

VERNON MYERS
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

ALLEGRA KITCHENS
COMMISSIONER

PHIL LEARY
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER



MICHAEL J. CZYMBOR
CITY MANAGER

BETSY JORDAN DRIGGERS
CITY CLERK

MATTHEW D. REYNOLDS
FINANCE DIRECTOR

GARY S. GETCHELL
CHIEF OF POLICE

MICHAEL LAMBERT
CHIEF FIRE DEPT.

DONALD E. HOLMES
CITY ATTORNEY

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

MINUTES
CITY OF PALATKA
July 26, 2012 Called Meeting

Proceedings of a called meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 26th day of July, 2012.

PRESENT:

Mayor	Vernon Myers
Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
Commissioner	Allegra Kitchens
Commissioner	Phil Leary

ABSENT: Commissioner James Norwood, Jr.

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and read the following meeting call, which was issued on July 13, 2012

TO MESSRS: MARY LAWSON BROWN, ALLEGRA KITCHENS, PHIL LEARY AND JAMES NORWOOD, JR.:

You are hereby notified that a called meeting of the Palatka City Commission is to be held on July 26, 2012 at the regular meeting place of the Palatka City Commission at 201 N. 2nd Street, Palatka, Florida, to commence immediately following the Budget Workshop.

The purpose of the meeting is to Set the Tentative Millage Rate for the 2013 TRIM calendar.

/s/ Vernon Myers
Vernon Myers, MAYOR

The following commissioners acknowledged receipt of a copy of the foregoing notice of a special meeting on the 13th day of July, 2012.

/s/ Mary Lawson Brown
COMMISSIONER

/s/ Phil Leary
COMMISSIONER

/s/ James Norwood, Jr.
COMMISSIONER

/s/ Allegra Kitchens
COMMISSIONER

INVOCATION – Commissioner Kitchens

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Charles Rudd

1. **TRIM CALENDAR** – Set Tentative Millage Rate for 2012/13 Budget Year – 9.1749 mills proposed (roll back rate) – Commissioner Leary moved to set the tentative millage rate for 2012/13 budget year at 9.1749 mills. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. Mr. Reynolds said the roll back rate is calculated by the State. It will bring in the same amount of ad valorem taxes as was calculated for the current year. There being no further discussion, the motion was voted upon and passed unopposed .
2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - a. **Authorize execution of Amendment No. 1 to Historic Preservation Grant Award Agreement # 12PA07** relative to the Looking Back, Looking Forward project to extend the grant expiration and deadlines to submit reports, per Staff recommendation
 - b. **Authorize execution of Second Amendment to the SJRWMD Agreement #24924** dated 6/12/08 for the Lower St. Johns River Basin Cost-Share Project to increase funding for the WWTP Reuse Project to install a chlorination system (50% cost share), per Staff recommendation
 - c. **Ratify motion to direct the Palatka Gas Authority to transfer \$500,000 to General Fund Budget** per results of workshop dated 7/19/12
 - d. **Grant Special Request Items for Permit #12-35 “3rd Friday Downtown Street Party”** from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm on August 17, 2012 as follows, per recommendation of Special Events Coordinator – Palatka Main Street and Arts Council of Putnam County, applicants
 1. Grant permission to exceed allowable noise levels
 2. Grant permission to serve/consume alcoholic beverages on public property/street r/w

Commissioner Brown moved to pass all items on Consent as presented and/or recommended. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

3. **ORDINANCE** amending the Municipal Code to amend the Palatka General Employees Retirement Plan Investment Policy – 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, BY AMENDING THE INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT OF THE CITY OF PALATKA GENERAL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT PLAN; AMENDING SEC. 2-204, INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES; AMENDING SEC. 2-205, INVESTMENT GUIDELINES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Kitchens moved to pass the ordinance on first reading. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. A roll call was taken with the following results: Commissioners Kitchens, Leary, Brown and Mayor Myers; yes. Nays; none. The Ordinance was declared passed on 1st reading.
4. **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING between G-P Corp. and City of Palatka** for construction and operation of an Environmental Education Center – for execution – Mayor Myers said they’ve received a copy of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This is what they were charged to develop as a result of negotiations between the City, himself, Jonathan Griffith and Mr. Czymbor, the new City Manager. After negotiation, both parties have agreed to the terms contained in this MOU. This is conceptual and defines everyone’s role and duties. He drew their attention to item #9 and said they all want community input. The City will ultimately own this, but G-P will pay for it. G-P is a great partner and this was an easy negotiation. Commissioner Kitchens moved to approve the MOU between G-P Corp. and the City of Palatka for construction and operation of a proposed environmental education center. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Czymbor said he wanted to confirm they talked about the submission of an FAA grant for \$1.3 million, with the City's participation at 5%, and it was the consensus of the Commission to move forward on this.

Mr. Czymbor said prior to his arrival there was discussion of providing potable and/or reuse water to G-P Corp. and he is pursuing that. This would be in the best interest of both parties. He plans to bring that back to the Commission.

Mr. Czymbor said he's reviewed the RFP for the redevelopment of the "100 Block." He wants to repackage that and bring that back before the Commission to consider.

Mr. Czymbor said he's overwhelmed by the welcome and support he's received from the Community. He and his family will be at the Saturday celebration Downtown, and he looks forward to seeing and meeting people there.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Virnstein, 102 Elgin Rd, E. Palatka, commended the City and G-P on the MOU and thinks it's good to have public input. He asked for clarification on Item #5, Construction, as to whether this includes the building and everything inside. Mayor Myers said it does. "Curriculum" includes everything in the building. This constitutes a significant financial contribution. A newspaper editorial this morning suggested they dovetail some welcome functions into this building. Commissioner Kitchens said FloArts is interested in doing art exhibits there, also.

Commissioner Brown reminded them they agreed to hold a workshop when they come back from FLC Annual Conference on trying to draw business into downtown. She'd still like to see a grocery store in the downtown area and has a contact on that.

Mayor Myers reminded everyone the Downtown Palatka and Conlee-Snyder Mural Committee are hosting a meet-and-greet reception for Mr. Czymbor and his family on Saturday at the Palatka Welcome Center from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Regarding Downtown/Main Street activities, the cruise-ins and block parties have been more and more successful with each passing month.

6. **ADJOURN** – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Leary.

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