

VERNON MYERS
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

ALLEGRA KITCHENS
COMMISSIONER

PHIL LEARY
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER



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

BETSY JORDAN DRIGGERS
CITY CLERK

MATTHEW D. REYNOLDS
FINANCE DIRECTOR

GARY S. GETCHELL
CHIEF OF POLICE

MICHAEL LAMBERT
CHIEF FIRE DEPT.

DONALD E. HOLMES
CITY ATTORNEY

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

MINUTES
CITY OF PALATKA
May 12, 2011

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 12th day May, 2011.

PRESENT:

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

Also Present: City Manager Elwin C. Boynton, Jr.; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; Asst. City Clerk Karen Venables; Finance Director Matthew Reynolds; Planning Director Thad Crowe, Police Chief Gary Getchell, Fire Chief Mike Lambert; Public Works Supervisor Ed Chandler; W&S Supervisor Rhett McCamey

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

INVOCATION - Minister Terrance Beauford, Rhema Healing and Deliverance

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by City Attorney Don Holmes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 04/14/11 Golf Course Workshop – Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

04/28/11 Regular Meeting – Commissioner Kitchens move to approve the minutes as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed

1. PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:

PROCLAMATION: Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month – May, 2011 – At the request of Mayor William Brooks, City of Belle Isle, President of the Florida League of Mayors, Mayor Myers read a proclamation designating the month of May, 2011 as Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month.

PROCLAMATION: National Public Works Week – May 15 – 19, 2011 – Mayor Myers read a proclamation designating May 15 through 19, 2011 as National Public Works Week. Ed Chandler, Public Works Supervisor and Rhett McCamey W&S Supervisor accepted the Proclamation. Mayor Myers commended Mr. Chandler and Mr. McCamey for a job well done.

PROCLAMATION: National Safe Boating Week – May 21 through 27, 2011 – Kathleen Fisk, USCG Auxiliary Flotilla 14-9 was present to accept a proclamation read by Mayor Myers proclaiming May 21 through 27, 2011 as National Safe Boating Week. Ms. Fisk invited everyone Saturday, May 14, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for a prelude celebration at the riverfront. Boats will be on display from Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation, who will also have a display trailer, St. Johns River Water Management, US Army Corps of Engineers and Welaka Fish Hatcheries. Experts will be on hand to answer any questions. There will be booths set up by the Auxiliary, Putnam Land Conservancy, Ravine Gardens and Keep Putnam Beautiful. There will be free hotdogs and drinks offered while the public have their boats examined. Literature will be available on Florida Salt and Fresh Water Fishing regulations, life jackets, boat towing, State and Federal boating regulations and much more. The Auxiliary will be on hand to answer questions, demonstrate proper techniques for proper life jacket fitting and numerous size lifejackets will be available to try on to give the public firsthand knowledge as to what life jacket is appropriate for the individual and/or boating need.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Askew Vickers, 207 N. 18th St., said in the near future he would like to see plans for the youth during the summer. Mayor Myers said Chief Getchell states they have plans for a youth camp. Mr. Vickers said the youth needs something to do and look forward to or they will be lost along the way. They are our future. It wastes their time to sit idle with nothing to do; that is how they get into trouble. The community needs to help lower crime and address this problem today.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. **Authorize expenditure of Law Enforcement Trust Fund monies in the amount of \$6,000** to the Police Athletic League to assist with the 2011 Panther Summer Youth Program – Chief Getchell
- b. **Authorize execution of Contract with Putnam County Recreation Dept. in the amount of \$20,480.00** to employ summer youth counselors for the 2011 PAL Summer Youth Camp – Chief Getchell
- c. **Authorize execution of an agreement for the Provision of Supplemental Police Services with Palatka Housing Authority** for reimbursement of City services at the rate of \$21.00/hr (12 month agreement with option to renew) – Chief Getchell

Mayor Myers stated each item will be addressed separately.

- 3(a). **Authorize expenditure of Law Enforcement Trust Fund monies in the amount of \$6,000** to the Police Athletic League to assist with the 2011 Panther Summer Youth Program – Chief Getchell said the Weed & Seed Grant expired at the end of 5 years. Through the efforts of the Police Athletic League, and with an additional \$6,000 in drug seizure money, they have gathered sufficient funds to host the 2011 Panther Summer Youth Program. The County Recreation Dept. will assist and will handle all the counselor personnel and payroll matters. They are pleased that the program will go on as it did in the past. They anticipate no cuts, but will have to be more frugal in some areas. They anticipate 100 to 120 kids will be enrolled, and have the ability to service more. Commissioner Norwood inquired as to indemnification to hold the City harmless in the case of injury. Mr. Holmes said that will be addressed under Consent Item (b). The County wants the City to hold it harmless under the terms of the contract. They

are awaiting an answer from the City's insurance company on this. Commissioner Norwood noted can it be approved tonight contingent upon the City not being held liable. Mr. Holmes stated as long as the motion is clearly stated it is being approved contingent upon receiving information from the City's insurance company that they will extend insurance coverage under the hold harmless and indemnification. Commissioner Leary moved to approve Consent Agenda Item (a), to authorize the expenditure of \$6,000 in Law Enforcement Trust Funds, to assist with the PAL Summer Program, as presented. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

- 3(b). **Authorize execution of Contract with Putnam County Recreation Dept. in the amount of \$20,480.00** to employ summer youth counselors for the 2011 PAL Summer Youth Camp – Chief Getchell stated Putnam County will have all the responsibility regarding the employees, insurance and unemployment compensation. This is the prudent thing to do. They will hire counselors based upon the number of campers registered. This will be the first year there will be a small registration fee, but if parents can't afford it, there are scholarships available. Commissioner Norwood moved to approve Consent Item (b) contingent upon the Florida League of Cities' agreeing to cover indemnification of the County employees, per the release in the contract. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.
- 3(c). **Authorize execution of an agreement for the Provision of Supplemental Police Services with Palatka Housing Authority** for reimbursement of City services at the rate of \$21.00/hr (12 month agreement with option to renew) – Chief Getchell stated this is an annual agreement they enter into with PHA to provide additional law enforcement services on PHA property for the PHA. Commissioner Brown moved to approve Consent Item (c) as presented. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.
4. **RESOLUTION** authorizing the Renewal of the FDOT Local Maintenance Agreement FIN Project No. 41021417297 for maintenance of the Right-of-Ways along SR 15, SR 20 and SR 100 – Adopt – The Assistant Clerk read a Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST TO AN AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE OF PORTIONS OF RIGHT OF WAY ALONG SR15, SR20 AND SR100 WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers; yes. Nays; none. Resolution No. 9-01 was declared adopted.
5. **REQUEST TO AMEND ALCOHOL ORDINANCE** to extend Sunday sales to Monday morning at 2:00 a.m. – Johnny Lyons, Steamboat Willie's – Johnny Lyons, 309 St. Johns Ave. stated this is the same request he brought to the Commission in May, 2010. He is trying to provide a service to the service industry people getting off work at late hours. Service industry people are asking him to stay open later. He would like the Alcohol Ordinance amended to be able to stay open on Sunday from 1:00p.m. until 2:00 a.m. on the following Monday morning. Mayor Myers noted the existing ordinance allows alcohol establishments to stay open until 12:00 midnight, so this request is for an additional 2 hours one day per week. Commissioner Kitchens noted Putnam County's ordinance also states alcohol establishes will close at 12.00 midnight on Sunday. If this is changed, people from the County will be coming into Palatka to drink. Mr. Lyons said Monday through Thursday the County establishments close at midnight, but the City allows establishments to stay open until 2:00 a.m. the following morning. Commissioner Kitchens asked Mr. Lyons to define "service industry." Mr. Lyons said these are typically restaurant workers -- waitresses, waiters and bartenders.

Rosie Harrell, 271 E. River Rd., said she is present as a concerned citizen, property owner, mother and grandmother, and can appeal to this on an emotional and personal level. She wanted to look at this from a factual stand point and made some calls to gather statistics. Statistics show the number of public safety "calls for service" dropped tremendously after the City changed its alcohol ordinance in 2004. She understands profit margins, but there are other businesses downtown. Safety issues concern her; her daughter has a business downtown. If calls for services go back up, they will all be paying for them.

Jeff Claudio, Director of Emergency Services, Putnam Community Medical Center, said anytime you increase the hours for consumption of alcohol you increase the opportunity for those partaking of it to commit acts of violence. In addition, automobile accidents or alcohol induced illnesses escalate. He sees this everyday in the Hospital Emergency Dept. He knows firsthand what alcohol use can do. This is a financial burden on the people who have to respond. This will have a financial impact on the community. This is not just auto accidents, but also battery and psychotic events. There is an increased use of resources; hospitals, physicians and the cost of long-term care and rehabilitation of the patients. Many of the people involved do not have the insurance to cover their injuries and ultimately it is passed along to the taxpayer. The result is that support services will be asked to spend thousands of dollars so a business can realize a few hundred dollars in gains. Alcohol has a negative impact on society.

Commissioner Kitchens said the PCMC Hospital Administrator told her that when the current ordinance was passed in 2004, emergency room visits from patients with alcohol-related issues dropped drastically. Mr. Claudio said they can correlate the increases of alcohol consumption every week as the weekend approaches because EMS visits to the Emergency Dept. increase every Friday and Saturday night, the major issue being the consumption of alcohol. The majority of these people do not have insurance.

Commissioner Kitchens said, as to the 3-minute time limit on speakers, people have taken the time to come here and speak on this issue, which is important, and have the right to free speech. Mayor Myers asked the speakers to use discretion on time when speaking.

Dr. Kirby Kennedy, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Palatka, stated he opposes the granting of this request. Research shows alcoholism is high. 40% of Americans have direct family experiences with alcohol abuse or alcoholism. They have heard from the hospital regarding the issues they experience. More than 16,000 people died from alcohol-related fatalities last year in Florida. This change will not only affect Steamboat Willie's, but also a number of establishments, and the entire City in a significant way. Putnam County's hours are different, they close down at 12:00 midnight and this would increase the possibility of accidents for people driving from the City back through Putnam County. Financial impacts are there. It is his understanding Putnam County leads the State in cases per capita for alcoholism, child incest, sexual abuse and domestic violence, and according to statistics, alcohol is involved with many of those cases. In 2010 the Police Chief was asked to do a study and his recommendation was this: "The data pertaining to negative consequences of alcohol availability is overwhelming. While the requested change in alcohol availability may assist the alcohol outlets, the evidence suggest there is a significant cost/impact to public services, hospital (health care) and the County Jail, to name a few." Dr. Kennedy said he does not believe this has changed in one year. He would like to see the City Commission deny this request. As both a member of this community and First Baptist Church, he wants to be involved in the area and have a partnership with the downtown area. This is not a good time to expand drinking hours. They all want to see Downtown Palatka flourish again, and there are some who think alcohol is the "silver bullet" to transform the downtown area. He does not think this is the best option. .

Neal Chancey 2615 Main Street, said he wants the best for Putnam County. People have the right to be entrepreneurs. On the other hand, the public has the right to be protected. You have to consider alcohol availability and alcohol density. This is not just about the two extra hours to stay open. This will lead to going back to selling alcohol 24/7, and Palatka doesn't need this. Alcohol is a legal drug and a depressant. He likened Putnam County to becoming a Dodge City. He referenced a Florida Times Union Facebook article concerning ceasing alcohol sales at Wells Road (Orange Park) establishments, which close at 11:00 p.m., to deter crime such as DUI, weapons crimes, and others. The problem is not so much what goes on inside the clubs, but outside the clubs from 10 p.m. until 3 a.m. If hours are extended in Putnam County this window could extend as late as 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Monday morning. From 2007 to 2010 the Clay Co. Commission monitored this and did research. The public needs to be safe. The City may not be in the position to put more police officers on the streets. He hopes the Commission will deny this request.

The Reverend Ted Stackpole, 102 Ashley Dr., said he concurs with those who are against changing the ordinance. They need to be realistic. They are putting children and others at risk when they add more intoxicated people onto the streets from 12:00 midnight to 2 a.m. Those coming out of the establishments need to be safe, too. The ordinance should not be changed.

Willie McKinnon, 391 State Rd. 207, said it is good to have thriving businesses in the community. The business in question will also promote drunk driving. It was stated these hours will accommodate employees of other bars. He related a story concerning a friend of his son's who works at a bar. She called him at 4:00 a.m. for a ride home as she was too drunk to drive. He asked the Commission to keep the hours as they are.

Scott Mullen, 212 High Ridge Rd., Satsuma, said he owns a bar in Satsuma. The reason for the change is they are looking to serve those who work in the hospitality industry. He would like to see this progress a little further. The hospitality group is a close-knit group. They are not looking to start fights, and are not violent.

Askew Vickers, 207 N. 18th St., said everyone has an opinion. You can't compare one year to several years. They serve people all day, during lunch, dinner and no one says anything about incidents happening during the earlier time. The worst time of year for alcohol incidents is December. People have a right to choose. More people are caught drinking in the morning, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Mr. Lyon has a responsibility to the City and himself. It will not hurt the people downtown and the churches. No one has said anything about gambling. This is a legal product they are selling. It is not true that people are getting killed after 11:00 p.m.

Tim Parker, 528 Kirby St., said he is a resident of the downtown South Historic District. He noticed a marked difference when the ordinance changed. He would like the ordinance to remain as-is.

Jeff Emerson, 1007 S. 17th St., said he has been a resident of Palatka since 1934 and keeps seeing things happening in Palatka he does not care for. He does not like to see people being taking advantage of or treated badly because of an addiction, and alcohol is an addiction. The longer you stay open, the longer you give these people to time fulfill this addiction. Most people cannot stop. The service industry workers getting off at midnight would be getting off later if the ordinance is changed. Every business in the United States is having difficulty. You have to cut expenses to remain solvent, and it's getting harder and harder. He appeared before this Commission about a year ago when two business were issued alcohol licenses; they never opened up. Sunday is a day of rest and praise and worship to the Lord.

John. Lyons, Steamboat Willie's, said he does not drink. Steamboat Willie's provides a safe environment for those who do, and he makes his employees go through an extensive responsible vendor training program. It takes more than servers and bartenders to run a restaurant. You can go just across the bridge from his place, in the County, and buy alcohol. He wouldn't be opposed to a trial period for a month or 2 months to see if this makes a difference. Statistics can be manipulated to work for you or against you. St. Augustine had a trial period before they amended their alcohol ordinance.

Police Chief Getchell said he submitted his report to the Commission regarding the amendment to the alcohol ordinance and how this impacts the police department. The PD has a set amount of funds that they can use for overtime. The City Manager has told him he can use no more overtime funds other than what has been allotted. Commissioner Kitchens asked what keeping alcohol establishments open for two extra hours per week will cost his Department, a dollar figure on the additional overtime cost to the City, and asked him to explain "backing out" hours on Sundays between midnight and 2:00 a.m. Chief Getchell stated most law enforcement agencies are on 12 hour shifts. A 24-hour schedule would be impossible for the PD. to do. 12-hour shifts have "built-in" overtime every month. This works out to about 8 hours per month. As the recession hit and the tax base and his budget started to decline, they decided to begin backing out those 8 hours per month, which saves the City about \$40,000 to \$60,000 per year. They monitor employees to make sure they don't exceed overtime limits. By the time things diminish, usually around 3:00 a.m. on Sunday nights/Monday mornings, they start letting officers go home. On the nights alcohol establishments are open, after closing the patrons move to establishments like McDonalds, Taco Bell, Huddle House, etc. After 1 to 1.5 hours they are still dealing with those who have been drinking. Once alcohol establishment patrons go home, the PD's calls begin to diminish and their mission changes. Because alcohol establishments close at midnight on Sunday nights, it allows them to flex out those hours so they don't have the overtime liability. He looked at a 3-month window of a worst-case scenario if they did have an overtime liability and were not able to back out hours, specifically on a Sunday night or Monday morning. It would equate to \$10,000 dollars in overtime. On a Friday and Saturday night they do not back out a lot of hours. Calls begin to increase on Thursday nights.

Commissioner Kitchens said she understands that this is a financial issue for Mr. Lyons. The newspaper quoted him as saying that being open those two extra hours would mean a couple hundred dollars extra for him per week. When you consider what it would cost the City in overtime, they are essentially asking the City's taxpayers to subsidize Mr. Lyon's business for those two hours. She commends Mr. Lyons and his establishment; there are not a lot of calls to his establishment compared to some of the others in the City. This ordinance applies to the whole City. She believes Mr. Lyons is responsible, but if they let him stay open, others will want to stay open. Putnam County's ordinance lets establishments stay open on Friday and Saturday until 2:00 a.m., every other day of the week they close at midnight. The City of Palatka allows establishments to stay open until 2:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday and close at midnight on Sunday. Service industry workers have two hours Monday through Saturday to come into the City to drink. The two extra hours on Sunday is not needed for the service workers. She does not believe these figures are being manipulated. Public safety and hospital costs will increase and citizens will pay for that when taxes are increased. Good rules are made to protect people; it would be irresponsible to change a good rule. When the police are tied up with issues from the bars it takes longer for them to respond to other emergency calls. St. Augustine has had problems since they increased their hours. She does not believe the ordinance needs to be changed at this time.

Commissioner Norwood said he recalls the hours and time put into the current ordinance, and the issues the entire City was experiencing. This ordinance applies to the entire City of Palatka and not just Downtown. Prior to the change, businesses came to the Commission complaining of problems they were having with drinkers. Levels of calls for services at that time were tremendous. The City is in dire need of revenue to continue to provide services that are currently being provided, and he does not want to deplete City revenues at this time. He is not in favor of changing this ordinance.

Commissioner Brown said in the past they have tried to do the best they could do to help the majority of the people. They have created good ordinances and bad ordinances. She stated she does not smoke or drink. She was married to an alcoholic and knows what it is like to live with someone who drinks. She would like to see more facts and figures. The City is getting ready to make major changes in the downtown area and they do not know what Mr. Ham has in mind for his development. She does not want to see the Commission make a decision they will regret down the line. The Commission needs to look at the impact and consider everyone represented, such as small business people. They receive sales tax revenue from alcohol sales. They may need to do an extensive study, even if that includes a workshop. The commission needs to put out the best ordinance they can to move the City forward. She has talked to both sides. She believes the Commission rushes to decisions from time to time, and would like this put on hold.

Commissioner Kitchens said she does not necessarily disagree, but studies have already been done. They have one of the best ordinances they can have now. Regarding Mr. Ham's project, she has seen his plans and supports them. They don't need to look at changing something based upon what may be done in the future. She would not be opposed to postponing this for another study, but the PD has put a lot of time to do the studies they've already done. There are many variables. It will require more studies from the hospital, information from EMS, etc. Staff worked on the current ordinance for 2 years or more; they don't need to change it. Commissioner Brown said the City is looking to grow; they need a broader vision. They serve everyone. She'd like more information.

Commissioner Leary concurred with Commissioners Norwood and Kitchens that the current ordinance is a good one. It is hard to believe that two hours would make or break a business. The Commission may have to look at this down the road, but at this time he could not support the request.

Commissioner Kitchens moved to deny the request to extend sales of alcoholic beverages from Sunday at midnight to 2:00 a.m. Monday morning. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was requested and taken, with the following results: Commissioners Kitchens, Norwood, Leary, Brown and Mayor Myers; yes. Nays; none. The motion was declared passed unopposed.

Mayor Myers commended Mr. Lyons on running a good operation.

6. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Mr. Boynton said over the next couple of month he will continue to update the Commission on the status of the water taxis. They continue to work with the DOT and FHWA on the need for, or requirement of, a Performance and Payment Bond. He is hoping to have this resolved if not by tomorrow, then by the end of next week.

Planning Director Thad Crowe stated the Legislature did a major overhaul of growth management in Florida. The financial feasibility study requirement for the City has been removed. Concurrency has been made optional. This means the City can change its Comprehensive Plan if and whenever it so chooses. The State limitation of a twice-per-year cycle is now gone, Plan amendments can occur anytime. It will be up to the City as to what to do with its Comp Plan. They just transmitted the City's Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report to Tallahassee; when it is necessary to update the Comp Plan the City will have to determine how or if it will be changed. Commissioner Leary said he believes there will be no question that this bill will be signed into law. The Dept. of Community Affairs will be downsized from 400 to about 40 employees. DCA's primary function will be a review of growth impact on a state-wide basis. This is a major change and things have been put back at the local level, which is where they need to be. Once the City receives the EAR report back, he would like to hold a workshop to look at this. He would like to keep the school concurrency provision and some of the transportation concurrency. Commissioner Brown inquired as to what was done with the CDBG program. Commissioner Leary stated that was not part of this; that money comes down through the State.

7. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Kitchens thanked Parks Director Jeff Norton for correcting issues at Hank Bryan Park.

Commissioner Kitchens said she thinks the PAL summer program is a good one and is glad it's back on this summer.

Commissioner Kitchens thanked the Commission for keeping the alcohol ordinance intact.

Commissioner Norwood passed out information regarding Palatka population changes. People are choosing to live in places other than Palatka and Putnam County. They need to look at the reasons why this is occurring. This begins with housing, which can be addressed through infrastructure. At this time the City's policy is to not extend water and sewer outside the City limits unless there is an Annexation Agreement in place, and you can only get sewer if you are inside the City. They need to workshop this and start some healthy discussion. Population is important for grants and other incentives. The proper infrastructure stimulates growth. They need to address this now, so that when the economy comes back Palatka will be poised for growth. They need to look at ad valorem taxes as well as other revenue sources. They have the capacity to extend water and sewer outside the city limits, which will generate revenue. He asked the Commission to set a time certain for a workshop to discuss this.

Commissioner Brown said the City has been working on infrastructure all along through the CDBG program. Mr. Boynton stated the City is using CDBG money to upgrade existing infrastructure within the City, which in some instances is well over 100 years old and failing, especially in the Historic Districts, due to the age of the infrastructure. Commissioner Norwood is talking about expanding utilities outside the existing city limits. Some areas may be eligible for CDBG grants because of income levels, but there are other ways to do it. He is waiting on a weight analysis on the utility system. The City now has the ability to expand utilities outside the city limits and address this issue. He will continue to promote CDBG projects for utility expansion and/or replacement. Commissioner Norwood said you cannot ask for CDBG grants if you are not going to extend the infrastructure outside the City limits. The Commission needs to discuss whether or not they want to extend services outside the City limits. The City has the capacity to do that right now. Commissioner Leary concurred, saying he has spoken of the need for neighborhood revitalization. Revitalization is ongoing downtown. He would like to

include revitalization as a component of that workshop. He and the City Manager are looking at long-range research on this issue.

Mr. Holmes said the City may also want to consider the issues of city boundaries in the workshop. The City has complained for years about uneven boundaries. He would urge the Commission to discuss the topics of annexation and urban service boundaries in the same workshop. Commissioner Norwood concurred. Mayor Myers said annexation is one avenue to promote growth. The City has a valuable asset in its water and sewer utilities. They also need to address the ad valorem issue to encourage annexation. He concurs on the need for a workshop.

Commissioner Leary said it would be interesting to perform a survey of people who work here, but have chosen not to live here, to determine why they decided to live elsewhere. Commissioner Norwood stated he has been asking that question and the answer is always housing. They are looking for upscale housing. Mr. Holmes stated schools are another big issue. Commissioner Brown said other areas have developers help with schools. Mr. Boynton said he and the Planning Director will discuss a workshop and come back with a date and time.

Mayor Myers thanked all who attended tonight's meeting in order to express their opinions.

8. **ADJOURN** – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Kitchens, seconded 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