

**CITY OF FORT MEADE
REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

A Regular Meeting of the For Meade City Commission was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Nelson.

2. ROLL CALL:

Mayor	Maurice Nelson	Present
Vice Mayor	Jim Watts	Present
Commissioner	Rick Cochrane	Present
Commissioner	Bob Elliott	Present
Commissioner	Barbara Manley	Present

Staff Present

City Manager	Fred Hilliard	Present
Assistant to City Manager	Deena Ware	Present
City Attorney	Tom Cloud	Present
Finance Director	James (Mel) Parker	Present
Public Works Director	Frankie Curlee	Present
Leisure Services Director	Dennis Guenther	Present
Deputy City Clerk	Phyllis Kirk	Present

Also present were: Polk County Sheriff's Deputy, Ricky Anderson and Priscilla Perry, Chamber Director

3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

Commissioner Watts led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

None

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES:

A. Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Watts, seconded by Commissioner Elliott to adopt the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting, January 12, 2010 and Commission Workshop January 26, 2010 as written.

Motion carried with all yeas.

B. Additions/Deletions:

None

6. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/REPORTS:

A. Fort Meade Chamber Director Report

Priscilla Perry, Chamber Director thanked the City for their help in getting things ready for the “Idol” contest which drew approximately 400 people. The next event is the Chamber Luncheon on February 17 beginning at 11:45 AM featuring Mr. Sam Killibrew who will be speaking on Amendment Four.

March 27, 2010 – Fish Fry & Blues Event with Ramblin’ Rose Band

B. Katie Glass, Executive Director of Keep Polk County Beautiful, Inc. reported that the Great American Cleanup will begin in Fort Meade on March 6, 2010 from 8:00 AM to Noon which will include a dumpster for tire recycling. Volunteers will each receive T-shirts and all the supplies needed to help in the cleanup.

7. PUBLIC FORUM:

Citizen comments for items not on the agenda (3 – minute maximum length).

Cliff Maker, 300 S. Washington Avenue, Fort Meade, Florida representing Fort Meade High School Booster Club invited everyone to attend the February 13, 2010 dinner at the Civic Club. Tickets are \$22.00 per person.

10. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Resolution 10-02 Supporting USF Polytechnic Rail Station Site

Attorney Tom Cloud read Resolution 10-02 “**that the City of Fort Meade supports the placement of a Polk County station for high-speed rail at the eastern terminus of the Polk Parkway. This site will ensure convenient access for students at USF Polytechnic as well as serve all of Polk County from a more central location.**”

Motion Elliott, Second Watts to adopt Resolution 10-02 as read.

Motion carried with all yeas.

B. Attorney Tom Cloud read the title for Ordinance 10-01- 2nd Reading.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA;
CREATING AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION
ORDINANCE; PROVIDING A SHOSRT TITLE; PROVIDING
FINDINGS AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR THE PROHIBITION
OF ARTIFACT EXCAVATION ON CITY OWNED LANDS;
REPEALING PORTIONS OF PRIOR ORDINANCES AND
RESOLUTIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING
AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Motion Watts, Second Cochrane to approve Ordinance 10-01 on
Second and Final Reading.**

Mayor Nelson opened the public hearing.

Mr. Art Cline, City Mobile Home Park asked the Commission if Ordinance 10-01 would keep the public from digging up the golf course in City Park looking for artifacts.

Mayor Nelson closed the public hearing.

Motion carried with all yeas.

C. Attorney Tom Cloud read the title for Ordinance 10-03 – 1st Reading.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA, RE-
ZONING THREE PARCELS OF PROPERTY CONSISTING OF
APPROXIMATELY .2644 ACRES FROM R-1C SINGLE-FAMILY
RESIDENTIAL TO C-1 NEIGHBORHOOD; PROVIDING
FINDINGS; SEVERABILITY, REPEAL OF CONFLICTING
ORDINANCES AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Motion Cochrane, Second Watts to adopt Ordinance 10-03 on first
reading, setting March 9, 2010 for second reading and public hearing.**

Motion carried with all yeas.

D. Attorney Tom Cloud read the title for Ordinance 10-02 – 1st Reading.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA
VACATING RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
PARKING LOT AND CLEVELAND AVENUE; PROVIDING
FINDINGS; REPEALING ANY CONFLICTING ORDINANCES;
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Motion Cochran, Second Elliott to adopt Ordinance 10-02 on first reading setting March 9, 2010 for second reading and public hearing.

Motion carried with all yeas.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Building Permit/Impact Fee Review

City Manager requested using \$62.00 per square foot for building values, an additional \$.0005 per square foot for permit fee charges and permission from Commission to work with the City Attorney to prepare a revised fee schedule for the remaining fees to be presented during the March Commission Meeting.

By unanimous consent, permission granted for stated building value and permit fee charges and for staff working with City Attorney to prepare a revised fee schedule.

B. Establish Workshop Date with FMPA/ARP Representatives

After discussion, it was agreed upon that City Manager would request available meeting dates from FMPA/ARP and would present them to the Commission for choosing a Workshop Meeting Date.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning and Zoning Board Meeting December 7, 2010 has given a favorable recommendation to the Commission for the following items:

1. Close part of alley directly behind Mr. John Barnett's property at 17 N. Orange Avenue described as:

**25312745800000470 SPELHOUSE H G RESUB PB 22 PG41 LOT 47
& N ½ OF FOLLOWING DESC CLOSED ALLEY BEG NE COR LOT 7
RUN N 13.7 FT E 41 FT TO POB**

Motion Watts, Second Elliott to accept the favorable recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Board regarding closing part of the alley behind Mr. John Barnett's property.

Motion carried with all yeas.

B. Bad Debt Write Off for FY 2008-2009 in the amount of \$52,080.00.

Motion Elliott, Second Watts to charge off \$52,080.00 in uncollected utility billing revenue for FY 2008-2009.

Motion carried with all yeas.

C. Fort Meade Middle-Senior High School Requesting Monetary Donation for “Project Graduation”

Mayor Nelson handed over Mayoral duties to Vice Mayor Watts on this item and excused herself from Chambers as she is currently serving on this Committee.

Vice Mayor Watts requested the amount given in previous years. Mr. Parker, Finance Director stated that it was \$500.00.

Motion Cochrane, Second Elliott to approve giving “Project Graduation” a donation of \$500.00.

Motion carried with all yeas.

Mayor Nelson returned to Chambers and resumed Mayoral duties.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:

City Manager reported that the Innovation Park Landfill application will be heard by the Polk county BOCC on Thursday, February 18th at 9:00 AM. I will be presenting a letter requesting BOCC to deny the proposal.

We have resolved the problem regarding the collection of solid waste with Polk County. Resident of the county adjacent to the city will become customers of the City’s refuse collection service. County residents that were double billed previously will be refunded the collection fee as part of their property tax.

11. CITY FINANCE DIRECTOR COMMENTS:

Finance Director reported that the FY 2009 financials have been closed out and the final audit completed December 31, 2009.

Two quotes have been obtained for cemetery software, one from Pontem and one from ADG.

Motion Elliott, Second Cochrane to purchase Pontem Software for the City's Cemetery Tracking and Record Keeping.

Motion carried with all yeas.

Drum Recyclers have abandoned their business location and may have filed for bankruptcy which will make it almost impossible for the City to collect on back utility bills owed.

12. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS:

None

13. CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Watts asked for an explanation on the high electric bills for the month of January.

Commissioner Elliott requested City Finance Director to look into credit collection bureaus to report slow paying and/or delinquent utility accounts and report back with the cost. Also, the street lights on Charleston need to be repaired.

Commissioner Cochrane requested that someone look at a large water oak that is cracked and ready to fall at Lanier and First Street. Also, he requested the electrical losses showing purchases against FMPA billing. Commissioner Cochrane questioned if it was possible to install a meter East of Peace River to monitor the amount of electric being supplied, as well as line losses.

Commissioner Nelson reminded everyone on the upcoming MLK Parade to be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 beginning at 2:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Watts, to adjourn the Regular Commissioner's meeting of February 9, 2010 at 8:13 PM. Motion carried with all yeas.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Maurice Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Phyllis Kirk, Deputy City Clerk