
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Auburndale held February 19, 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, and Bill Sterling. Commissioner Richard Hamann was absent. Also present were: City Manager Robert R. Green, Finance Director/City Clerk Shirley Lowrance, City Attorney V. Patton Kee, and Deputy Police Chief Andy Ray.

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. He asked Pastor Hall to describe what was going on at his church.

Pastor Scott Hall said they have moved from Downtown area to Berkley Road. He said they have downsized, but are still actively involved in the community, actively seeking souls, and spreading the gospel.

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

City Manager Green said Commissioner Hamann had called to report he would not be able to attend the Meeting. He welcomed Deputy Police Chief Andy Ray to the Meeting.

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

1. PRESENTATION OF REVISED CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

City Manager Green said both the City Manager and the City Attorney have Employment Agreements with the City. Periodically as a result of seating a new City Commission as we did in January, these Agreements are updated and presented to the City Commission for a revised approval. The City Commission approved the original Employment Agreement with Robert R. Green on April 15, 1991, which has been periodically amended and renewed. The latest Revised Employment Agreement was approved and dated January 25, 2016, when Commissioner Jim Moody joined the Commission. There are no proposed changes to the Agreement. The Agreement does reflect the current salary as provided in the FY 2017-2018 Budget. All other terms and text remain unchanged. Staff recommended approval of the Agreement.

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

Motion by Commissioner Keith Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Bill Sterling, to approve the Revised City Manager Employment Agreement. Upon vote, all ayes.

2. PRESENTATION OF REVISED CITY AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

City Manager Green said the City Commission approved the original Agreement for Legal Services with V. Patton Kee on November 5, 1996, which has been periodically amended and renewed. The latest Revised Agreement for Legal Services was approved and dated January 25, 2016. There are no proposed changes to the Agreement. The Agreement does reflect the current annual retainer as provided for in the FY 2017-2018 Budget (Section 2.1 Retainer). All other terms and text remain unchanged. Staff recommended approval of the Agreement.

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

Motion by Commissioner Bill Sterling, seconded by Commissioner Dorothea Taylor Bogert, to approve the Revised City Agreement for Legal Services. Upon vote, all ayes.

3. PRESENTATION OF VARIOUS PROJECTS – PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director John Dickson said he would update the Commission on a couple of projects in Public Works and Public utilities. He stated all contracts have been signed between the installer and supplier for the Cellular Meter Project. We met with UMS, the company responsible for installation. They will utilize the Berkley Road Water Treatment Plant for a staging area. We will have a preconstruction meeting on the first and construction will start on the fifth. We will begin in the area of Schalamar and the Hamptons. Total project completion is anticipated by October 2018. He displayed a map of the property in the Allen Property exchange with the City. He described the SunTrax project and benefits of the exchange. Our current spray field on 126 acres will be moving to the 147-acre tract on the west side of the Parkway. He said this does have some advantages to Utilities, as the site is adjacent to the Water Treatment Facility. We could monitor and access those spray fields without crossing the Parkway. We gained the benefit of access and turned this site into a very good economic development site. He said we are skink free on the site. We submitted a permit application to the Department of Environmental Protection on February 12. We anticipate that application being approved in April. This would allow us to complete design in June, bid in July, and award a contract around August. We hope to be completed with the construction by August 2019. He said Phase I of the SunTrax project is scheduled for completion March 2019. They will start on the infield or Phase II. In 2020, they will begin the interchange at Braddock Road and the Parkway and four laning to Berkley. The site that will be the future home of Little League Baseball is being used by FEMA. It has a lot of hurricane debris on site. We anticipate that property being graded, sodded and hydro-seeded by March.

Public Works Director John Dickson gave an update on Capital Equipment purchases. In the Sanitation Division, we have two garbage trucks budgeted: a Loadal for picking up the blue garbage containers (ordered from Container Systems for \$253,000) and a rear loader for hand brush pickup (\$185,000 budgeted). The Loadal truck replaces a 2007 model and the rear loader replaces a 2001 model. He said the largest item in our budget is the Street Resurface Project. The area we targeted is the side streets along PK Avenue. On January 8, Tucker Paving was awarded the resurfacing project in the amount of \$495,000. We milled the streets down an 1½" and repaved 1½". The project included nine blocks adjacent to PK Avenue for a total of about 4.5 miles. Temporary striping will be completed on February 26, permanent striping will occur after the asphalt has cured for 30 days. Tucker Paving has completed all the side streets with the exception of two areas: the railroad crossing on Ariana and railroad crossing on Bobby Green Plaza. We will have the milling crews back in to mill the asphalt down on February 22 with CSX scheduled to come in behind that and repair the rails. We will take care of the repaving when we do the final paving of PK Avenue in April. He said other enhancements along the resurfacing project is a crosswalk in front of Hospice and requested improved street lighting at that location from TECO. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Department and crews for picking up all the loose asphalt, weedeated, edged, and mowed the sidewalks. He said this made for a good finished product at one time.

City Manager Green thanked John Dickson for the presentation. He said we also thank the Public Works Department and Utilities employees for the job they do.

4. PRESENTATION OF VARIOUS PROJECTS – PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee said he had a few projects to go over including a Russ Matt video and introduction of the new President Rob Sites. He played the video.

Rob Sites, President of RussMatt Baseball, said he was very excited to get underway. We have 982 games, 230 teams, and we will be quite busy. He said the facilities are looking great. He thanked Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee for all the hard work. He said he has been working very closely with Mark Jackson and the Polk County Sports Marketing group. He said he has been running the Florida Collegiate Summer League for the past 14 years. He said he has been involved in baseball and worked

with a lot of different cities and different facilities. He said he had the opportunity to take over RussMatt and was very excited about the opportunity. He said he wanted to let the Commission know that the facility is a great facility and big reason why we were very interested in RussMatt. We look forward to a long-term relationship with you guys and want to keep building RussMatt to bigger and better things.

Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee said we have been very appreciative of the new management and ownership. We appreciate him coming in tonight for a brief update. He provided some statistics on the games between now and the end of March: 624 games at Lake Myrtle; the bulk of the games within a 17-18 day window with 30 to 34 games each of those days; over 5,000 innings played between now and the end of March; anticipated 15,000 spectators; 30,000 room nights; effectively replace what the Indian Spring Training was to Polk County; and approximately \$28 million impact to the area. He said since the first of December, they have been working on Lake Myrtle to get it ready for the games. He said they were excited for the event to start. He updated the Commission the Civic Center repairs related to Hurricane Irma: roof, flooring, ceiling tiles, lighting, flooring on the stage, and air conditioning. He displayed before and after pictures of the building. The Daddy Daughter Dance was our first event and our first rental since the Hurricane will be the first weekend in March. He said we have a video for the Event Lake for USA Water Ski. He said the work that Bergeron is doing is moving 5,000 tons of dirt per day. They have completed 80,000 tons of dirt so far. They expect this project to be complete by the middle of March. The size of the lake will be: 1,400 feet in length, the entire lake will be 2,300 feet, 250 feet wide around the middle and 350 feet wide at the ends. The lake is located about 50 yards from the back soccer field at Lake Myrtle to 50 yards from Denton Road. He said it would be a massive lake. We are excited about it and there are a ton of trucks there every day. They are moving a ton of dirt.

Dorothea Taylor Bogert asked if the air conditioner was covered under our Hurricane policy?

City Manager Green said yes.

Parks and Recreation Director Cody McGhee said we were able to give that project completely to the insurance company and they turn keyed that work for us.

City Manager Green said we appreciate the Parks and Recreation Department for all they do. He said in meeting Rob Sites for the first time, he indicated he wanted to be more engaged with our community. He said we welcome RussMatt and welcome you to Auburndale.

4. PRESENTATION BY USA WATER SKI AND WAKE SPORTS FOUNDATION

City Manager Green said tonight we talked about the area of Braddock Road, the Polk Parkway, and Denton Road, with our Utilities, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation presentation. We wanted to bring in USA Water Ski and Wake Foundation for an update on the status of their project.

Tracy Mathis, Executive Director, said it was very exciting for them to see the activity on the Lake. She said thanks to City Manager Green and the wonderful deal he did with Bergeron. This project has come together because of the great partners we have. A project of this size, when you are talking about a National Governing body, and something reaches worldwide to the international federation, it takes a team of strong partners. We cannot thank the City enough, Mark Jackson and the County enough, Tracy Garcia, the Five Star Family Growers, Action Parks, etc. All of these pieces have been moving forward. The towers are up on Lake Myrtle, which was a big moment for them. This Project has taken almost three years to get to this point with the permitting. On December 28, we closed on the existing property, which was almost a nine month delay due to us being located in the Green Swamp and a change in zoning required. We were zoned as a museum and educational facility and they needed it for sales, service, and outdoor display for the Master Craft boat dealership. We do not have a building. They are letting us stay here, while we construct the new building. The museum is in storage now. They are about to come in and turn that into a real fancy, cool boat dealership. Master Craft is also interested in another top-level sponsor.

As this activity is going on, with the help of our partners of Five Star Family Growers and members of our Board we were able to put together a video. She said it is different if you can bring it to life. We have worked very hard on the video, which shows the different areas. She said Rick Philips was present tonight and he is a wounded warrior. We are working with that group and several others in regards to the adaptive and disabled side of things. She said that will be a big part of this project. We are working with the International Federation to start lining up the first world cup to ever come to the United States. She said they are so proud to be on this beautiful facility that you have with the ballparks and RussMatt. We are doing everything we can to showcase this, not just around the State, but worldwide as well. We feel proud to add our little bit to this wonderful park and wonderful area that is growing here. She said she thought adding the on-the-water aspects will make this a destination unlike any other in Florida. We can see baseball fields, soccer fields, and even the wake board cable park on your way to Orlando and Miami. You can see ski lakes in different places, but there is no place you see all of this in one place together. She said that turns this into a destination, with the organizations like Florida Youth Soccer. Now an Olympic Committee National Governing Body and of course we hope it will be short listed for the 2024 Paris games. We could have a shot to be the Olympic training center. What we are creating or building is something that is world class. This lake will be the #1 lake. It was designed with the top athletes in the world along with the CEO of Correct Craft and Nautique, and along with the top boat drivers. They have all put in to create what everybody wishes they had. It is going to be 17 feet deep, 2,350 long, and the length to be able to jump both ways depending on the winds. They can host the biggest events in the world here. We want to bring the world here to this area and create this unbelievable water sports complex that involves all aspects. It will also be good for your community people too. We will have a kid's area, which was a big input from a lot of the Board members from the International side and the USA Water Ski side. They have these big events and they want a kid's area too. There will be a place with the café, where they can sit on the water and eat, watch the kids, and we have a roof top garden. She said she wanted to play the video, as it is exciting to see what is coming to Auburndale. She played the video. She said it is exciting. She said we are thankful for partners such as yourself, many here, and many that are not here. We are working around the clock to really create a world-class venue for you guys to add to your amazing park. We appreciate all you do for us.

City Manager Green said we need to adjourn and reopen into a Community Redevelopment Agency meeting in about five minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M. I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.


Shirley A. Lowrance, Finance Director/City Clerk