

CITY OF BRADENTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 28, 2015
6:00 P.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 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.

Present: Mayor Wayne Poston; Councilman Ward I Gene Gallo; Vice Mayor/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 Clerk & Treasurer/Chief of Staff; Michael Radzilowski, Police Chief; Claude Tankersley, Public Works Director; Chuck Edwards, Fire Chief; Tim Polk, Department of Planning & Community Development Director; and Bill Lisch, City Attorney.

The pre-meeting invocation was given by Pastor Nate Thomas of Fellowship Church of God.
(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: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Liz & Ronald Reed, founders of the Paranormal Society of Bradenton, along with team members, Heather & Kenny Thompson, proposed their desire to begin a ghost walk tour of the area's historical buildings to present the history of Bradenton and Manatee County, investigate paranormal activity, and draw people into the vicinity.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Resolution 15-02: Revised Citizen Participation Plan.
- b) Resolution 15-03: Vacation of an easement.
- c) Resolution 15-04: Reappointing members to the Grievance Board.
- d) Forfeiture Fund request: pole cameras.
- e) Forfeiture Fund request: server replacement.
- f) Forfeiture Fund request: field training.
- g) Application to operate a taxi service in the City.
- h) Minutes: Jan. 14 City Council meeting.

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

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

NEW BUSINESS BY DEPARTMENT HEADS, CITY ATTORNEY, AND CITY COUNCIL

Tim Polk, Planning and Community Development Director – WCI - Tidewater PDP Modification

Mr. Polk stated that he had been approached by WCI with a request to lower the pre-approved height and density of the Tidewater Preserve planned development project.

Roger Aman, WCI Communities, and Miller Yoder, civil engineer with Stantec, presented an overview of the changes proposed: Originally approved for 279 units within four 10-story complexes (9 stories over 1 story parking), upon approval, the project now would be modified to 236 units consisting of 17 estate lots *OR* 14 quads, 26 single-family homes, and an overall reduction in height to three-story units.

With Council's agreement, following a vetting process involving Public Works, Fire, Police, and Planning & Zoning, the modification would then be able to be administratively approved. Council agreed to the administrative approval.

BUSINESS BY APPOINTMENT - None scheduled.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Gene Gallo, Ward I – Nothing to report.

Vice Mayor/Councilman Gene Brown, Ward II – Thanked Chief Edwards and the Bradenton Fire Department for their assistance in working out some concerns expressed by the residents of Pinebrook Ironwood.

Councilman Patrick Roff, Ward III – Stated he, Claude Tankersley, and Vice Mayor Brown had attended the MPO meeting on Monday and that the traffic lights on 59th Street West would be installed within the next 90 days. Secondly, he said he would miss the next Council meeting to participate in the Florida League of Cities FAST Fly-In to Washington, D.C. to lobby for protection of the tax exempt status for municipal bonds and to find a permanent solution to the highway trust fund deficits. Lastly, Councilman Roff stated he had been contacted by citizens regarding concerns about the increased vagrant population. He planned to meet with the Major of the Salvation Army to discuss the concerns. Chief Radzilowski stated that he, too, had been in discussion with the Salvation Army and the One-Stop Center to attempt to find a solution.

Councilman Bemis Smith, Ward IV – Said that he, too, had noticed increased numbers of panhandlers and/or groups requesting money that were not aware that Bradenton and Manatee County prohibits such activities. City Attorney, Bill Lisch, and Chief Radzilowski concurred that solicitation is prohibited here. Some of the individuals who had been soliciting funds were unaware of the law as they were from other places which did not have such ordinances.

Councilman Harold Byrd, Jr., Ward V – Extended his congratulations to the individuals who had been promoted or sworn in as new police officers in the ceremony which had been held prior to the Council meeting.

Councilman Byrd requested that further discussion be held at Council Workshops regarding use of the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance as a tool to de-escalate situations before they intensify. He wished to put teeth into the legislation to handle the problems preemptively. Attorney Lisch said that he had met with Mr. Polk regarding the revamping of the Nuisance Abatement Board to address such issues.

Mayor Wayne Poston – Was very pleased to say that he had met with the Village Green Homeowners' Association which was very pleased with the development project to be constructed on the abandoned golf course.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Carl Callahan: Nothing to report.

Chief Edwards: Nothing to report.

Chief Radzilowski: Wanted to advise Council that there had been an ANSWER demonstration last Saturday which had gone well and been handled very professionally with no arrests.

Claude Tankersley, Public Works Director: Mr. Tankersley said that paving would begin next week in the areas which had been impacted by the water main replacement project. Secondly, he stated that FDOT had asked the communities to put together a design review committee to discuss the proposed bridge between Manatee Avenue and Anna Maria Island. Manatee County was taking the lead on the establishment of the committee, but Council would eventually need to appoint at least one representative. Mayor Poston requested that Mr. Tankersley contact the construction company working on the chiller lines to ensure that Old Main Street would remain open for the Feb. 7th **Bradenton Area Riverwalk Regatta.**

Tim Polk: Nothing to report.

Bill Lisch: Nothing to report.

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

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