

**Palmetto City Council  
Administrative Meeting  
May 11, 2000 4: 30 PM**

**Elected Officials Present:**

**Pat Whitesel, Mayor  
Tamara Cornwell, Vice Mayor  
Shirley Groover Bryant, Council Member  
Donna Keefer, Council Member  
Mary Lancaster, Council Member**

**Elected Officials Absent:**

**Brian Williams, Council Member**

**Staff and other present:**

**David Meng, City Clerk  
Don Patterson, Interim Public Works Director/PSG  
Mary Jean Forrester, Deputy City Clerk  
Captain Garry Lowe, Palmetto Police Department  
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant**

**1. BOB GOODMAN, MANATEE COUNTY – HEALTH INSURANCE**

Mayor Whitesel asked if the council members had any questions concerning this topic after their personal presentations by Mr. Goodman and Mrs. Jones, Human Relations Director the City of Palmetto. Ms. Cornwell asked for confirmation that the police department's union had been contacted and they were in agreement with the insurance. The item will be placed on the May 15, 2000 agenda for approval.

**2. DAVE MENG – VACANT SURPLUS CITY OWNED-PROPERTY**

Mr. Meng advised Council of the 60 parcels of real property owned by the City; five have been identified as surplus because of no economic value to the City. He discussed the description of the surplus parcels and their appraised value. Mrs. Keefer asked about any environmental issues on one parcel where a lift station had been removed. Staff was instructed to place this topic on the May 15, 2000 agenda for authorization to declare the property surplus and advertise for bids.

Council discussed one parcel not listed as city-owned whereby an adjacent property owner had requested to purchase the lot. Mr. Meng will research this and advise Council of his findings.

Palmetto City Council  
May 11, 2000

### 3. FESTIVALS

Mrs. Cindy Jarvis addressed Council regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. She advised Council she had been unable to get any of the non-profit organizations to commit to helping in the organization of the event and she was unable to finalize the plans by herself. She indicated clubs had shown interest in participating in the actual event. Mayor Whitesel stated the City will do the fireworks and committed services of the Public Works Department and Police Department. It was consensus of Council the City would utilize the media and mail flyers to local businesses, clubs and churches soliciting those parties interested in participating in the celebration, in the forms of local booths offering drinks and foods. The City will coordinate the involvement of the community, collecting the established cost of involvement, seeing that duplication of booths does not occur. The City will have a booth staffed by police officers and Ron Koper to oversee the placement of booths in designated areas and address any safety issues. The City of Palmetto will sponsor the fireworks this year even if no other organized events are planned.

### 4. COUNCIL COMMENTS

#### Ms. Bryant

Ms. Bryant stated she had received a complaint about Hydrant Park. People are letting their dogs run unleashed in the park. Mayor Whitesel instructed Mr. Patterson to post NO DOGS ALLOWED signage at the park.

Ms. Bryant reported the Palmetto Police should be in the vicinity of Riverside Dr. and 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. because people were ignoring the stop sign at the intersection.

Ms. Bryant related she had attended the Cinco DeMayo event at the Alvarez Restaurant, where there had been a table reserved for City Council. Council stated they had not been apprised of the honor of a reserved table.

Ms. Bryant asked Mr. Meng for the voucher file supporting a \$389 expenditure by Mayor Whitesel in the check register approved at the last meeting.

#### Ms. Cornwell

Ms. Cornwell inquired as to what action needed to be taken relating to the correspondence in her file. Mayor Whitesel stated the correspondence was to keep Council apprised of events.

#### Mrs. Keefer

Mrs. Keefer discussed the 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. traffic report, stating if the current pattern continues the accident rate will be 78% higher than last year. She asked Captain

Palmetto City Council  
May 11, 2000

4. COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)

Mrs. Keefer (continued)

Garry Lowe to provide a report stating the number of accidents reported for 1990 and 1995 on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. In addition, she asked the police department to determine how many of the 1990, 1995 and accidents reported so far this year were due to speeding. She stated her intention to visit this topic on a regular basis, as she felt traffic violations coming into our city must be stopped. Captain Lowe reported the Palmetto Police Department was attempting to put together a traffic team that would be able to address this issue.

Mrs. Keefer thanked the department heads for their timely responses in getting requested information back to Council.

Mrs. Lancaster

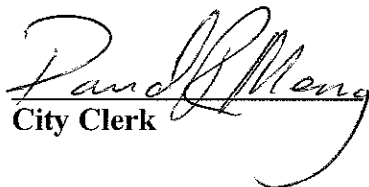
Mrs. Lancaster advised the Council of the success of the first Town Hall Meeting in Ward 1. She related concerns citizens had voiced during the meeting that will be addressed by department heads. Mayor Whitesel also expressed her belief the meeting had been very beneficial and asked the rest of Council to consider meetings in their wards. Mrs. Lancaster stated she might want to hold another meeting. Ms. Cornwell stated she thought the meetings important, especially when citizens learn their concerns are being addressed. She, as well as other council members, expressed the desire to know about meetings ahead of time so they could plan their schedules accordingly.

Mrs. Lancaster also addressed traffic control in her ward.

Mayor Whitesel asked Council about dates for the retreat.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Minutes approved: June 5, 2000

  
City Clerk

*Audio tapes of the meeting are on file in the city clerk's office.*