCHES OR OTHER OBSTRUCTIONS IN SIDEWALK; PROVIDING FOR A PERMIT FEE; PROVIDING FOR FINES AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Myers move to adopt the ordinance as read. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Myers, Norwood and Mayor Flagg; yes. Nays; none. Ordinance No. 10-31 was declared adopted.

12. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mr. Boynton said several meetings ago they discussed CDBG projects and housing seems to always come up. The USDA has a grant available for up to \$7,500 for people over 62 years of age to upgrade housing. For people who have an immediate need, those grants are there. It doesn't require a lot of paperwork, but paperwork is required. This is a better way to assist homeowners. He'll get that message out to homeowners and they'll see that push from the City. Paperwork will be with the Clerk's Office and staff will be trained on how to fill out the paperwork.

Commissioner Brown said they have been doing these types of weatherization grants for a while through Farmers' Home Administration. They've talked about his in area churches. They need to leverage more than that. She knows they want to use CDBG money for other things, but this is not enough money to help people get their homes in shape. SHIP money is almost gone. They did this back in the 1980's. They need to look for leveraging agents, weatherization and CDBG money for this.

13. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Brown said in the next meeting she'd like to hear a report on what's been done to meet the needs identified in the CRA needs assessment.

Commissioner Myers wished everyone safe trick-or-treating and said the Swampfest sponsored by area churches on Saturday will provide an opportunity for a great family outing.

Mayor Flagg said for the benefit of all concerned, all municipalities and the County have aligned to adopt official hours for Halloween trick-or-treating as Saturday, October 30 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Commissioner Norwood said he'd like City Staff to look at all city properties, especially vacant lots, and wants to know if there is an opportunity for Habitat for Humanity or the Housing Authority to get involved with putting them back on the tax roll, provided the City doesn't want to hold on to them. If the City has property, they need to maintain it. There shouldn't be a distinction between property the City owns and other residents' property, regarding compliance with minimum maintenance standards.

Mr. Holmes stated the City considered a request for a reduction of a fine for Shelton Construction on 1406 Ocean Street, and at that time the City reduced the fine to \$15,000. Mr. Shelton and his attorney declined the offer and offered to settle for much less. The City then filed a foreclosure action on the property. After this was set for trial, the owner offered to pay the \$15,000 and the City accepted it. The City dismissed the foreclosure suit and that case is resolved.

Mayor Flagg said most elected and appointed officials throughout the county participated in the dedication ceremony for the new Putnam County VA Medical Clinic today. They need to get the word out to area veterans that they should take advantage of this facility, where they can get preventative health needs met.

14. **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