

The meeting of the Lake Wales City Commission was held on July 7, 2015 in the Commission Chambers at the Municipal Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fultz at 6:00p.m. following the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Deputy Mayor Thornhill.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terrye Howell; Christopher Lutton, Eugene Fultz, Mayor; Jonathan Thornhill, Pete Perez

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Kenneth Fields, City Manager; Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk; Jennifer Nanek, Deputy City Clerk; Albert C. Galloway, Jr., City Attorney

[Full staff memos are incorporated into the minutes. Meetings are recorded, but not transcribed verbatim.]

MAYOR

Agenda Item 5. Proclamation: Lakes Appreciation Month; July 2015

Mayor Fultz presented a Proclamation establishing July 2015 as "Lakes Appreciation Month" to Tabitha Biehl, Executive Director of the Lakes Action Education Drive.

ANNUAL REPORT

Agenda Item 6. Lake Wales Code Enforcement Board – Presentation by Chair Melissa Konkol

Melissa Konkol, Chair of the Code Enforcement Board, gave an update on the board's activities over the past year. Ms. Konkol reviewed the statistics from the past year compared with the previous year and encouraged the hiring of an additional code enforcement officer as there are fewer cases this year. Deputy Mayor Thornhill asked why three meetings were cancelled this past year. Cliff Smith, Building Official/Code Enforcement Director, said that three meetings were canceled this past year because all the cases were resolved and explained that many violations are resolved quickly. Ms. Konkol said that there is a need for demolition of property. Kenneth Fields, City Manager, said there will be additional money for demolition next year. Commissioner Lutton cautioned against the city owning a lot of vacant property. Mayor Fultz said we will consider additional staff during the budget time. Commissioner Lutton asked that we beware of Code Enforcement being too heavy handed when addressing issues.

Sylvia McRae, non-resident, asked if a property gets demolished if the owner is deceased and taxes being paid. Mr. Smith explained that only if a building is unsafe or beyond repair does it get demolished. Commissioner Lutton clarified that it's not just appearance but the building is unsafe in some way. Mr. Smith confirmed. Deputy Mayor Thornhill said even though the taxes are being paid the building would need to be kept up. Mayor Fultz added that it would go through the process where the owner was notified and it would not be an overnight decision. Albert C. Galloway Jr., City Attorney, said that during the process to acquire easements for the C Street project, some properties went three generations back without formally changing owners but the taxes were still being paid and property kept up.

Deputy Mayor Thornhill announced that there is a vacancy on the Code Enforcement Board if anyone is interested. Mayor Fultz added that the application is available from the City Clerk's office.

PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Terry Christian, from the lodge at 147 B Street, they have hosted some events and getting active again. The police department is concerned about the number of people who attend their events. They are in control on how many enter their building. They are not currently open on Sunday, an organization decision. They hope some issues get resolved so they can do some good for the community. They would like to buy some of the city parcels for additional parking for their building. He presented a certificate of appreciation to Kenneth Fields as a thank you for his help in resolving these concerns. Mayor Fultz commended the efforts in communicating with the City and the police department as it is important.

Sylvia McRae, non-resident, expressed support for the Elks Lodge and reviewed all the past good things they did for the community. She appreciates the efforts to revitalize the lodge and they should be commended.

Commissioner Howell commended Terry Christian for his efforts with the lodge; she and other family members are members of the organization. It has had its ups and downs through the years, but she is glad to see it active again as it is a good resource for the community and is glad to hear they will meet with the Police Department to be sure all issues are resolved. She thanked everyone for coming out.

Elton Peterson, member of the lodge, expressed concerns about the parking arrangements. Many lots in the area belong to the City; attendees parking there should not be ticketed. He appreciates help from the police to disperse the crowd after their events. He asked for the City's support of their organization.

Kenneth Fields, City Manager, explained that the lodge is a success and getting good attendance. He appreciates Mr. Christian's efforts to bring events there. They will meet on the 9th [July 9] to address the issues concerning crowds and parking in a primarily residential neighborhood. All sides are talking and everyone is cooperative and the issues can hopefully be resolved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Agenda Item 7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 16, 2015, Regular Meeting

Agenda Item 8. Polk County Water Cooperative Interlocal Agreement

Agenda Item 9. Purchase Authorization for Street Maintenance Projects

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Deputy Mayor Thornhill seconded the motion.

By Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Howell "YES"
Deputy Mayor Thornhill "YES"
Commissioner Perez "YES"
Commissioner Lutton "YES"
Mayor Fultz "YES"

The motion carried 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item 10. ORDINANCE 2015-04, Amendments to Zoning, Land Use and Development Regulations -2nd Reading & Public Hearing

City Clerk Clara VanBlargan read **ORDINANCE 2015-04** by title only.

ORDINANCE 2015-04

(Amendments to zoning regulations, Chapter 23 – Code of Ordinances)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAKE WALES, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 23, ZONING, LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; AMENDING TABLE 23-220 LAND USE APPLICATIONS, REVIEW, APPROVAL AND PUBLIC HEARING; AMENDING SPECIAL EXCEPTION USE PERMIT; AMENDING VACATION OF PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY OR PUBLIC EASEMENT; AMENDING FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT; AMENDING ACCEPTANCE OF DEVELOPER DONATIONS, DEDICATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS, ETC; AMENDING STREET CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM; AMENDING STREET ACCESS REQUIREMENT; AMENDING TABLE 23-405; AMENDING CERTAIN PERMITTED AND SPECIAL PERMIT USES IN VARIOUS ZONING DISTRICTS; AMENDING AND ADDING DEFINITIONS; AMENDING LANDSCAPE STANDARDS; AMENDING FENCES AND HEDGES; AMENDING DIMENSIONAL STANDARDS – RESIDENTIAL; AMENDING ACCESSORY UNITS – RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; MAKING MISCELLANEOUS CORRECTIONS, CLARIFICATIONS, AND ADJUSTMENTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Kathy Bangley, Director of Planning and Development, reviewed Agenda Item #10.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy Mayor Thornhill made a motion to adopt **ORDINANCE 2015-04** on second reading and public hearing. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion.

By Roll Call Vote:

Deputy Mayor Thornhill "YES"
Commissioner Howell "YES"
Commissioner Lutton "YES"
Commissioner Perez "YES"
Mayor Fultz "YES"

The motion carried 5-0.

Agenda Item 11. Polk County Water Cooperative Interlocal Agreement

Kenneth Fields, City Manager, reviewed Agenda Item #11.

Commissioner Perez asked how much this would cost and where the money would come from. Mr. Fields answered that the cost is \$46,400 a year and that it would be budgeted into the Utility Fund. The amount is based on population. Polk County and cities are funding 50%, the District the other 50%. The County will oversee this; this is not another level of government. Commissioner Lutton expressed concern about having equal representation as larger cities such as Lakeland. Mr. Fields said it is important for us to have a seat at the table and have our voice heard at all times. All projects must be done on a regional basis in order to get

funding. All the cities will be in the same boat and will have to work together. Commissioner Lutton also expressed concern about stupid deals as have been done in the past such as selling reclaimed water way too cheap.

Commissioner Lutton made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement. Deputy Mayor Thornhill seconded the motion.

By Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Lutton "YES"
Deputy Mayor Thornhill "YES"
Commissioner Howell "YES"
Commissioner Perez "YES"
Mayor Fultz "YES"

The motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

CITY MANAGER

Agenda Item 15. City Commission Tracking Report:

Kenneth Fields, City Manager, reported that work has begun on the Skate Park and will wrap up in a few weeks.

The Airport project is in its final stages and there is positive feedback from FAA and FDOT on future expansion. Because of this, interest in the Airport has grown such as private leases for hangars.

Approved on the Consent Agenda are two street improvement projects on West Central Ave which has seen increased traffic lately and North Market Street downtown.

The new website is up. The final stages of the Scenic HWY/SR 17 project are in process with milling and resurfacing then FDOT will move on to the round-a-bout project at Hunt Bros Road.

Agenda Item 16. City Commission Calendar

Next Tuesday is the scheduled budget workshop. We got the first set of state revenue numbers today which were higher than we thought and awaiting the rest over the next few days. He said he hopes to be able to present a balanced budget on Tuesday with as many of their priorities as possible.

Agenda Item 17. Annual Reporting – Boards, Commissions, and Committees

CITY COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Howell asked how long the gym floor will take. The floor will take two weeks.

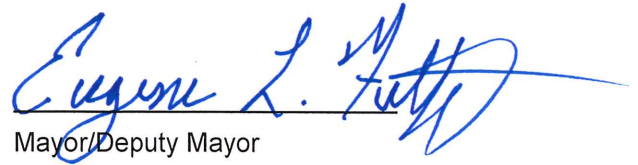
Commissioner Perez asked for a preliminary copy of the budget to review for the meeting. Mr. Fields confirmed that a copy will be provided to them by Friday.

Deputy Mayor Thornhill said that the 4th of July went well, the rain held off and no major problems were reported.

MAYOR COMMENTS

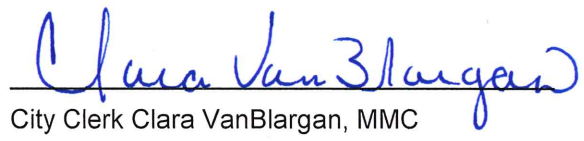
City Commission Meeting
July 7, 2015

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 P.M.



Mayor/Deputy Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk Clara VanBlargan, MMC