VERNON MYERS
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

MARY LAWSON BROWN
VICE MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

ALLEGRA KITCHENS
COMMISSIONER

PHIL LEARY
COMMISSIONER

JAMES NORWOOD, JR.
COMMISSIONER

CITY OF PALATKA
CITY OF PALATKA
FLORIDA

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

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

AGENDA
CITY OF PALATKA
May 9, 2013

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 9th day of May, 2013.

PRESENT:	Mayor	Vernon Myers
	Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
	Commissioner	Allegra Kitchens
	Commissioner	Phil Leary
	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; Parks & Cemeteries Supt. Jeff Norton; Water Plant Superintendent Melvin Register, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Brian McCann; Airport Manager John Youell; Main Street Manager Charles Rudd; Projects Manager Jonathan Griffith;

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

INVOCATION – The Reverend Chad Perry, Pastor; The River Community Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Commissioner Allegra Kitchens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 4/25/13 Regular meeting; 5/2/13 Called Meeting – Commissioner Norwood moved to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Kitchens seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

1. **PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS:**

PROCLAMATION – Police Week & Peace Officers' Memorial Day – May 15, 2013 – Chief Getchell was present to receive the Proclamation, which was read and presented by Mayor Myers. Chief Getchell said this is very personal to him as he witnessed the death of a police officer on December 16, 1986. He is memorialized in Washington at the Police Memorial and the perpetrator sits on Death Row. The Memorial Service is hosted this year by the City of Crescent City and a program will be held tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Every four years Palatka hosts this Memorial Service.

PROCLAMATION – Kids to Parks Day – May 18, 2013 – Parks & Cemeteries Staff – Jeff Norton Superintendent, and Fred Lumpkin Field Supervisor, Parks Department, were present to receive the proclamation, which was read and issued by Mayor Myers.

PROCLAMATION - National Public Works Week – May 19 – 25, 2013 – Melvin Register, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, Brian McCann, Wastewater Treatment Parks Superintendent, and Ed Chandler, Streets & Sanitation/Public Works Supervisor were present to receive the Proclamation, which was read and issued by Mayor Myers.

PROCLAMATION – National Safe Boating Week – May 18 – 24, 2013 – US Coast Guard Auxiliary – Mayor Myers noted this will be issued at a later date.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – There were none.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
   a. **Adopt Resolution No. 2013-9-109** authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the State of Florida for State Highway System Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation program FY 2013-14;
   b. **Adopt Resolution No. 2013-9-110** approving the short list of qualified Engineering, Architectural, Geo-technical, Landscape Architectural and water quality control consultants, and authorizing negotiation of continuing services contract with short-listed respondents in ranked categories;
   c. **Appoint Randy Porter to the Palatka Firefighters' Pension Board** as one of two City Commission Appointees for the remainder of a two-year term to expire January, 2015

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

4. **BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATE** - Staff Presentation - Thad Crowe, Planning Director, narrated Power Point slides covering the Planning, Rules & Appeals, BZOA, Historic Preservation, and Code Enforcement boards. Discussion ensued regarding membership requirements for boards, as shown in the Agenda Package documents. The Clerk noted some boards are set up by Statute and statute dictates membership. In all cases, the Commission gives preference to City residents or property/business owners whenever possible, unless Statute states otherwise.

Discussion ensued regarding School Concurrency elements in the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Crowe said the Local Planning Agency's area of specialty is the Comprehensive Plan. School concurrency only applies to capacity issues. When developments come in, they have to have room for those kids to attend schools. This requires a cooperative working arrangement between the intergovernmental agencies. Schools in Putnam County are currently under capacity. Commissioner Leary noted the Commission can do that informally.

Commissioner Leary said the Legislature continues to move towards supporting Charter Schools. That is not a good thing for public schools. He wished they had a concurrency problem; this would mean the City was growing. It's not a problem state-wide and one of the reasons the legislature decided to do away with the public schools element, but that doesn't mean they can't have a strong interlocal agreement with the School District to address these points and issues as they come up, such as the warehouse issue.

Commissioner Brown said at a meeting she recently attended they emphasized the working relationship between local governments and local schools as an economic development tool. They need to have certain things in place to encourage people to locate here and availability of quality schools is a large part of that. Many cities have established Charter schools and they are pushing quality education in order to attract new business.

Mr. Czymbor narrated slides covering all three pension boards and included information regarding rising pension costs as a percentage of payroll, and possible changes to Plans currently under discussion.

Jonathan Griffith narrated slides covering the Community Redevelopment Agency, Citizens Advisory Task Force and Tree Committee.

John Youell narrated a slide covering the Airport Advisory Board

Andy Heartz narrated a slide covering the Golf Course Advisory Board

The Clerk narrated a slide entitled "all other boards" covering Gas Authority Board, Palatka Housing Authority Board, and Putnam County Library Board. She said currently the City has or appoints members to some 20 advisory boards and committees, which is a large number of boards for any government entity. At this time there are three openings on the Code Enforcement Board, and those need to be filled; this is a high number of openings. Those are the only Board openings at this time.

Commissioner Leary asked for a list outlining these boards and committees, as he's asked frequently about board and committee opportunities. The Clerk noted board openings are shown at the bottom of each agenda.

5. **CITY MANAGER & ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**
Mr. Czymbor said the next meeting will have a full meeting agenda as there are many RFQs that are about to be awarded.

Mr. Czymbor said on May 24 at 10:00 a.m. the City has scheduled a rededication of Price Martin Center. USDA Staff has been invited to this.

Mr. Czymbor said he's discussed holding a special City Commission meeting on May 13 at 5:30 p.m. in order to consider a non-binding letter of intent from one of the RFP respondents on the 7 plus/minus acres of redevelopment land downtown on which a hotel is proposed. Commissioner Norwood has requested a special meeting be called as he won't be in attendance at the May 23 meeting.

Charles Rudd, Main Street Manager, said the Wine Stroll is scheduled for Saturday night.

6. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
Commissioner Brown said they don't have a lot of young people involved in economic development, and she believes they need more young people involved in the waterfront developments. She is speaking of high school and college students.

Commissioner Leary said the curb is pulling away on River Street west of Dodge due to the recent high water events. They need to look at this before a disaster occurs.

Mayor Myers said he attended a dedication ceremony in Armstrong for a segment of the Greenways Trail. The State director of Florida Parks was there. This is a beautiful bike/jogging path there. This is part of the St. Augustine to Lake City trail, which comes through Palatka.

Mayor Myers said The Hertz Corporation is relocating their headquarters from New Jersey to Lee County. This will bring 700 jobs to Florida. The president of the company said Florida is the center of the US travel industry and this will enable them to be closer to tourism. He believes the focus of Putnam County is ecotourism. St. Augustine and Fernandina have the Atlantic Ocean and beaches, but Putnam County has the St. Johns River; they need to take advantage of this.

7. **ADJOURN** – There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Norwood.

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