

CITY OF BRADENTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 11, 2015
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, February 11, 2015.

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

City Officials: Carl Callahan, City Clerk & Treasurer/Chief of Staff; Michael Radzilowski, Police Chief; Claude Tankersley, Public Works & Utilities Director; Chuck Edwards, Fire Chief; Tim Polk, Department of Planning & Community Development Director; and Bill Lisch, City Attorney.

Councilman Ward I Gene Gallo and Councilman Ward III Patrick Roff were out with excused absences.

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

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Poston.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Poston.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Engineers' Week – February 22-28, 2015

Carl Callahan read the proclamation and mentioned that the City of Bradenton had been featured in *Bay Soundings* magazine about our water management research techniques which have become a model for the entire state.

Claude Tankersley, Public Works and Utilities Director, accepted the proclamation and stated that the City holds a strong belief in having cutting edge engineers on staff.

PRESENTATIONS:

Beall's Historical Marker – Bill Webster, Beall's Public & Government Affairs Director, and Cathy Slusser, Manatee County Historical Resources Department, gave a slide presentation about the humble beginnings of Beall's Department Store which had opened as "The Dollar Limit Store" in then "Bradentown" on Main Street in 1915 by Robert M. (Papa) Beall. A historical sign had been designed and was to be installed at the site of the original store to commemorate the 100-year anniversary. In addition, a mural would be painted on the existing building.

2015 Healthy Weight Champion Award – Jennifer Bencie, Administrator, Florida Department of Health Manatee and Manatee County Health Officer, along with a team from Community Health, congratulated the Mayor and Council for Bradenton's selection as a 2015 winner in a state competition generated by Dr. John Armstrong, Florida Surgeon General, for assisting in the goal of keeping people healthier "from womb to tomb."

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Pyotr Gelman, Chairman of the Community Development Board of Palma Sola Trace, expressed a desire to have two benches installed within the community to accommodate individuals with health issues.

Claude Tankersley stated that benches sometimes attract unwanted guests, but benches with arm dividers would be installed in the desired areas. Mr. Tankersley requested that the community keep watch and report any misuse.

Vice Mayor Brown requested David Gustafson to provide a post event review of the Bradenton Area Riverwalk Regatta which had been held last weekend.

David Gustafson, Executive Director, Downtown Development Authority, thanked the Mayor, Council, City employees, and all the other contributing agencies which had helped make the event a huge success. In addition to having provided enjoyment and thrills for spectators, he stated that many businesses, both downtown and more distant, had reported tremendous increases in customers. Although there had been very few complaints or incidents, ideas for changes and improvements had been gleaned from this maiden event. The public exposure and extensive press had been invaluable for Bradenton and had generated great interest by individuals and corporations from around the country. Mr. Gustafson said that impact numbers would be provided by the EDC in the very near future.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Minutes: January 28, 2015 City Council Meeting

MOTION TO APPROVE Consent Agenda Item A was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Byrd, and approved 3:0. (*Councilman Gallo and Councilman Roff were excused.*)

BUSINESS/ADVERTISING, PETITIONS, HEARINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS – None scheduled.

BUSINESS BY APPOINTMENT - None scheduled.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Vice Mayor/Councilman Gene Brown, Ward II – Again stated the Regatta had been a GREAT event and thanked the DDA and community. Congratulated the Manatee High School cheerleaders who had qualified and competed in the State championship. Lastly, Vice Mayor Brown expressed condolences to the family of Gene Witt, a leader and mentor in education in the community.

Councilman Bemis Smith, Ward IV – Thanked Claude Tankersley and the Public Works employees, along with Police and Fire personnel who had worked so hard to make the Regatta a tremendous success. Councilman Smith added his sympathies to the Witt family in the passing of such a dedicated and contributing citizen. He said we have had a treasure of important founding individuals who have passed.

Councilman Harold Byrd, Jr., Ward V – Extended his condolences to the Witt family and said he will be sorely missed.

Mayor Wayne Poston – Mayor Poston said he was pleased to be hosting **Leadership Manatee** today at City Hall for *Local Government Day*.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Carl Callahan: Having missed the Regatta due to health issues, he said he had heard only good things. He expressed his appreciation for all the hard work which had gone into it.

Chief Edwards: BFD had partnered with BPD on the water, and said the Regatta had gone smoothly with no problems.

Chief Radzilowski: Nothing to report.

Claude Tankersley, Public Works Director: Nothing to report.

Tim Polk: Said he had been very impressed by the Beall's presentation this morning. Also said the Regatta had been a great event.

Bill Lisch: Said he had enjoyed the Regatta and thought it had been a terrific event with the weather having cooperated superbly. He also said he was glad to see Carl back in action.

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 9:36 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.