

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

CITY COMMISSION

May 8, 2003

A REGULAR MEETING of the Winter Garden City Commission was called to order by Mayor Jack Quesinberry at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall Commission Chambers. The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.

Present: Mayor Jack Quesinberry, Commissioners John Harriman, Theo Graham, and Mildred Dixon (arrival 6:40 p.m.); City Manager Hollis Holden, City Attorney Dykes Everett, Deputy City Clerk Nancy Williams, Assistant to the City Manager Marshall Robertson, Finance Director Mike Bollhoefer, City Planner Mark Cechman, Utilities Director Charlie Tinch, Assistant Utilities Director Bart Patria, Water Conservation Coordinator Jeannette Cline, Human Resources Director Victoria Ward, Code Enforcement Officer Johnny Clark, Recreation Director Larry Caskey, Public Works Director Bob Smith, Fire Chief John Williamson, Police Chief Jimmie Yawn

Absent: Commissioner John Rees

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2003. Motion by Commissioner Harriman to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Commissioner Graham and carried 3-0.

2. PRESENTATION:

Utilities Director Charlie Tinch introduced Jeannette Cline, Water Conservation Coordinator, and the winners of the City's 5th Annual Drop Savers contest, who received certificates and gifts from the City. Third Grade First-Place Winners were Kelly Morgan (Dillard Elementary), who also received Third Place in the State competition; Shannon Ligon (Maxey Elementary); Amanda Medina (Calvary Christian); Tyler Abney (Foundation Academy). Fourth Grade Winners were Rosalba Lopez (Dillard Elementary); Donne Kiser (Maxey Elementary); Erin O'Grady (Calvary Christian); Brandi Lund and Charlie Carter (tied)(Tildenville Elementary). Fifth Grader and State Runner-Up was Daisy Orihuela. Director Tinch thanked the children and their parents for their participation in the contest and their help in raising awareness of water conservation.

3. FIRST READING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

A. Ordinance 03-12: Deferred Retirement Option Plan

City Attorney Everett read Ordinance 03-12 by title only. Motion by Commissioner Dixon approve Ordinance 03-12 and to schedule the public hearing for May 22, 2003. Seconded by Commissioner Graham and carried 4-0.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Recommendation to approve financial assistance to the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation

City Manager Holden said an agreement has been reached to provide financial assistance to the Heritage Foundation for its administrative and operating costs. The Railroad Museum will be brought under the umbrella of the Foundation, along with the Heritage Museum, and the City will own both buildings. City staff will do some necessary repairs to the Railroad Museum building; the Foundation will continue to operate and staff both facilities, with some paid professionals and the rest volunteers. Mr. Ward Britt of the Heritage Foundation, 1 N. Main Street, Winter Garden, appeared before the Commission to answer any questions. Commissioner Harriman asked about the liability insurance on the buildings. Mr. Britt said it would be explained in detail in the agreement. The agreement will be prepared and presented to the Commission later in May or in early June, 2003 for approval. Motion by Commissioner Dixon to approve an immediate contribution of \$25,000 to the Heritage Foundation and \$50,000 per year to be included in future annual budgets. Seconded by Commissioner Harriman and carried 4-0. City Attorney Everett clarified that the approval voted on at this meeting (May 8, 2003) is for the \$25,000 contribution only.

5. MATTERS OF CONCERN FROM CITIZENS – None

6. MATTERS FROM CITY ATTORNEY - None

7. MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER

- The Orange County Commission update luncheon will be held May 14, 2003 at Stoneybrook West Golf Club. Commissioners planning to attend are asked to provide their names to the Deputy City Clerk.
- Assistant to the City Manager Robertson gave an update on the downtown renovation project, explaining the plans for a 280 foot extension of the Plant Street renovation, work planned for various side streets, utility line restoration and/or replacement, and the purchase of the bank parking lot. Commissioner Harriman asked if the City knew the whereabouts of the old neon Winter Garden sign. Mr. Robertson said it was in permanent storage. New signage in a design consistent with the downtown renovations will be installed instead. Commissioner Graham

asked about the American Legion's floodlight that was removed by Progress Energy during construction. Mr. Robertson advised that a City employee has the light in safekeeping and will return it to the Legion Hall. City Manager Holden noted that the City of Apopka now pays an additional \$300,000 annually because they purchased their new streetlights through a contract with Progress Energy rather than buying their own as was done here.

- On July 11, 1997 a contract was signed by the City and the West Orange Chamber of Commerce providing that the City would own the building and the Chamber offices would occupy it rent-free for six years, during which time Chamber staff would find contributors to the purchase price of \$297,000. The six-year fundraising period expires July, 2003. The cities of Ocoee and Windermere have committed to contribute, but the Chamber has asked for a zero-interest extension providing for a \$40,000 payout in 2003, \$10,000 in 2004, \$15,000 in 2005, \$20,000 in both 2006 and 2007, with final payment in 2008. Commissioner Harriman said the Chamber has come back strong after some years of being ineffective. He believes they now have good leadership and are financially sound, and he highly recommends approval of the extension. Motion by Commissioner Harriman to approve the five (5) year extension agreement between the City and the West Orange Chamber of Commerce. Seconded by Commissioner Dixon and carried 4-0.
- The Cathcart settlement has been concluded.
- An \$800,000 Community Development Block Grant has been approved for East Winter Garden; official notification will be in August, 2003.

8. MATTERS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dixon:

Commissioner Dixon gave an update on various programs underway in East Winter Garden, and asked for the donation of three sewing machines for the Maxey Center.

Commissioner Graham:

Commissioner Graham said a conversation with Billy Burch suggested that the City is not being appropriately represented by County staff regarding a development project on Hartwood-Marsh Road. City Manager Holden said that was not the case and provided the Commission with an update on the status of discussions with the County, the Avalon Homeowners Association, and the affected landowners.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.