

CITY OF BRADENTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 8, 2014
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, October 8, 2014.

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

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.

The pre-meeting invocation was given by Dr. Robert Sichta, Congregational United Church of Christ.
(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.

Councilman Ward V Harold Byrd, Jr. was out with an excused absence.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Red Ribbon Week – Oct. 20-24, 2014

The proclamation was accepted by Rita Chamberlain, Associate Director of Manatee County Substance Abuse Coalition, along with Lisa Ramirez, Consultant to Manatee County Youth Commission, encouraged all to participate in anti-substance abuse measures, including attending a breakfast at Pirate City to be held at 7:15 a.m. on October 21st, featuring a presentation entitled “Marijuana – Be a Smart Voter.” Chief Radzilowski would be a member of the panel.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mireya Eavey, CareerEdge Funders Collaborative, presented a plaque to Mayor Poston in appreciation of the City’s long-standing support of the program. Ms. Eavey said that 2,300 individuals had gone through the job training program. She thanked the City for its investment of \$400,000 from a Knight Foundation grant which has been transformed into \$9 million in leverage funding and investments being brought into the community.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Joe McClash, 711 89th Street NW, Bradenton, addressed the Council about the Harbour Sound development with his concern about approval having been done inappropriately. He referred to inconsistencies in zoning rules in regard to wetlands. He requested rescission of the approval, and expressed frustration about lack of response from the City.

Larry Grossman, 763A St. John’s Drive N., Longboat Key, also shared his opposition to the Harbour Sound development. He stated that the development had been improperly advertised by not providing an understandable description of the size and location of the property. He stressed the cessation of development in flood zone areas in Miami and Britain and the importance of observing environmental protection guidelines.

Discussion: The concerns expressed have been heard and legalities are incomplete as of this time.

In defense of Port Manatee in the light of recent complaints about customer service, **Manatee County Commissioner Carol Whitmore** cited a report which had come out in Logistics Magazine ranking the port as #4 out of the ports in the Gulf.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Street Closure: Request to close portion of 16th Ave. W. on Oct. 25 for Children's Fall Festival.
- B. Contract: Agreement for initial and monthly maintenance of wetland areas at Riverwalk with E Co. Consultants.
- C. Contract: Agreement for bi-monthly maintenance of ponds at Norma Lloyd Park and 10th Ave. E./14 St. E.
- D. Resolution 14-41: Defining department head status.
- E. Request for a one-year extension of time for 24th Street East Professional Park PDP.
- F. Minutes: Sept. 10 City Council meeting.
- G. Minutes: Sept. 10 City Council first budget hearing.
- H. Minutes: Sept. 24 City Council second budget hearing.
- I. Minutes: Sept. 24 City Council meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE Consent Agenda Items A-I was made by Councilman Roff, seconded by Councilman Brown, and approved 4:0. (Councilman Byrd was excused.)

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

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

Councilman Gene Gallo, Ward I

Village Green Maintenance Agreement

Stephen Mapes, 6805 13th Ave. Drive West, President, Village Green Homeowners' Association, stated that the association had been maintaining the city easements along the canals and medians of Village Green since 1983 when an agreement had been made with the City in return for an annual credit of \$1000 on the association's water bill. In 1999, Village Green had been switched from City water to County water, and the omission of the credit had gone unnoticed until Mr. Mapes had taken the initiative to seek the original contract.

Discussion: The association had provided more landscaping maintenance than the City could offer and had done a wonderful job of keeping the area beautiful.

Councilman Gallo said that the City had moved away from making agreements of such nature, but he proposed that the City honor the agreement which had been made by the previous Council and offer Village Green \$2000 per year for the next 10 years, to be revisited at that time.

MOTION TO OFFER \$2000 PER YEAR TOWARD LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE IN VILLAGE GREEN FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS WITH AN OPTION TO REVIEW THE AGREEMENT AT THAT TIME was made by Councilman Gallo, seconded by Councilman Roff, and approved 4:0. (Councilman Byrd was excused.)

Dave Gustafson, Downtown Development Authority Executive Director

- A. 2014-15 budget of the Bradenton Community Redevelopment Agency
- B. 2014-15 budget of the 14th Street Community Redevelopment Agency

Mr. Gustafson stated that he had had the opportunity to review the budget individually with Council and asked if anyone had any further questions. No further questions were posed.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2014-2015 BUDGETS OF THE BRADENTON COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THE 14TH STREET COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY was made by Vice Mayor/Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Roff, and approved 4:0. (Councilman Byrd was excused.)

Tim Polk, Central Community Redevelopment Agency Executive Director

Resolution 14-39: Request for approval of the Central Community Redevelopment Agency budget for 2014-2015.

Councilman Gallo requested detailed itemization of expenses next year. Carl Callahan recommended beginning the budget processes earlier in the summer.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2014-2015 CENTRAL COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BUDGET FOR 2014-2015 was made by Councilman Roff, seconded by Councilman Brown, and approved 4:0. (Councilman Byrd was excused.)

BUSINESS BY APPOINTMENT - None.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Gene Gallo, Ward I: Nothing to report.

Councilman Gene Brown, Ward II: Said he was psyched for the 100-year anniversary homecoming football game of Manatee High School and Palmetto High School this Friday night at Manatee High School. **Buster Griffith** from the 1941 team and 100 other former players would be in attendance. Councilman Brown said he had also been pleased to see that MHS's own **Tommie Frazier** had just been inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Councilman Patrick Roff, Ward III: Councilman Roff recognized **Johnette Isham, Realize Bradenton Executive Director, and Dr. Judy Sedgeman, Board Chair**, among the audience. Mr. Roff said there was to be a luncheon today with the Knight Foundation at which opportunities available would be outlined. The chance to take Bradenton to the next level in arts and culture was within reach.

Mr. Roff announced that the bi-annual Ware's Creek Cleanup had been held on Saturday, October 4th, and had been very successful in spite of the inclement weather. Among others, a large group of students from Bradenton Christian School had enthusiastically joined in.

Mr. Roff then gave a presentation on the budget of the Florida League of Cities which illustrated its good fiscal management. The Florida League was the largest in the United States and had the lowest dues.

Vice Mayor/Councilman Bemis Smith, Ward IV: Complimented the Police Department and Claude Tankersley and the Public Works & Utilities Department on the excellent response time in removing a tree which had blocked a street and damaged power lines in Ward 4.

Councilman Smith said that the real estate market was growing and redevelopment was coming. He urged his colleagues to be picky as they weighed development options.

Mayor Wayne Poston: Mayor Poston welcomed Commissioner Chappie in the audience and invited Johnette Isham to speak.

Johnette Isham, said that Realize Bradenton and the Department of Health had assembled 150 volunteers who had been eager to help pick up trash at Riverwalk. However, as there was no trash on Riverwalk, they had been redirected to planting plants. She thanked Gary Kinder, Riverwalk Superintendent, and his crew for orchestrating this event which would take place from 4:00-5:00 today.

Johnette said that a delegation from Macon, Georgia, had come to town to inquire about Bradenton's progress and cooperation with non-profits, and had been blown away by the accomplishments.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Carl Callahan: Requested approval to transfer of custodial responsibilities for the surplus fund investments from Salem Trust to Regions Bank Trust Department.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR POSTON TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF SURPLUS FUND INVESTMENTS TO REGIONS was made by Councilman Byrd, seconded by Vice Mayor/Councilman Smith, and approved 4:0. (*Councilman Byrd was excused.*)

Mr. Callahan encouraged everyone to extend a warm welcome to the new Human Resources Director, Christy Habony, who had started with the City a few months ago in a different capacity on a part-time basis.

Mayor Poston said that the recent training on the incoming new telephone system had been excellent and was enthusiastic

Chief Edwards: Nothing to report.

Chief Radzilowski: Stated that the police department had started a new series of articles profiling the officers who protect our City, the first of which was entitled, "The Police Women of Bradenton." It had been hugely popular on Facebook. The next series will be "The Voice of 911 Dispatch."

Mayor Poston said that the City will be working with the County to review the proposed changes to the 911 Emergency Call system. Currently, 911 calls go to the County's dispatch before being rerouted to the City's dispatch, thus causing concern about possible delays in response.

Claude Tankersley: Mr. Tankersley said that the aging City stage had been placed with the Purchasing Department to go out for auction.

In response to Councilman Roff's inquiry, Mr. Tankersley said that the replacement of the 17th Avenue Bridge would be completed before Thanksgiving, ahead of its anticipated reopening of December 1st. Mr. Roff expressed his appreciation and commendation for the excellent job that had been done on all of the City's bridge replacements.

Vice Mayor/Councilman Byrd asked about the progress on the reconfiguration of the entrance to Braden River Lakes and Thornton's. Mr. Tankersley said that a meeting had been scheduled for Friday to meet with the Homeowners' Association and the surrounding businesses to discuss the proposed changes in detail once more before the contractor would begin the work.

Lastly, in anticipation of the MHS-PHS football game on Friday, Councilman Brown asked if the repair work on 32nd Street would be completed by Friday. Mr. Tankersley said that, if there was no rain, the work would be completed prior to kickoff.

Tim Polk: Said that growth and development was indeed increasing and proposed that a workshop be held to explore possible incentives.

Bill Lisch: Nothing to report.

There being no further business, Mayor Poston adjourned the meeting at 9:49 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.