

CITY OF BRADENTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 14, 2016
8:30 A.M.
MINUTES

The City of Bradenton City Council met in regular session in the City Hall Council Chamber, 101 Old Main Street, Bradenton, Florida, at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2016.

Present: Mayor Wayne Poston; Vice Mayor/Ward I Councilman Gene Gallo, Councilman Ward II Gene Brown; Councilman Ward III Patrick Roff; Councilman Ward IV Bemis Smith; and Councilman Ward V Harold Byrd, Jr.

City Officials: Carl Callahan, City Administrator; Catherine Hartley, Planning and Community Development Director; Chuck Edwards, Fire Chief; Melanie Bevan, Police Chief; Jim McLellan, Public Works & Utilities Director; and Bill Lisch, City Attorney.

The pre-meeting invocation was led by Councilman Harold Byrd, Jr.

(The City does not endorse the religious beliefs of any speaker.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Poston.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Poston.

PROCLAMATIONS: Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day – January 27, 2017

PRESENTATIONS – None.

Carl Callahan administered the oath to anyone wishing to speak on any non-agenda items or during the public hearings.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tracy Watson, 2311 18th St. Ct. E., expressed his concern about drug and gang related crimes in the area and requested further action be taken to curb these activities.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Application from Coastal Elite Transport to operate a limo service in the City.
- B. Public Event: St. Vincent DePaul Walk for the Poor on March 11 at Riverwalk.
- C. Public Event: Southeastern Guide Dogs Walkathon on March 25 at Rossi Park.
- D. Public Event: Women’s Council of Realtor’s Walk for a Cause on April 1 at Riverwalk.
- E. Street Closure: Closure of portions of 11th Street West and 16th Avenue West on Feb. 11 for an event in the Village of the Arts.
- F. Minutes: Nov. 16 City Council meeting.
- G. Resolution 16-63: CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER).
- H. Resolution 16-64: Title VI non-discrimination policy.
- I. Resolution 16-65: Appointing Jed Heap, Ben Bakker and Bruce Winter to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.
- J. Resolution 16-66: Appointing Charles Wowak Sr. to the Code Enforcement Board.
- K. Resolution 16-69: Appointing Dustin Fusillo to the Planning Commission.
- L. Resolution 16-70: Reappointing Lawrence Covins II and Tom Woods to the Fire Pension Board.
- M. E-Z-Go Golf Vehicle lease – River Run Golf Links.
- N. Maintenance Too Paper – Custodial and paper products.
- O. Ferguson Waterworks – Water & Sewer materials and accessories.
- P. GML Coatings - Manhole and wetwell rehabilitation lining.
- Q. Ten-8 Fire Equipment, Inc. - Fire-related equipment and supplies.
- R. Bid award – RFP #16-01RW Landscape Maintenance for Various Locations.
- S. Insurance Committee: Additional health insurance benefit.
- T. Contract for Police Department lieutenants.
- U. ASR-2 award of construction contract.

MOTION TO APPROVE Consent Agenda Items A-U was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Roff, and approved 5:0.

NEW BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS, CITY ATTORNEY AND COUNCIL

Vicki White, Housing and Community Development Manager, in response to a request previously made by City Council, gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining data of the current status of housing stock within the City. 49% of the City's housing was built before 1980, and 48% was built between 1970 and 1990. Of those older homes, some use no fuel for heating, some lack complete kitchen facilities, and others lack complete plumbing facilities. Roof and termite damage plague some; and others have no central heat or air conditioning or sufficient electric capacity. Ms. White stated that complete reports on each property she had noted was available for review.

Catherine Hartley, Planning & Community Development Manager, stated that priorities would need to be established by Council to develop a 3-year plan for how to best utilize the limited SHIP funding the City would receive. Options to consider were: home rehabilitation, reduction of homelessness, down payment assistance, or others.

Councilman Roff requested additional numbers which would show costs of various types of assistance vs. benefits realized; Mr. Byrd asked for home ownership and rental property percentages.

BUSINESS BY APPOINTMENT – None.

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS TEMPORARILY RECESSED BY MAYOR POSTON AND THE CRA MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:06 A.M. BY CHAIRMAN BYRD. (Separate Minutes Maintained and Available.)

THE CRA MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:16 A.M. BY CHAIRMAN BYRD AND THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS REOPENED BY MAYOR POSTON.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Vice Mayor Gene Gallo, Ward I – Vice Mayor Gallo wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilman Gene Brown, Ward II – Mr. Brown reiterated the sentiment.

Councilman Patrick Roff, Ward III – Mr. Roff said that on Monday he had been sworn in as the new chairman of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, the oldest planning council in the state of Florida, representing 6 counties and 3.5 million people. It had become the premier source of data regarding economic development. Mr. Roff planned to tap into that resource.

Councilman Bemis Smith, Ward IV – Nothing to report.

Councilman Harold Byrd, Jr., Ward V – Councilman Byrd extended wishes for happy holidays.

Mayor Wayne Poston – Mayor Poston stated it has been a good year and he looked forward to next year.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Carl Callahan: Mr. Callahan said the IRS had reduced the 2017 travel expense rate from 54.0 per mile to 53.5 cents. He requested approval of the change so that the City could stay consistent with the IRS numbers. Vice Mayor Gallo stated the change in paperwork alone didn't warrant the miniscule change.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE TRAVEL EXPENSE RATE OF 53.5 CENTS PER MILE was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Roff, and approved 3:2 with Vice Mayor Gallo and Councilman Smith in opposition.

Catherine Hartley: Ms. Hartley said she had provided Council with information about board openings which needed to be filled and asked that Council forward to her any recommendations for candidates. Councilman Byrd inquired if the qualifications could be amended to permit County residents to be included. Mayor Poston stated that the standard has been that a member's residence or business be located in the City. Mr. Lisch said requirements for certain boards could be changed if desired. Catherine Hartley stated that a special magistrate or hearing officer, including the Council acting as such, could be substituted for some boards if desired, also.

Chief Edwards: Chief Edwards urged everyone to attend tomorrow's Christmas party at **Children's Haven**. The Fire Department personnel would be accompanied by **Santa Clause** who would give gifts to over 250 children.

Chief Bevan: Chief Bevan referred to some recent shootings and said that people of interest were under surveillance. In addition, an arrest of two individuals had occurred in less than 24 hours following a car-jacking incident. She said that last night, the Bradenton Police Department, in partnership with **Kingdom Life Church**, had held the annual **Honoring the Badge** Christmas event at which many children, some of whom had been directly affected by parental drug overdose, had received gifts and enjoyed Christmas activities.

Jim McLellan: Mr. McLellan stated that the paving program and all current construction projects would be suspended for the holidays but would resume at the beginning of the year. Plans were in the works to begin paving on 9th Avenue to 21st to prepare the City for Spring Training. Mr. McLellan said that a new GIS application was now available to download on cellphones to see City maps to see the layers of work being done. Lastly, he invited everyone to join in on the Public Works holiday party which would be held tomorrow afternoon and feature a basketball competition and a chili and cornbread cook-off. He said “celebrity judges” were needed.

Councilman Roff personally thanked Jim for going above and beyond to assist a citizen who had experienced a greater level of inconvenience than usual during the paving project on his street. Vice Mayor Gallo also thanked Jim for helping in the situation. Mr. McLellan said his staff had been instructed, that when in doubt, “do the right thing.”

Bill Lisch: Wished everyone very happy holidays.

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

NOTE: This is not a verbatim record. An audio CD or DVD recording of the meeting is available for a fee upon request.