

CITY OF NEWBERRY

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2010 AT 7:00 PM

HELD AT THE CITY HALL

25440 WEST NEWBERRY ROAD

NEWBERRY, FLORIDA

Mayor Nichols called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M., and reviewed the meeting agenda.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

Commissioner Forte made a motion to approve the agenda removing VII. B. 3.

Commissioner Lawson seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 4-0

QUORUM CHECK

PRESENT:

Mayor Harry Nichols

Commissioners: Bill Conrad
Lois Forte
Joe Hoffman
Alena Lawson

City Attorney: Scott Walker

Staff:
City Manager Keith Ashby
City Clerk Gayle Pons
City Planner Lowell Garrett
General Services Connie Goode
Grant Writer Wendy Kinser
Utility Director Blaine Suggs

ABSENT:

Commissioners: Monty Farnsworth

II. INVOCATION-PASTOR MICHAEL O'CARROL, JOURNEY CHURCH

Mayor Nichols led the invocation as Pastor O'Carrol was not feeling well.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Nichols led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES HELD NOVEMBER 23, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Hoffman made a motion to approve the November 23, 2009 minutes as presented.

Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 4-0

B. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES HELD DECEMBER 14, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Hoffman made a motion to approve the December 14, 2009 minutes as presented.
Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 4-0

C. BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING MINUTES HELD DECEMBER 14, 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Hoffman made a motion to approve the Board of Adjustment Meeting held December 14, 2009 minutes removing City Manager in attendance.
Commissioner Conrad seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED 4-0

V. GUEST SPEAKER

A. CHARLENE STEFANELLI, RELAY FOR LIFE

Charlene Stefanelli and Lorie Crawford, Co-Chairs for the Newberry-Jonesville-Archer Relay for Life event scheduled for April 23rd, 2010 at the Newberry High School Track, along with Ariel Sasso, the Community Representative presented a power point presentation concerning the 5th year of having a Relay for life in our community. They thanked the Mayor, Commission, and City Staff for their continued support of this event. Relay is all about a community coming together to take up the fight against cancer. They also announced a new cancer resource center opened in Newberry at Silverwind Jewelry and Gift Shop located on Newberry Road in downtown Newberry. They invited all cancer survivors to allow Relay to honor their battle against cancer. Come out and experience your community fighting back against cancer for you. Contact them at www.relayforlife.org/newberryfl.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. UTILITY DEPARTMENT

1. APPROVAL OF PROJECTED POWER COST ADJUSTMENT FOR THE DECEMBER 2009 UTILITY BILL

City Manager Keith Ashby presented the staff recommendation for the power cost adjustment at 0.05536. After discussion it was the general consensus of the commission to follow the staff recommendation.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. MAYOR

1. REQUEST APPROVAL OF A PROCLAMATION DECLARING JANUARY 16, 2010 FOR ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS

City Attorney Scott Walker read the proclamation in its entirety.

MOTION

Commissioner Forte made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring January 16, 2010 as a day of celebration. She amended her motion to add four dogwood trees from the beautification budget to be placed on S.W. 260th street.

Commissioner Lawson seconded the motion

MOTION PASSED 4-0

B. CITY MANAGER

1. 2009 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

City Manager Keith Ashby presented the employee of the year award to Ms. Johnnie Mae Garrison, Utility Specialist. Johnnie Mae represents all that is good and kind in our community. Her sweet demeanor and professional behavior are a credit to herself and the entire staff. Her public relations skills were tested this past year with significant changes in rate structure and the general high cost of utilities. Her ability to explain the changes and reasons for the higher costs went a long way to helping the public and the staff get through a defining moment in Newberry. Her patience, caring attitude and loving smile are appreciated by all. The fact that her work is error free is a bonus!

2. REQUEST APPROVAL TO GO FORWARD WITH NEWBERRY
STREETS SURVEY

City Manager Keith Ashby called forward General Services Administrator Connie Goode, and Grant Writer Wendy Kinser to present information concerning the streets survey and respond to commission questions and comments.

MOTION

Commissioner Hoffman made a motion to approve using \$25,640 from the reserves to complete the survey. If upon completion the city receives grant monies, the funds will be returned to the reserves from the budgeted \$80,000.

Commissioner Lawson seconded the motion

Discussion ensued with a request to keep the sidewalk for S.W. 252nd street and 6th Ave; along with the Meadowbrook area on the list should grant monies be received.

MOTION PASSED 4-0

3. REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 01-10
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEWBERRY FLORIDA,
ENDORING HOUSE BILL #355 AND SENATE BILL #742 RELATING
TO PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS; AND PROVIDING
FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

REMOVED FROM AGENDA

C. CITY CLERK

1. APPROVAL OF INVOICES PAID IN DECEMBER 2009

MOTION

Commissioner Lawson made a motion to approve payments

Commissioner Forte seconded the motion

MOTION PASSED 4-0

VIII. COMMENTS

A. CITY MANAGER

City Manager Keith Ashby informed the commission the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners will meet on January 26, 2010 to discuss a public hearing request concerning the bed tax. He asked everyone to come out in support.

Judy Rice, Finance Director completed 16 hours of certification.

B. MAYOR

No comment

C. COMMISSION

Commissioner Forte wished everyone a Happy New Year. The City is moving forward with several projects this year.

Commissioner Conrad provided an update on the FMPA.

Commissioner Lawson requested feedback from the commission to Commissioner Forte, or Recreation Director Richard Blalock concerning the photos from Interlachen concerning Triangle Park and Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

Commissioner Hoffman like the gazebo, he thanked everyone for coming out in the cold this evening.

D. CITIZENS


Barbara Hendrix, Mainstreet Director said she will help get the trees for the Arbor Day celebration.

IX. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

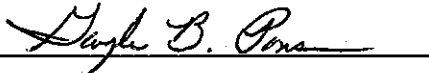
Commissioner Lawson made a motion to adjourn

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:20 P.M.

Signed and approved this: 25th day of January 2010.



Harry Nichols, Mayor



Gayle B. Pons, City Clerk