



CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 26, 2018

REGULAR MEETING of the Winter Garden City Commission was called to order by Mayor John Rees at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida. An Opening Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.

Present: Mayor John Rees, Commissioners Bob Buchanan–District 2, Colin Sharman–District 4

Absent: Commissioners Lisa Bennett – District 1 and Mark A. Maciel – District 3

Also Present: City Manager Mike Bollhoefer, City Attorney A. Kurt Ardaman, City Clerk Angee Grimage, Assistant City Manager of Administrative Services Frank Gilbert, Community Development Director Stephen Pash, Economic Development Director Tanja Gerhartz, Finance Director Laura Zielonka, Information Technology Director Morrill, Deputy Fire Chief Jose Gainza and Deputy Police Chief Stephen Graham

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Buchanan to approve regular meeting minutes of July 12, 2018 as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman and carried unanimously 3-0.

2. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Recommendation to approve setting the proposed millage rate for fiscal year 2018/2019 at 4.5000 mills and schedule budget public hearing dates for September 13th and 27th at 6:30 p.m.**

Finance Director Zielonka stated that staff is recommending the City Commission establish an initial rate of 4.5 mills. She shared that the rate has been at 4.25 mills for the past eight years. She indicated that the extra .5 mills will generate approximately \$800,000 for the City and cost approximately \$25 for every \$100,000 in taxable value for the homeowner. During budget hearings, the City Commission can reduce the millage rate but cannot increase it. If a change were needed, there would be time to do so. She expressed that this gives staff time to fully analyze the impact of rising costs and infrastructure needs; thus allowing staff to give a better millage rate recommendation during the budget hearings.

Mayor Rees noted that this will help cover increased costs for school resource officers and he mentioned the effects on homestead exemption. City Manager Bollhoefer stated that the homestead exemption may be between \$700,000 to \$800,000 and new laws putting resource officers in each school will drive up the cost. He indicated that this will give staff time to analyze all of those items.

Motion by Commissioner Buchanan to approve setting the proposed millage rate for fiscal year 2018/2019 at 4.5000 mills and schedule budget public hearing dates for September 13th and 27th at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Sharman.

Commissioner Sharman inquired as to the possibility of changing the millage rate back at the next meeting if so desired. Mr. Bollhoefer responded that the actual millage rate would be set during the budget hearings. He indicated that this initial approval is all tentative, meaning that this is the maximum that it can be set at the actual budget hearings. He shared that this would be on the truth and millage statement sent out to homeowners informing them of what is proposed. Commissioner Sharman noted that in this case he approves setting the millage now and making a final decision after he meets to discuss his questions with the City Manager.

Motion carried unanimously 3-0.

City Attorney Ardaman confirmed the budget public hearing meeting dates and time for the record. City Manager Bollhoefer also noted for the record that staff is not recommending an increase to the millage rate but want more time to analyze this issue before a recommendation.

B. Recommendation to approve PRMG to perform rate studies for water, sewer, and stormwater

Finance Director Zielonka stated that in analyzing everything, staff noticed that the water rates have not increased in 15 years. Staff recommends having a rate study done to ensure that the City's future infrastructure costs will be covered by the future rates. She shared that PRMG has done the rate studies for the City for the past 20 years and have done an excellent job. Ms. Zielonka stated that PRMG proposes \$15,000 for a stormwater rate study and \$39,000 to conduct the water and sewer rate study. Staff believes that these rate quotes are appropriate amounts for these types of studies.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to approve PRMG to perform rate studies for water, sewer, and stormwater. Seconded by Commissioner Buchanan and carried unanimously 3-0.

C. Recommendation to approve a Change Order to L7 Construction on the Stormwater Capture and Reuse Project for Additional Erosion Protection not to exceed \$130,710.65

City Manager Bollhoefer informed the City Commission that staff had found an alternative and recommended pulling this item.

D. Recommendation to approve special event request by the Crooked Can Brewery (Plant Street Market) for Oktoberfest on October 19, 20, and 21, 2018 with closure of South Central Avenue, subject to conditions

Community Development Director Pash stated that this is the special event request for Oktoberfest at Plant Street Market. He informed of the event dates being October 19, 20, and 21st and noted the event would be the same as previous years; closing Central Avenue to Smith Street, beer and wine sales, seating, and live music. Staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rees indicated that start time is typically 12:00 Noon on Sunday and not 11:00 a.m. There was discussion that this should be changed.

Commissioner Buchanan asked if there was the hiring of off-duty Police Officers to patrol this event. Mr. Pash responded that one of the requirements is that they have to have a minimum of two.

Motion by Commissioner Sharman to approve the special event request by the Crooked Can Brewery (Plant Street Market) for Oktoberfest on October 19, 20, and 21, 2018 with closure of South Central Avenue, subject to conditions with the start time being changed to 12:00 Noon. Seconded by Commissioner Buchanan and carried unanimously 3-0.

3. **MATTERS FROM PUBLIC** – There were no items.
4. **MATTERS FROM CITY ATTORNEY** – There were no items.
5. **MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER** – There were no items.
6. **MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

APPROVED:

_____/S/_____
Mayor John Rees

ATTEST:

_____/S/_____
City Clerk Angee Grimmage, CMC