

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of City Hall, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Tim Pospichal, Commissioners: Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, and Bill Sterling. Also present were: City Manager Robert R. Green, Finance Director/City Clerk Shirley Lowrance, City Attorney V. Patton Kee, and Police Chief Chris Nelson.

Mayor Tim Pospichal declared a quorum present and the Meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Scott Hall of Impact Church, and the salute to the flag.

**Motion** by Commissioner Richard Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to approve the City Commission Minutes of the January 22, 2018 Meeting. Upon vote, all ayes.

City Manager Green asked the Boy Scout Troop to introduce themselves: Senior Patrol Leader Eric Grode, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader Brody Alfred, Bugler Gabe Miller, and Patrol Leader Turner Alfred. Scout Master Bob Grode said they are Boy Scout Troop 514, which is primarily a home school group. They were attending a City Commission Meeting working on a Communication Merit Badge.

Community Development Director Amy Palmer said the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for tomorrow will be cancelled. The only item on the Agenda was the Sharrett Property rezoning and the applicant asked for a postponement. We will reschedule, when they are ready to take this to the Planning Commission and later to the City Commission.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

## **1. PRESENTATION OF THE CHIEF NOLAN MCLEOD POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

City Manager Green said as announced at the Christmas Luncheon, every City employee was named the Employee of the Year for 2017, given the work during Hurricane Irma. The American Legion Post from Winter Haven and the Auburndale VFW also recognizes our Public Safety employees for a Police Officer of the Year and a Firefighter of the Year.

Police Chief Chris Nelson said in 2012 the Auburndale Police Department Employee of the Year was renamed the Chief Nolan McLeod Employee of the Year, in recognition of the service and dedication that Chief McLeod gave to the City. In a letter of retirement, an employee wrote without Chief McLeod I would not have experienced the level of professional and personal growth needed to motivate and give me the courage to pursue my dreams and goals I have set forth before me. This was the type of person Chief McLeod was. We are honored to have Nancy McLeod, Chief McLeod's wife, here to help present this award. The award recipient started with the City in 1998, after a short break he was rehired in 2007. He said he thought it was very fitting that he was Chief McLeod's first hire. This employee has worked as Patrol Officer, Detective, Field Training Officer, School Resource Officer, and is currently assigned as Corporal in the Patrol Division. The employee is continually recognized by his peers, as going that extra mile. He is an employee that always has a smile on his face and is ready to assist in any way he can. Nominated numerous times, he was the Officer of the Quarter in 2014 and 2017. The 2017 Officer of the Year is Corporal Matt Baker.

Everyone congratulated Corporal Matt Baker on the award.

## **2. PRESENTATION OF THE FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Fire Chief Ronnie Hall introduced the C Shift Firefighters: Firefighter Aaron Sheppard, Firefighter Bryn LeRue, Firefighter Casey Jones, Firefighter Adam Bracewell, Lieutenant Nick Snyder, and Deputy Chief Bryan Bradway. He said the Firefighter of the Year is Aaron Sheppard. He said he was hired in 2014 and assigned to B Shift then reassigned to C Shift. He currently holds the position of Senior Firefighter and when needed he takes on the responsibility of a Lieutenant. He has pursued his technical classes, his college courses, and will complete his two year degree in the near future. He is respected by his peers and continues to be motivated and a hard worker, each day. He congratulated Firefighter Aaron Sheppard on this well-deserved award.

Everyone congratulated Firefighter Aaron Sheppard on the award.

City Manager Green asked everyone to thank our Public Safety employees for the job they do every day. Applause was given.

### **3. FIRE FLOW WATER SERVICED AGREEMENT WITH POLK CITY AND FANTASY OF FLIGHT**

City Manager Green said some of you have seen this item before, however changes have been made and now it is being brought back. During building improvements at Fantasy of Flight in 2015, an assessment of the fire containment and suppression systems indicated that additional safeguards were warranted. Fantasy of Flight management contacted Polk City, as the provider of potable water, and subsequently the City of Auburndale to determine the feasibility of providing supplemental (redundant) fire flow to the property. If no additional connections were made to the utility supplies from Polk City and Auburndale whatsoever, the Fantasy of Flight suppression system would function using the elevated water tank on site as the sole supply to their fire pumps. The purpose of the redundant supply from Polk City and Auburndale would be to provide a water supply only in the event the tank was out of water or incapable of providing water at all. The Polk City water system cannot currently provide all of the fire flow volumes or pressures needed for the Fantasy of Flight improved fire system. Polk City was agreeable for Auburndale to extend a 12" water main for the purpose of meeting the supplemental fire flow. Several joint meetings between the cities, their consulting engineers and consultants for the property owner have resulted in the proposed Triparty Fire Flow Water Service Agreement. Both, Auburndale and Polk City, gave approval to the Agreement in April 2017. Prior to the execution of the Agreement, two additional changes were suggested including deleting an unnecessary whereas clause that read: "WHEREAS, these supplemental fire flows are not required by governmental regulation, nor are they necessary for Polk City to provide retail water services to Orlampa; and reducing the term of the Agreement from 30 years to 10 years. All parties have agreed to the modifications. The proposed Agreement was prepared by Polk City Attorney Tom Cloud and reviewed by the City Manager, City Attorney and Public Works Director John Dickson. The consulting engineer Chastain Skillman has also reviewed the Agreement as to the technical and engineering matters. The City Commission of Polk City is scheduled to approve the Triparty Agreement at their Regular Meeting February 19, 2018. Staff recommended approval of the Agreement. He showed on the map the location of interconnection, where Auburndale would take the 12" line to tap in to provide the Fire Flow.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Keith Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Richard Hamann to approve the Fire Flow Water Service Agreement with Polk City and Fantasy of Flight.

Commissioner Bill Sterling asked about metering the Fire Flow line,

City Manager Green said yes, it would be metered. He said the line would be sitting there as a stagnate line and used only for testing or to put out a fire.

Upon vote, all ayes.

#### **4. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH POLK COUNTY REGARDING POLK COMMERCE CENTRE CRA**

City Manager Green said the Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency or CRA was created in 1992 by the Polk County Board of County Commissioners to address transportation blight within approximately 3,300 acres immediately to the north and west of the City of Auburndale. The purpose of the CRA was to address transportation blight and since then we had the following road improvements: 4 Lanes of Berkley Road, Pace Road Improvements to the Florida Poly Campus, C. Fred Jones Improvements, 559A and 559 Intersection Improvements, Braddock Road is planned for improvements with a new interchange along the Polk Parkway, and the Polk Parkway completely 4-laned. He said needless to say, there is no more transportation blight in this area. When created in 1992, the CRA consisted of land solely within unincorporated Polk County; however, in 2006, the City annexed property within the CRA area and has annually appropriated the City's portion of the tax increment to the CRA. Over the years, the County has invested millions of dollars into transportation projects and the City has participated in millions of dollars in utility relocations along those roads to accommodate future development in that area. The CRA has received funding assistance through various funding agreements with the BoCC. The CRA's estimated loan balance for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 is \$964,425.46. Not until recently has there been any development within the CRA to help offset the debt service. The construction of the Saddle Creek facility on Moss Road and the McDonald's at I-4 have just begun to provide tax increment financing, or TIF dollars to the CRA. Medline Corporation's facility on Old Dixie Highway will open later this year. With this new economic development, the County anticipates that the debt obligations will be paid off in Fiscal Year 2019-2020. It was a 30 year CRA, which would sunset in 2022. At the City's request, the proposed Interlocal Agreement provides that the City will continue to contribute its portion of the tax increment until the debt obligation of the CRA has been fully repaid. At such time, the County will sunset the CRA. The transportation and other infrastructure improvements made by the County, City, and State have satisfied the original CRA intent. The City of Auburndale has certainly benefited from the enhanced transportation network located in this area. He said he wanted to thank Assistant County Manager Ryan Taylor for his efforts in preparing and working with the County Attorney's Office in preparing the proposed Interlocal Agreement. The proposed Interlocal Agreement was reviewed by the County Manager's Office, City Manager and City Attorney. If approved by both parties, the Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency would sunset approximately two years earlier than scheduled. Polk County Board of County Commissioners is scheduled to consider the Agreement on March 6, 2018. He went over two sections of the Agreement: Section 3 and Section 4 regarding the Tax Increment and the County pulling Spine Road from its Capital Improvement Plan. County will sunset the CRA after the debt obligation has been paid. At one time there was a Spine Road, south of C Fred Jones. We now know that the Florida Department of Transportation and Florida Poly are working on the SunTrax Test Facility which is right in the middle of all of that. Also the City's Lake Myrtle Park is in the middle of that. As result of transportation improvements, there is no point to the transportation improvements of Spine Road. He said possibly in the area of Mount Olive Road improvements would be needed, but that would come at a later time. The County will pull the project from their Capital Improvements Plan and no longer budget for that. Staff recommendation was

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approval of the Interlocal Agreement between Polk County and the City of Auburndale regarding the Polk Commerce Centre.

Mayor Tim Pospichal asked for public comment. There was no other public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, seconded by Commissioner Keith Cowie to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Polk County regarding Polk Commerce Centre Community Redevelopment Agency.

The consensus of the Commission was that this was a good agreement and great partnership.

Upon vote, all ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 P.M. I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.

  
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Shirley A. Lowrance, Finance Director/City Clerk