

VERNON MYERS
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

ALLEGRA KITCHENS
COMMISSIONER

PHIL LEARY
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER



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 10, 2012

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 10th day of May, 2012.

PRESENT:

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

Also Present: City Manager Elwin C. "Woody" Boynton, Jr.; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers; Finance Director Matt Reynolds; Planning Director Thad Crowe, Police Chief Gary Getchell; Fire Chief Mike Lambert; Water Treatment Plant Supt. Melvin Register, Main Street Manager Charles Rudd, and Parks & Cemeteries Supervisor Jeff Norton

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

INVOCATION – The Reverend John M. Miles, Pastor; First Church of God of Florahome

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Col. Fran Martin, USAF retired

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 4/26/12 – Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

1. PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:

PROCLAMATION – National Public Works Week – May 20 – 26, 2012 – Mayor Myers read and presented the proclamation to Melvin Register, Palatka Water Treatment Plant Superintendent. Mr. Register praised Mr. Boynton for his vision for the Public Works Department and said the City has just about revamped all the public works procedures and practices under his guidance and leadership as Public Works Director and City Manager.

PROCLAMATION – National Safe Boating Week – May 19 – 25, 2012 – US Coast Guard Auxiliary officer Kathy Fisk was present to receive the proclamation, which was read and issued by Mayor Myers. Ms. Fisk said on May 19 the Coast Guard Auxiliary will sponsor a riverfront

clean-up beginning at 9:00 a.m. They will be giving away free hot dogs and drinks, and boats from SJRWMD and other entities will be on hand. They emphasize safe boating practice education during this time. Everyone who uses the Riverfront is urged to participate. Commissioner Leary said the Coast Guard Auxiliary does a great job on its safe boating course. It is free and every boater should take the course.

PROCLAMATION – Police Memorial Day – May 11, 2012 – Police Chief Gary Getchell was present to accept the proclamation, read and issued by Mayor Meyers. Chief Getchell said tomorrow a Memorial Ceremony will be held at Mt. Tabor Baptist Church beginning at 10:00 a.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Featured is a multi-unit helicopter fly-over. It is a somber event and the public is invited and encouraged to attend.

WOODY BOYNTON RECOGNITION – Mayor Myers said Mr. Boynton has resigned his post as City Manager and has accepted a position as assistant executive director at SJRWMD. The City has benefited from his guidance and energy. His contributions are many, and he is leaving the City a better place. The City is indeed lucky to have had him as a city manager for the past four years. They are all disappointed to see him leave, but understand his decision. Mayor Myers presented Mr. Boynton with a plaque in recognition of his service, and also presented him with his name plate from his desk.

Commissioner Kitchens said she appreciates all he's done, and thanked him for agreeing to be the City Manager. It's been educating and she looks forward to seeing him as a friend afterwards. Commissioner Brown said the City will benefit from his continued activity with SJRWMD. She has been loading him down with ideas since he arrived, and they were starting to click with him. She hopes he will continue his work to make this town move forward. Commissioner Leary said he admires Mr. Boynton's dedication and expertise, and agrees the City made a great choice when they hired him as City Manager. He's looking forward to working with him as SJRWMD Executive Director. Commissioner Norwood said he's enjoyed working with him throughout the years. He's set into motion and made reality their visions. The agenda is all set and they need to build on it. He looks forward to working with him at the District. Mr. Holmes said Woody has done an excellent job as City Manager and their time working together has been very enjoyable. He's moved the City forward. He's sorry to see him leave but happy he is staying in the Community and contributing on a different level.

Mr. Boynton thanked everyone for allowing him the opportunity to serve, and said the legislators and citizens have made it fun. The economy wasn't great, but they've made progress, and in the end they all banded together and moved forward on a shared vision, and as he leaves City government and moves over to Water Management, they need to move forward in the future together. He could not have done this without his Staff; their meetings were contained to pre-agenda meetings every other Thursdays. They had one-on-one meetings and accomplished a lot there. Every member of the Staff has raised the standard of service in the City.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** –

Linda Crider, 116 Kirkland Street, joined in recognizing and thanking Mr. Boynton for his years of service. He made significant progress with professionals and volunteers such as himself. He returned texts and his door was always open. She worked with Mr. Boynton and Mr. Jacobovitz in getting Palatka's first bike lanes on River Street. She thanked him for pursuing the vision on the Riverfront.

Ms. Crider stated she had a prior engagement and needed to leave the meeting. She wanted to go on record as supporting the CRA Extension and congratulated Mr. Rudd on the branding effort. She also supports making Memorial Drive a one-way street.

Elizabeth Van Rensburg, 310 N. 3rd Street, said she is part of the Main Street Promotions Committee. She wanted to mention she was one of the people who vetted the public groups and organizations the City wanted represented when they began the branding process. An incredible cross-section of the Community attended the public meetings and many people made comments. She appreciates their positive vision and work on behalf of Palatka. They did a lot of work and came up with many different brands under the same theme for events, government agencies, and local companies. With her background in tourism and marketing, she thinks this is comprehensive and covers everything, and she looks forward to using this. She'd like to see the Commission adopt it; it can be tweaked after it's adopted. She'd like to see Palatka put on the map.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. **Authorize PPD to submit the following grant applications:**

1. **Federal 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program – Local Solicitation** in the amount of \$11,118.00 (no match required)
2. **Federal 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program – JAG Countywide - State Solicitation** in amount of \$16,030.60 (no match required)

b. **Authorize execution of Change Order #4 to Masci Corp. contract in the amount of \$70,305.68**, for a new total contract amount of \$ 1,011,509.05 to amend the scope of work to add a chlorination system to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements project, per City Manager's recommendation.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve all items on Consent as presented. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

4. **RESOLUTION** extending the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Plan to December 27, 2043, per Community Redevelopment Agency Recommendation – Adopt – the Clerk read a Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING AND ADOPTING THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA PLAN AMENDMENT TO EXTEND THE CRA PLAN TO DECEMBER 27, 2043 BY WAY OF THIS RESOLUTION AS ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A"; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the Resolution as read. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a roll-call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, yes; Nays, none. The resolution was declared adopted.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE** – Planning Board Recommendation to amend the Large Scale Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Element to add Policy A.1.2.2 extending the timeframe of the Community Redevelopment Area Plan through December 27, 2043 – **Authorize transmittal of Draft Ordinance to state agencies for review** – City of Palatka, Applicant – The Clerk read a draft ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR NEW POLICY A.1.2.2 OF THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO EXTEND THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA PLAN THROUGH DECEMBER 27, 2043, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Leary moved to approve transmittal of the draft ordinance to state agencies for review. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.
6. **PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE** – 1001 Husson Avenue - Planning Board Recommendation to deny request to rezone from R-1A (Residential) to PUD-PBG1 (Planned Unit Development/Public Buildings & Grounds) – Moseley School Warehouse – Putnam County School District, Applicant – 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF

THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED AS TO THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, LOCATED AT 1001 HUSSON AVENUE FROM R-1A (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO PUD/PBF-1 PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT/PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to uphold the recommendation of the Planning Board and deny passage of the ordinance on first reading. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. Mayor Myers opened the public hearing.

Planning Director Thad Crowe said the Commission does have a recommendation of denial from the Planning Board. They have worked for some time to reach an agreement between the residents of the surrounding neighborhood and the Putnam County School District. They have some options. The recommendation from the Planning Board is to deny the request to rezone. Another option is to remand this to the Planning Board for further work. Staff understands the two main issues at hand are 1) the incompatibility of the warehouse use with the residential nature of the neighborhood and 2) increased traffic on residential streets. There has been movement as of late on the part of the PCSD to better address those issues. Staff and some residents of the neighborhood have indicated they would be satisfied with the warehouse use being phased out during the next year, and all traffic closed off to the Cleveland Street access. All traffic would have to use the Husson Avenue ingress/egress. There is some play with the time frame on this last issue. If they think this would be worth looking at again, he recommends they send this back to the Planning Board where he would recommend a quicker time frame than that proposed by the PCSD to vacate the warehouse use, and he'd also recommend closing off the Cleveland Avenue entrance.

Mr. Holmes said if a denial of the application occurs, there cannot be another application made for a similar use for a year from the date of denial. Mr. Crowe said it would have to be substantially different than the PUD before them now. Mr. Holmes said if there is to be consideration of a different PUD, the preferred method would be to remand this back to the Planning Board. Mr. Crowe said the denial would affect all the uses for the property; it could also not be used as offices. The only thing that could operate there would be single family homes. Commissioner Norwood asked if there are assurances that an agreement would be reached. Mr. Holmes said there is no guarantee. You don't just rezone if there is a total agreement between the parties. You have to decide whether the proposal is a legitimate land use decision. It may not make everyone happy on both sides. At this time the recommendation is for denial from the Planning Board because what was put before them was not something they felt comfortable with. There may not be an agreed upon use.

Commissioner Kitchens read Mr. Pickens' comments from the Planning Board minutes, wherein he stated the warehouse use is not acceptable in a neighborhood. Mr. Sheffield, another Planning Board member, said he views this as strictly a land use issue and it is not compatible. Commissioner Brown asked if there is something else this property is now being used for besides a warehouse. Mr. Crowe said the School Board has a lot of miscellaneous offices there. All of these uses would go away if this is denied tonight. Commissioner Kitchens asked if the office use would constitute traffic from trucks due to the purchasing office. Mr. Crowe said there are 25 employees and an 18-wheeler that comes in several times a week. It is not frequent, but regular. Commissioner Leary said he'd like to hear from the School Board counsel as to consequences on these actions.

Jim Padgett, Esquire, 113 N. 4th Street, representing the Putnam County School District, said he can speak about the entire application, or address the remand issue, which is what the District has requested take place tonight. There has been a definite change in circumstances and they want to resolve this to the Commission and Community's satisfaction. Mr. Scott Getchell,

facilities supervisor for the PCSD, can answer any questions about the day-to-day activities at the site. He believes the more appropriate matter would be to deal with the request to remand, which was discussed with the City Attorney in a meeting last week, and who recommends the remand take place. It is his understating there are two lingering serious issues regarding the current use of the property. One is the warehouse. The media attention and community perception that the District is seeking permission to operate a warehouse at this site is not accurate. The District wants to phase out the warehouse use that is there now in a reasonable amount of time. They initially asked for a five-year period. Staff recommended a two-year period. The Planning Board recommended denial of the entire request. The District has met since then, reviewed the concerns of all, and will commit to discontinuing use of the warehouse in September 2013, or 15 months. This is quite a bit shorter timeframe than staff recommended. The Planning Board did not have the benefit of that compromise of thinking. They'd like the opportunity to go back and change this.

Mr. Padgett said the second issue is the access. In the past there has been honest debate on that. When it was used as a school, access was achieved from several points. The neighborhood now wants it restricted to Husson Avenue. They can limit the access to Husson and this is accessible. They'd like to share this with the Planning Board and give them a fresh view of this. This is not about a warehouse. They aren't fighting for the desire to continue to operate the warehouse there. The present warehouse use is less than 20% and closer to 15% of the total premises. Eighty-five percent of the 15 buildings, or a total of 40,000 sq. ft, is being used as offices. The public has the perception that the application is to operate a 40,000 sq. ft. warehouse. As to the purchasing offices, this is the administrative side of that. When the warehouse is discontinued, there will be no more big trucks. There will be office supplies used there, but no more warehouse use. Purchasing would be there, but no vendors would deliver there. He knows they are responsible for the public perception because the sign in front of the building says "Putnam Co. School District Warehouse," but 85% of the use is for non-warehouse purposes. They will get rid of the 15%, but need a reasonable amount of time to do this. They chose Sept 1, 2013 to cease that warehouse use, as this is a question of economics; they are looking at an \$800,000 - \$1 million shortfall, which may get worse. They wanted to construct a free-standing warehouse several years ago, but those funds had to be used for other things. The money for the warehouse dried up; that's when the decision was made to convert the school site to a non-school use yard.

Mr. Padgett said these new decisions weren't made by the District until after the Planning Board's May meeting. They want the opportunity to bring the Planning Board up to date and present these compromises, so the Planning Board can make a fresh recommendation. They may still recommend denial of this still. The City gave this property to the School District for use as a school. If the Public Buildings and Grounds use is denied, they will be left with a residential zoning classification. This is not R-1A property and it would never be used as R-1A; they would be further in violation of the zoning ordinance. Although the City gave the property to the school district for use for school purposes, he does not want to place blame; they've made use of this property as it is currently being used since 2009. It never occurred to them that this would not be permissible. The administration was acting in good faith when the decision was made. It never crossed his mind to contact the City B&Z Department to check to see if could be used for this purpose. He does not want blame assessed. They are trying to save money, but want to satisfy residents. They want to keep their offices there and want a public buildings & grounds designation. It would be a nightmare if the zoning classification remained R-1A. He has a lot of additional information if they would like a more complete presentation. The City changed all other school sites to PBG (Public Buildings & Grounds) except this one.

Commissioner Leary asked if the transition from school to office space occurred first, or simultaneously to the warehouse use. Mr. Padgett said it occurred simultaneously. Commissioner Leary asked why this campus was not included in the Planning Board land use change. Mr. Crowe said the Planning Board pulled this site from the list of sites being considered for the change because of residents' concern with this issue. Commissioner Leary asked if they can use this as a school, or neighborhood business activities, if this is changed. Mr. Crowe said there are two things going on; they want to rezone and change the land use. This was not rezoned in order to let a compromise come forth through the PUD process. Commissioner Leary asked if the School Board wants to maintain the warehouse under the PBG designation. Mr. Crowe said originally the School Board wanted to maintain the warehouse indefinitely.

Commissioner Kitchens asked Mr. Padgett if the operation could be grandfathered in as office operations. The school had an office when it was in operation. It existed as a school prior to the blanket rezoning. Mr. Crowe said the zoning code distinguishes schools from other public uses. Schools are allowed in residential districts by conditional use. The schools are all grandfathered in as a legal non-conforming use as they were there before conditional uses were established. Once the use was discontinued for six months, this school lost its "grandfathering" as a legal non-conforming use. It ceased to operate as a school when offices were moved in there. Commissioner Kitchens asked Mr. Padgett if he could give assurance the warehouse would be moved out by 9/1/13 and asked if there would be a legally binding document that would assure this even if there were a change of administration or members of the legislative body. Mr. Holmes said a PUD allows the City to attach specific conditions to the zoning. They can specify that the amount of warehouse use cannot be increased over what it is now, and it would terminate as of 9/1/13, and that can be a condition of the PUD. Commissioner Kitchens said previously the school warehouse was at the old Browning Pearce school; at some point it was moved from there to a rental warehouse, and then to the former Moseley Elementary School. She understands there is an adult education center at the old Browning Pearce site, and a new middle school is looking for a house. It seems it would be better to move the warehouse back to the old Browning Pearce location and move school activities into Moseley. Mr. Padgett said this District will give this consideration. The plan was to build a new warehouse, but when the money went away, they made this decision. It was done to address a need and made under difficult circumstances. As the district became more aware of the public sentiment, the attitudes changed. They wanted to stay forever, but are willing to be out by September 1, 2013. They will likely have to lease space somewhere to do so and will have to find those funds.

Commissioner Brown said some of the residents are bothered by large trucks loading and unloading, and asked if they can take care of those irritants quickly. Mr. Padgett said they would love to make everyone happy with this, but even when the facility was a school they had complaints about traffic and noise. There were complaints about the bells. They want to make everyone as reasonably happy as they can. They have gone to great lengths to count the number of big truck deliveries, which would be eliminated by September 1, 2013. They have less than one "big truck" delivery per day and the unloading time is less than 10 – 12 minutes, and they receive one to two pallets per delivery. That is not insignificant, but those deliveries will be eliminated. Commissioner Brown asked if they can be unloaded between the buildings so the noise can be buffered until the use goes away. Mr. Padgett said if they can, they will. They have done numerous things to minimize the discomfort to the neighborhood since the discourse arose. They have muted the forklift alarm, upgraded the alarm system to avoid false alarms, moved traffic patterns, and modified delivery schedules, among other things. Mr. Crowe said one of Staff's recommendations is to relocate the big truck loading/unloading from Prosper Street to Husson Avenue.

Commissioner Norwood asked how soon the traffic would be out of the community if this is remanded to the Planning Board tonight. Mr. Padgett said they are down to less than one "trip" per day now.

Scott Getchell, facilities supervisor, PCSD, said they can modify the ingress/egress to Husson Avenue relatively quickly. If they have to relocate, they don't want to make modifications to accommodate this request. If the Commission allows them to stay there, they can make the modification within a week.

Mr. Holmes asked Mr. Crowe, if there is a remand, how long a delay are they talking? When can he get this to the Planning Commission? Mr. Crowe said they can have a late May/June Planning Board and can bring this back to the June 14 Commission meeting. They can have this back in one month for a decision.

RECESS – There was consensus of the Commission to call a short recess at 7:10 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Myers called the meeting back in session at 7:15 p.m. and continued with the Orders of the Day.

Mayor Myers opened the floor to Public Comment.

Rissi Cherie, 517 S. Francis Street, Interlachen FL, President, Putnam Citizens Alliance, said the Alliance is committed to promoting fair and responsive government to citizens. They rights of individual citizens should take precedence over the school board, which is a political entity. They stand with the homeowners in their stance against the granting of this PUD application and urge the Commission to deny and continue to deny the request to rezone. It is important that local government listen to citizens and local boards. This is a serious issue. If the School Board is allowed to continue to use this as anything but a school it is a violation of zoning laws and a serious violation of the rights of the property owners in the neighborhood. She distributed a position paper (filed). They are committed to helping citizens and government to work together. Their lifestyle exceeds the needs of the PCSD.

Fran Martin, 501 Tropic Avenue, Interlachen, said this is being used as a school warehouse, as the sign says. She, too, is a member of the Putnam Citizens Alliance. This is a Political Action Committee made up of citizens throughout the County. Their goal is to enhance communication between citizens and government. There is plenty of government involved in this action. All this can be overwhelming and intimidating for the average citizen. This has been a nightmare for the residents who live next to this warehouse. At the core of this is the PUD application. During her term as an Interlachen commissioner, she came to believe a PUD is a scary tool to be used against citizens to allow the government to do whatever they want to citizens. The Commission needs to do what's right and uphold the Planning Board's recommendation to deny this rezoning. She urges them to reject this.

Robert Cavuoti, 2206 Prosper Street, Palatka, urged the Commission to uphold the Planning Board's recommendation to deny. He provided a brief history on events. In June 2009 the PCSDS started the warehouse operation at this location. He made a complaint then, and was told by B&Z representatives that it was not zoned for use as a warehouse. There was no public notice for this. The Planning Board and City were not consulted nor asked for input. The PCSD put a warehouse in a residential area and also a school zone, across the street from the present Moseley Elementary. They voiced concerns to the School Superintendent, who said he was not moving the warehouse unless the City made him. He said he'd get back with them in two weeks and never did, and only did so after repeated calls to his office over several months. When they

got the City involved, the Superintendent agreed to meet with them. At that time he stated he would not move the warehouse.

Mr. Cavuoti said the Planning Board met on April 3 and unanimously recommended to deny this rezoning. They took this issue seriously. He hopes this Commission does the same thing. He has stated in the past that he does not mind the facility being used as an office; it was the warehouse use he and his neighbors object to. If it continues to be used for offices, they would need to put safeguards in for the neighborhood. This is reasonable to him. Having a warehouse there brings blight to the neighborhood. This has been going on for three years. The school year wants another year to manipulate this issue. He'd like to see them deny the request, get rid of the warehouse within 60 days, as it only took them 60 days to put it there. As for the truck traffic, this is the end of the school system's fiscal year and they won't be ordering supplies now. In July they will start ordering again, and the truck traffic will increase again. There are trucks coming in all the time from Staples, UPS, etc. They did muffle the loader and he appreciates that. That warehouse does not belong there. If this had been done properly, the Planning Board would have denied it in 2009. They PCSD just did this and that's not the way government should operate. There is nothing in zoning law to justify this. They want this warehouse removed within 60 days. They don't mind the City continuing to allow this to be used as office space.

Commissioner Kitchens said the current zoning wouldn't allow this to be used as office space. If this is voted down tonight, they can't use it for anything but a school. Mr. Cavuoti said at this time there should be nothing there; the school is no longer grandfathered in. It will have to be rezoned. It is reasonable to him to meet the School District halfway and leave the offices there, but get the warehouse out. He does not object to offices, but he objects to this being remanded back to the Planning Board.

Janet Cavuoti, 2206 Proper Street, Palatka, said she does not like that it has taken over three years to get to this point. A normal person would have given up. They banded together to try to work this out. They need a decision tonight of yes or no. They need to uphold the decision of the Planning Board. She's not in agreement with any other decision; the office space is not the issue. The issue is zoning. What the School Board does after that is not the neighborhood's problem.

Bobby Richardson, 2204 Prosper Street, said they don't want this in their neighborhood. They don't want the big trucks in their neighborhood. Husson Avenue is busy from 7 – 9 am and in the afternoon with school traffic. There are a lot of school children using Husson Avenue. They don't want the warehouse there.

Tom Townsend, 605 N. 3rd Street, Superintendent of Schools, PCSD, said he understands the neighbors don't want this there. He thanked them for their patience. They were in crisis three years ago and made this decision. It saved jobs, saved money and helped kids. He hears the Citizens' Alliance and believes everyone has legitimate complaints. The property was never kept up as well as it is now. They have to make a decision and the School District has resigned itself to the fact that the warehouse has to go away. They asked for five years' leniency, as this financial crisis isn't over. They have to serve the children and taxpayers. He's asking the City to consider the remand as they need time to make this change. He understands the neighborhood's position. He's met with them many times. There is no way to fix this except to move the warehouse operation, but they need time to do this. The school system has served the taxpayers and children of this community in a time of need. If they are forced to leave they will, but there will be a financial consequence to the school system. If the Planning Board says no to the revised request, he will again be back.

Commissioner Brown said they understand they want the warehouse gone and the resulting noise. They need to know how to save the office space.

Mr. Crowe said they have two options. One is to keep the PUD and allow for the office use and the warehouse within the PUD. The second option is less likely and that is to shift over to the PBF1 classification, which may not be as intensive. He asked Mr. Holmes for his opinion. Mr. Holmes said he has concerns over bringing something into a zoning classification that has not been applied for, nor heard by the Planning Board. He'd be uncomfortable with voting on this tonight. They have a PUD pending in front of them that includes a warehouse component. If the applicant asks them to remove the warehouse component and adopt the PUD, he would not have a problem with that as it is a lesser intensity than what was advertised. If the applicant doesn't ask for that, the City can't change the PUD. They can vote it up, down, or send it back to the Planning Board level. The other option is for the applicant to request changes now, which are 1) to eliminate traffic on Cleveland and Prosper and put all the traffic on Husson Avenue, and 2) limit the warehouse use to 16 months. If those modifications are requested, the City Commission can consider that. Whether or not that's preferable to allowing the Planning Board to hear the request remains the question. The Planning Board has not heard this revised request. They voted on a different request, not on this new request. The traffic limitation was not on the table and the request was to leave the warehouse use for five years. The Planning Board did a good job of letting both sides weigh in. If the time delay is not too great, they should hear it again.

Commissioner Leary said he believes the applicant can withdraw this PUD application and resubmit within the 12 month time frame. Mr. Holmes said there are people anxious to resolve this; if they withdraw, that will delay this for 3 or 4 more months. Commissioner Leary said they can reapply under the PBG1 category. Mr. Holmes said there have been demands for Code Enforcement actions. Commissioner Leary said the PCSD administration has done a deplorable job of communications, so here they are. There are tax implications and other implications. The administration has put the City in between a rock and a hard place.

Commissioner Kitchens noted the city attorney said the Commission can consider a modified request tonight, which would make the citizens happy. Where there is an incompatible zoning use, a business has to go before the BOZA to keep it a non-conforming use. They can do this to keep the office space.

Mayor Myers said the School Board has stated they will do away with the warehouse and keep the office facility, which is agreeable to the neighborhood. The other issue is closing traffic access to all entrances except Husson Avenue. The remaining issue is the time the warehouse remains. He asked if the School Board would agree to a shorter time frame tonight.

Mr. Padgett said they've offered 9/1/13, which is the soonest they can relocate the warehouse. Whether they can accomplish this within a few months is debatable. The 9/1/13 date is a real push.

Mr. Townsend said if they are told to leave tomorrow, they will have to pack up and leave. They need to do this in a way that works best for everyone. The way parking is set up, and the way they are using their training facility, the parking isn't such now that they can do that. These are cars and teachers. They had a driveway and curb cuts construction coming off Prosper, and can have employees using that. They want to be good neighbors. They need a reasonable time line to transition the warehouse out. Commissioner Kitchen asked if big trucks can be restricted to Husson Avenue ingress/egress; Mr. Townsend said they can do that. Mr. Padgett said the staff's concern was Cleveland Avenue access, not Prosper Street, but the Prosper access has crept

into the conversation. Commissioner Leary said they are limiting this to truck traffic. Commissioner Norwood asked if they deny this tonight, what would be the timeline to comply. Mr. Crowe said they would immediately take this to the next Code Enforcement Board meeting, which would be in June. Commissioner Norwood asked how long it would take to go through the Code Enforcement process. Mr. Holmes said they'd send a Notice of Violation first, which would give the violator a certain period of time to correct the use. If that didn't happen, they will set a date for a hearing, which is another 30 days or more. Commissioner Norwood noted it seems there will be a transitional phase anyway; they can't shut it down immediately.

At Commissioner Kitchens' request, the Clerk read into the record a letter received by Commissioner Kitchens, from Jimmy & Betty Jean Bryan, 2106 Kirby Street, opposing this zoning change.

Mayor Myers noted the motion is to deny, and said if this passes, the property would remain at R-1A zoning, and the location couldn't be used as offices. If they vote to remand it would go back to the Planning Board, and this is Staff's recommendation. The PCSD Administration is willing to make significant changes to the application, doing away with the warehouse use and changing traffic patterns. From the testimony he's heard, citizens don't have a problem with the offices remaining here. Commissioner Leary said he heard counsel say they can approve the PUD tonight with the School Board withdrawing any warehouse use. Mr. Holmes said they can amend their application tonight for any use that is less than that intended. The Planning Board makes a recommendation on such applications; the Planning Board is not making the 'appealable' decision. The Commission is not bound to the Planning Board's recommendation.

Commissioner Norwood asked if the PCSD is in a position to recommend a modification of the PUD. Mr. Padgett said they are willing to amend or modify their application to not expand the present warehouse use at all and totally eliminate it by 9/1/13, and to eliminate truck ingress/egress to all entrances except Husson Avenue. He understands citizens have no issue with that. He would make those requests tonight.

Mr. Cavuoti said he worked for the school system for 40 years under four superintendents. When he hears "they are doing this for the children" he questions the sentiment. If they were doing this for the children, they would never have closed that school, which has been in continuous operation since the 1950s. It has always been a school. At the Planning Board meeting Mr. Pickens said this is a zoning issue; that's the bottom line. That is why he voted to recommend denial. Commissioner Norwood asked if he is amenable to office space remaining there. Mr. Cavuoti said yes, as long as it is just office space, but they also have a maintenance department there. He doesn't mind offices. Commissioner Kitchens asked if the PCSD would remove the warehouse request tonight and be out within 3 months; it will be 3 months if this is denied, anyway. They can put this in the PUD and it will be legally binding. Mr. Padgett said he can't commit the District to something it can't possibly do. Mr. Townsend said they have to do this in a way to preserve jobs. They aren't diminishing the concerns of the citizens, and are asking this be remanded. They will comply with whatever decision is made. Mr. Padgett said they ask it either be remanded, or approved with the legal protections and concession they have stated: the warehouse use will not be expanded upon, will be totally eliminated by 9/1/13, and they will limit access to Husson Avenue.

Mr. Holmes said when he met with Mr. Padgett and Mr. Crowe, part of what he took into consideration was the appeals process. If the City denies the application tonight, the first option would be to allow the PCSD to file an appeal with the Circuit Court. They can keep this in court for a year. Whether they would or they wouldn't, as the Commission's legal advisor, he tries to consider all options and possibilities. If they can't comply, the City can file a Code Enforcement

action and start putting a fine on the School Board. The School Board can file an appeal. They can spend a year in court. They are asking for 15 months now; if they spend a year in court they will be at 15 months. He did not participate as an advocate at this lower hearing, but there was a lot of talk about negative sentiment towards the school system and desire on the part of the citizens that things change. This is a land use decision. There was not any testimony provided on traffic counts, levels or times of noise, only general statements made. Nothing was provided regarding property values or land use. There were a lot of heartfelt and sincere statements being made, but on terms of evidence, there was not a lot of that, and there was a staff recommendation in favor of allowing this. A remand will serve the best interests of everyone concerned. If the Commission denies this, they will take this one step at a time. He believes the 15 month time frame was a compromise based upon spending a year in court on an appeal. This is why this compromise is a good solution.

Commissioner Kitchens said there was discussion at the Planning Board level regarding truck traffic. Mayor Myers said they are talking about official traffic counts. Commissioner Norwood said it is his understanding if they appeal it will take over a year to get them out, regardless of their action tonight. If they are only asking for 15 months, this can be considered. He asked why it will take this long. Mr. Townsend said it will take that long to find another location and then transfer the operation. They have not found a suitable spot yet. This is not the citizens' problem it's the School District's problem. Commissioner Norwood said if they are willing to remove the warehouse operation within one year and will get traffic off Prosper and Cleveland immediately, he is willing to consider that, if they make those changes tonight.

Mayor Myers said this although this is an illegal use, he doesn't think this was done maliciously. The City and Planning Dept. have worked hard to resolve this issue. They adopted changes to the PUD provisions. The neighbors have been patient. They want to do away with the warehouse and resolve the traffic issues. The City has an obligation to cooperate intergovernmentally with the School Board. He asked Mr. Holmes to provide his opinion as to whether it is better to remand this back to the Planning Board to act upon a revised application, or act upon the revised PUD tonight.

Mr. Holmes said the lowest amount of time the school board has asked for is 16 months; Commissioner Norwood said he'd be willing to consider approving 12 months. Mr. Padgett said they want to amend the application tonight and would be willing to amend to allowing the PCSD 12 months to do away with the warehouse use.

Commissioner Norwood withdrew his motion to deny the rezoning request. Commissioner Kitchens withdrew her second. Mr. Crowe said there are other uses they need to consider, like maintenance use and outdoor storage, and there are other things that need to be worked through. Mr. Holmes noted the Staff recommendation would remain the same with the exception of non-expansion of the warehouse use, elimination of truck traffic from any road other than Husson Avenue, and to discontinue the warehouse use within 12 months. The PCSD has also agreed to close off Cleveland Avenue ingress/egress for all traffic. Mr. Holmes asked if they are clear enough on what's being voted upon tonight. Mr. Crowe said they also want to include staff recommendations. Mr. Townsend said they have a legal curb cut on Cleveland Avenue and cars have been coming and going from that point for a long time. Mayor Myers said it is his recommendation to remand this to the Planning Board. Mr. Padgett said it was his understating that Cleveland Avenue would be closed to all traffic. Mr. Townsend said they want to close it to truck traffic only.

Commissioner Norwood moved to remand the Putnam County School Board's revised application for PUD zoning to the Planning Board, with the direction to Staff to bring this back

before the City Commission at a time certain of June 14, provided the revised application can be legally heard by the Planning Board to make this date and all advertising deadlines are met. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion.

Mr. Townsend said they appreciate the opportunity to take this back to the Planning Board. It will be a real challenge to remove this warehouse operation in a year. They aren't trying to drag this out. Commissioner Norwood said they are here now because of principle. The citizens tried to work with the PCSD and were willing to work with the PCSD, but they became frustrated when no compromise was offered. They got beyond the issues, and it became a matter of principle. He is glad to see that the grass roots process works. They don't want to get into the principle of issues, but want to deal with the issues themselves. There being no further discussion, the motion to remand the application was passed upon a vote of four in favor, opposed by Commissioner Kitchens.

RECESS – There was consensus of the Commission to call a short recess at 8:25 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Myers called the meeting back in session at 8:30 p.m. and continued with the Orders of the Day.

7. **PUBLIC HEARING** – 3205 & 3209 Crill Avenue and 1108 S. Palm Avenue - Planning Board Recommendation to annex, rezone 3205 & 3209 Crill Avenue from Putnam County C-2 (Commercial, Light) to City of Palatka C-2 (Intensive Commercial) and rezone 1108 S. Palm Avenue from Putnam County R-1A (Residential, Single Family) to City of Palatka C-1A (Neighborhood Commercial) – Donald E. Holmes, J. Dale Hewitt Life Estate and Richard Richter, owners; Guy Parola, Applicant/Agent. Mr. Holmes recused himself from discussion as he is an owner of the property.

ORDINANCE annexing 3205 & 3209 Crill Ave. & 1108 S. Palm Ave – 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA ANNEXING INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA CERTAIN ADJACENT TERRITORY IDENTIFIED AS 3205 CRILL AVENUE, 3209 CRILL AVENUE, AND 1108 SOUTH PALM AVENUE, LOCATED IN SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, PUBLIC RECORDS OF PUTNAM COUNTY, FLORIDA CONTIGUOUS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE rezoning 3205 & 3209 Crill Ave. & 1108 S. Palm Ave – 1st Reading – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA PROVIDING THAT THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BE AMENDED AS TO THAT CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED IN SECTION 11, TOWNSHIP 10 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST, LOCATED AT 3205 AND 3209 CRILL AVENUE AND 1108 SOUTH PALM AVENUE, FROM PUTNAM COUNTY C-2 (COMMERCIAL, LIGHT) TO CITY OF PALATKA C-2 (INTENSIVE COMMERCIAL) FOR 3205 AND 3209 CRILL AVENUE, AND FROM PUTNAM COUNTY R-1A (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY) TO CITY OF PALATKA C-1A (NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL) FOR 1108 SOUTH PALM AVENUE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Norwood moved to pass both the Annexation and Rezoning ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. Mayor Myers opened the public hearing portion of the meeting and opened the floor to the public.

Susan Gilmore, 1104 S. Palm and Laurie Parker, 1014 S. Palm, also representing Edith Vanderpool, a neighbor, said they have a lot of questions and concerns with this. They understand the Crill Avenue property is to be commercial and she has no problem with this.

1108 S. Palm Avenue is next to her home and in between two residential homes and she is asking why this needs to be zoned commercial. She does not want to come into the City; she is asking why this one little strip needs to become commercial and what will be done with it.

Guy Parola, 601 NW 1st Avenue, Gainesville, agent for owners, distributed a handout (filed). Mr. Parola said the county articulated the commercial use by designating it so on its land use map. They aren't asking to put something there that the county hasn't already designated or contemplated. There are inconsistencies in the zoning, which is R-1A, but the underlying land use is commercial. When they do basic due diligence, they look at land use as well as zoning. The adjoining property is also commercial. This is another articulation of the legislative intent of Putnam County. Across the street is commercial activity. They don't have a user right now for Palm Avenue; they will put this property back into the tax rolls. They don't have an exact use for it at this time. If there is a question about how the site will look he can address that.

Commissioner Kitchens said she understands this will be a Dollar Store and asked where the truck traffic will come in. Mr. Parola said 100% of the truck traffic will come in and out on Crill Avenue. Commissioner Leary said he understands they are trying to make the land use consistent with the zoning.

Ms. Gilmore asked if all access will be closed off from S. Palm, even foot traffic. There is a house there now. Mr. Parola said in the future there may be secondary access to the property. It is 100 feet wide and they won't put 100' wide access in. Ms. Parker said that's another of their concerns; they will open this up and put in whatever they want. She asked what type of buffer they will put up between this property and her home, which has been her family's place for over 60 years. They don't want any more commercial use happening than what's going on now. There is a fence up now separating them. They are concerned about people cutting through this property. They do it all the time now. Her property backs up to this as well. She wants to know what they are going to do and when this will happen. She asked if they will bulldoze this property.

Mr. Parola said they will install whatever buffer is required by the City. They aren't asking for any rights that aren't afforded to anyone's property. When the time comes to develop this, the only plans are for Crill Avenue. There are no plans to cut down trees at this time. They mitigate development based upon the laws on the books. There is a staff recommendation to approve this; they have vetted these issues.

Commissioner Kitchens said a similar situation happened on property at Moody Rd. and US 19. The neighbors were assured everything would be fine and the property owner's attorney staked his reputation on this. A few weeks after the rezoning the property was sold. When Winn Dixie came in and built their new store, they agreed to put buffering up so residents wouldn't be disturbed by trucks, and they did, but the shrubbery died. She asked what sort of assurances the residents can have. Mr. Boynton also noted pedestrian traffic as one of their concerns.

Mr. Crowe said they have several options ranging from a 10 ft high buffer with a six foot high stockade fence, hedges and plantings, up to a 30 foot natural buffer to provide a visual screen. The intent is to eliminate the visual impact of a development. Technically the applicant has the option to choose; the landscape code allows staff to steer the applicant to an appropriate measure. They can require the most effective method. Commissioner Kitchens said the Police consult with the property owner on ways to alleviate or limit crime due to a certain use. She asked if the applicant had done this. Mr. Parola said they will, when the time comes to use the Palm Avenue site. They only plan on developing the Crill Avenues site at this time, but at some future date they may develop the Palm site. Commissioner Leary said not opening this up would

not make any sense; it removes the lot, and buffering it would be a very difficult thing to do. He asked the ladies if they knew the County has this land use designated as 'commercial.' They said they did not. As to the Planning Board meeting, Ms. Gilmore said they did get the notice but not all of them could make the first meeting date. She noted Mr. Parola said this may be an alternate route in the future; they'd at least like an 8' buffer put up because of the foot traffic on Palm; it's all day and all night. They can only enjoy their back yard because of all the foot traffic across the front. They want to preserve their privacy. If they cut down all the trees they will lose that. They don't want the noise from this. Mayor Myers said they'd have to adhere to the Code.

Commissioner Norwood asked if this is the time to discuss buffers. Mr. Crowe said that is a little premature. They are looking at land use and zoning. Mr. Boynton said the Commission can strongly urge the Planning Director to push for the strongest buffering. The Planning Official can make sure that is in the site plan, or they can deny this tonight.

Ms. Parker said she was not aware it was already commercial land use. She asked what this will do to their property values if this is opened up. Commissioner Leary said they aren't going to take a valuable piece of property and put a driveway through it. The County designated this as commercial, which makes her property more valuable. She said it will be a Dollar General on Crill; there is a piece of property behind her, several acres, and they have not indicated what they will do with that. They were told that 1108 S. Palm will be opened up as a driveway to access the property behind the store. Commissioner Leary said this won't change their property value at all; they are already next to one of the busiest intersections in the City. They can try to get the County to change the land use, but that may be impossible. She asked the Commission to confirm this should not decrease the property value of the surrounding homes if the driveway is put in. Mayor Myers asked the condition of the home there now, and said they do not know what will go on the property behind this site. Mr. Crowe said there can't be apartments because the designation is not residential. Ms. Parker said there are lot of trees marked with orange markings and asked if the trees will be cut down. Mr. Parola said the City will not allow them to cut down a lot of trees; the City has a strong tree ordinance.

There being no further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinances were declared passed on first reading.

8. **ORDINANCE** amending the Palatka Code of Ordinances to revise Section 2-250.185(b), Police Officer Benefit Group Pension Amount Formula, per Actuarial Evaluation Recommendation – 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 REVISING SECTION 2-250.185(b), POLICE OFFICER BENEFIT GROUP PENSION AMOUNT FORMULA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on first reading as read. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion. Commissioner Norwood asked how this affects budgeting for the next year. Mr. Boynton said at this time the monies they get from the State offset this increase, so it should not affect the budget. The decision is whether or not to accept the money from the State and make these improvements. Under the current scenario, they have to use that money for an additional benefit. There being no further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared passed on first reading..
9. **PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE** – Planning Board Recommendation to revise the Comprehensive Plan to add a policy establishing Airport Protection Policies – Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA,

PROVIDING THAT THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BE AMENDED TO AMEND POLICIES A.1.1.6 AND A.1.1.6E AND ADD NEW POLICIES A.1.1.6C, A.1.1.6D, RELATING TO PROTECTION OF MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FROM INCOMPATIBLE USES, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the ordinance on sole reading as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared passed and adopted.

10. **PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE** – Planning Board Recommendation to amend Planned Unit Development requirements – Adopt – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, PROVIDING THAT THE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BE AMENDED TO AMEND POLICY A.1.9.3, REMOVING THE REQUIREMENTS THAT A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT REZONING BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LAND USE AMENDMENT AND THAT NONRESIDENTIAL COMPONENTS OF A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ARE LIMITED TO THOSE USES THAT SERVE THE RESIDENTIAL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Leary moved to adopt the ordinance on single reading as read. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken with the following results: Commissioners Brown, Kitchens, Leary, Norwood and Mayor Myers, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared passed and adopted.
11. **DISCUSSION/ACTION** - Request to Make Memorial Drive a One-Way Street – City Manager Woody Boynton – Commissioner Leary moved to make Memorial Drive a one-way street from going south from St. Johns Avenue to Second Street/Short Laurel. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. Mr. Boynton said in looking at traffic patterns and how they've formed over the last several months, the traffic pattern has adjusted. They recommend making Memorial Drive one-way from St. Johns to 2nd. This will minimize traffic to people cutting through to the Bridge. They want to make the riverfront park a place to go and hang out. They see no impact or increase in congestion due to this change. They believe this is more conducive to putting playground equipment in that area. This gives them some flexibility in the future when a development comes in to either close Memorial or include parking. This will create 35 diagonal spaces for parking.

Commissioner Kitchens said before they closed the Parkway, this was a one-way street for traffic running north. This proposal doesn't make any sense to her to make it a "y". It makes more sense to her to return to one way from south to north. This makes for a smoother traffic flow. They can put the parking on the other side of the street. Mayor Myers said if it goes one way south to north, it becomes a major thoroughfare. Doing it this way it becomes more a "park" avenue. Commissioner Kitchens said she agrees with that if they only expand the park, but if they get a good retail business on that block, they will need vehicular traffic coming past the business. Mr. Boynton said if that happens, they can switch it back. The current traffic pattern benefits the current businesses along 2nd Street. If they change it, they will have to reconstruct 50 feet of curb. Commissioner Kitchens said she doesn't want to hamper traffic to those businesses. Commissioner Brown said as they travel to other cities with parks and beaches, their parking is done in that manner; people with kids won't have to cross the street. At this time until they get a retail business, the best thing is to adopt this plan. There being no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed 4 in favor, 1 against, opposed by Commissioner Kitchens.

12. **RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT PALATKA BRANDING** – Charles Rudd, Main St. Manager, distributed handbills containing the proposed logo and branding themes. He said They are proposing a system or platform they can utilize in a variety of ways that unifies their message. He distributed a table-top folding display and said they print 300 of these, putting them in area restaurants. He’s excited about this; it is flexible and can be used many ways. Businesses can adopt different colors. It’s very pleasing. Per Commissioner Kitchens’ question, Mr. Rudd said the CBD covers the business district. She asked why they are asking the City to adopt this for the whole city. Mr. Rudd said this will provide a foundation for the downtown marketing. Commissioner Kitchens asked how much businesses will spend on changing their logo to this. Rudd said they aren’t asking anyone to change anything, but will provide this as a tool if someone should want to use it. Commissioner Kitchens said she’s confused as to why the Commission is being asked to adopt this city-wide. She has no problem with Main Street using this. She is against using this on city vehicles. Mayor Myers said Main Street is just asking for the Commission’s blessing

Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the Palatka Branding. Commissioner Leary seconded the motion, which passed four in favor, one against, opposed by Commissioner Kitchens. Commissioner Brown said she was told this is not etched in stone and can be tweaked. They just need to get started on this.

Commissioner Kitchens pointed out a letter from Mr. Gagnon saying he didn’t see how commissioners as individuals have the right to intercede to delay the process, but apparently the Commission does have a right to approve it.

Jerry Hafner, 122 Hilty Lane, E. Palatka, said he sent the Commission an e-mail concerning this action (not filed). He thanked the Commission for actions they have taken over the past few years. Palatka is really rolling, they have a great Main Street Manager in place and a progressive commission, and progress is being made.

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

CITY MANAGER SELECTION UPDATE – Mayor Myers said they’ve received more than 60 applications for this position. 35 have already been distributed to the Commission. It closes at noon tomorrow. Final applications will be distributed tomorrow. The top 15 candidates will be presented by May 15. Each commissioner has submitted a name for the selection committee; they will set up interviews the week of June 11th. The Commission will be present; the Committee will be interviewing. Those dates will be confirmed early next week. The final five will be interviewed by the Commission.

14. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Brown said at the next meeting she’d like to bring them some observations she made during her trip to Arkansas on at a regional League meeting on FLC business, which is where she was on April 26th during the last Commission meeting. She will bring those to the next meeting.

Commissioner Kitchens noted the passing of former Fire Chief Ken Venables, and she extended condolences to the family.

Commissioner Brown said if Mr. Rudd will provide her with advertising materials, she will distribute them as she travels.

Commissioner Leary said he may not be able to attend the next meeting, as he will be at a Solid Waste Commission in Ft. Lauderdale.

Commissioner Norwood wished all mothers a happy Mother's Day this coming Sunday, and said they all know how valuable they are.

Commissioner Norwood believes the Commission is moving in the right direction on iPads. Today he received a records request from a firm in Jacksonville. The iPads will not allow their individual computers to be tied up with those things; all the information will be in the City's computer base and they will have access to all that information.

Mayor Myers said they had a great Mug Race celebration on the Riverfront. The City was a major participant as well as community participants from all over Putnam County. They got rave reviews from the sailors. The crowd was well-behaved even with alcohol being served on the riverfront. The Ride Solutions trolley ran continuously from the riverfront to the Blues Club for four hours. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Commissioner Kitchens said the downtown churches are holding a community picnic on the riverfront on May 20th. Mayor Myers said they want to put emphasis on their new riverfront.

15. **ADJOURN** – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 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