

**Palmetto City Council
July 9, 2001 4: 00 PM**

Elected Officials Present:

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

Staff and others present:

**Alan Prather, City Attorney
Karen A. Conlon, City Clerk
Chief Kenny Bright, Palmetto Police Department
Mike Hickey, Public Works Department
Mary Jean Forrester, Deputy City Clerk
Margaret Tusing, Planning and Zoning Director
Tonya Lukowiak, Grant Writer
Diane Ponder, Administrative Assistant**

Mayor Whitesel called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS-4) PROPOSED
ORDINANCE NO. 01-710**

Mr. Prather reviewed the proposed ordinance, discussing the purpose of the ordinance and how the city would enforce compliance. Section 8: Enforcement will be amended, deleting "an illicit discharge of stormwater", and replacing the verbiage with "a prohibited discharge". It was consensus of Council to place Ordinance No. 01-710 on the July 16, 2001 agenda for a first reading.

2. CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Mrs. Conlon informed Council Hampton Painting, Inc. had withdrawn their bid, thereby resulting in Design Painting becoming the low bid at \$2,600, which had been the first choice of the Historical Society.

MOTION: Ms. Bryant moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$2,600 to Design Painting for the sealing of the Carnegie Library.

3. POLICE OFFICER RAISES

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Ms. Bryant seconded to recommend the police officers' salary be brought up to the standard of all city employees with a 3.1% pay raise retro active to October 1, 2000.

Discussion was held on different ways to affect a pay increase for the police officers so the department would be competitive with surrounding municipalities. Attorney Prather advised Council the only avenue available was in the form of an increase in wages, versus a type of bonus. Chief Bright suggested any increase should be granted across the board. Mr. Prather suggested the city auditor should be consulted before moving forward.

Chief Bright discussed how step increases were granted. He further stated the starting salary had not been increased.

Mr. Williams called for the question on the original motion.

Mayor Whitesel allowed for public comment before the vote. Sgt. Chris Gillum and Lt. Rex Hannaford spoke on the need for competitive pay. Alan Zirkelbach spoke on the role of the police department in the community and the need for Council to consider the pay increase.

Discussion was held on officers who were hired after October 1, 2000.

Mr. Williams stated his original motion could stand based on the recommendation of the city auditor. Council unanimously approved the motion.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved to give the five officers hired after October 1, 2000 a 3.1% increase effective their hire date.

Sharon Jones, Human Resources Director, stated Council had not approved an increase in the beginning salary ranges. Mrs. Jones further stated the city clerk had the responsibility for job classifications, including salary ranges. Mrs. Conlon discussed how the retro active pay would have to be calculated. She respectfully suggested the second motion was moot, as the first motion incorporated all police officers employed by the city back to October 2000.

The second motion on the floor died for lack of a second.

4. MUNICIPAL LEASE FOR GARBAGE TRUCKS

This topic will be discussed under agenda item number eight.

5. CARPET CLEANING FOR CITY HALL

Topic will be placed on the July 16, 2001 agenda.

6. GRANT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ESTUARY PARK

Tanya Lukowiak, Grants Coordinator, discussed the developments planned for the Estuary Park, for which the city is requesting grant funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Mrs. Lukowiak read the following from the original agreement with Florida Communities Trust. "Parking for the preservation will be available at the adjacent wayside park. If additional parking is required, the Manatee Civic Center has parking available."

Mrs. Lukowiak stated the property could be developed now with the funding source that is available. The design would cost \$210,000; \$95,000 from the city, \$15,000 in-kind from the city; \$110,000 from Land and Water Conservation Fund, should the grant be awarded. She stated the next step would be to petition the state for an additional parking space. Staff was instructed to obtain the original drawings from Mr. Henningson showing the plans and parking for the Estuary Park.

7. 1ST READING - ORDINANCE NO. 01-712

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE PURCHASING CODE; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT; AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE III, FINANCE, DIVISION 2, PURCHASING SECTION 2-57 (c), OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING; PROVIDING FOR APPLICABILITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Prather advised Council the notice of Ordinance No. 01-712 had been properly noticed and asked a public meeting be scheduled July 16, 2001.

MOTION: Mr. Williams moved, Mrs. Lancaster seconded and motion carried unanimously to schedule a public hearing for Ordinance No. 01-712 for July 16, 2001.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 01-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA, RELATING TO REQUIRING AND COLLECTING PERMIT FEES FROM PROVIDERS OF COMMUNICAITONS SERVICES AND INCREASING THE LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR ELECTION NOT TO REQUIRE AND COLLECT PERMIT FEES; PROVIDING FOR ELECTION TO INCREASE LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Mrs. Keefer seconded and motion carried 4 to 1 to adopt Resolution No. 01-11. Mr. Williams voted no.

9. RESOLUTION NO. 01-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALMETTO, FLORIDA RELATING TO ESTABLISHING THE LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX RATE; PROVIDING FOR INTENT; PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX RATE; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Prather advised Council the Florida League of Cities had recommended the adoption of this resolution to allow municipalities to impose a local communications services tax rate based on a conversion table established by statute. Mr. Prather informed Council the verbiage of Resolution No. 01-12 needed to be amended to reflect the rate beginning October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002 as 5.8%, and beginning October 1, 2002 the rate would be 5.30%.

MOTION: Ms. Cornwell moved, Ms. Bryant seconded and motion carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 01-12.

Ms. Bryant advised Council she needed to leave the meeting. She informed Council she would be reporting on the Historical Park on Monday night. Mrs. Conlon requested Council's indulgence, requesting that subjects they wish to discuss be placed on the agenda. Council declined the request. Ms. Bryant also requested that any absences of Council Members be announced at the beginning of each meeting.

Ms. Bryant departed the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

10. AMENDMENTS TO MASTER UTILITY SYSTEM REGULATIONS FOR RECLAIMED/REUSE WATER – PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 01-711

Mr. Prather reviewed the proposed amendments to the Master Utility System that would allow for an increase of \$3 in the monthly sewer rate, a \$5 single-family and \$2 common area residential units reclaimed water monthly fee, and assessing a \$50 charge to hook up to the reclaimed water.

Discussion ensued on the proposed fees. Staff was instructed to contact Mr. Siewert to determine the status of the water rate study. This topic will be discussed at the July 23, 2001 budget workshop.

Mrs. Conlon advised Council the City of Bradenton will be building a reuse line to the port for a power company customer. The city has the option of also providing reuse to the power company through an interlocal agreement with the City of Bradenton.

Mrs. Lancaster inquired about the water agreement with Manatee County. The topic is at a stalemate, as the city maintains it should not be directed by the county regarding surcharges.

11. JULY 16, 2001 AGENDA

MOTION: Mrs. Keefer moved, Mr. Williams seconded and motion carried unanimously to approve the July 16, 2001 agenda with additions.

12. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

Karen Conlon, City Clerk

A quote for a new air-conditioning system for the north side of city hall will be brought to Council at a future date. The company maintaining the system will provide a price, and two more quotes will be obtained. If the cost should be over \$10,000, a sealed bid would be required.

Sharon Jones, Human Resources Director, will serve on the selection committee for a CRA Director.

Mike Hickey, Public Works Department

Discussed Palmetto Elementary using Sutton Park and the maintenance of the sod and tennis courts at Sutton Park. Mr. Hickey reported the school district is willing to entertain the possibility of sharing expenses associated with its use. It was consensus of Council to authorize Mr. Hickey to develop a plan regarding joint maintenance of Sutton Park. The plan will be reviewed by Council before presentation to the school district.

13. INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS

Ms. Cornwell

Ms. Conlon reported proposals had been sent to 23 banks in Manatee County.

Mrs. Keefer

Commented on the fireworks.

Ms. Lancaster

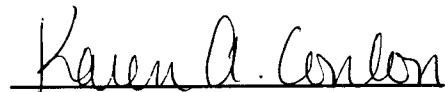
Representative Frank Peterman will tour Palmetto on August 9, 2001.

Mr. Williams

Inquired why Mr. Koper was involved in a citizen complaint regarding a pool at 1718 Edgewater Lane, as he is the Risk Manager. Asked the report be brought back to Council July 16, 2001.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes approved: July 16, 2001



Karen A. Conlon
City Clerk

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