

OFFICIAL MINUTES

BELLE GLADE CITY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

November 17, 2014

Pursuant to due notice, a regular meeting of the Belle Glade City Commission was held in City Hall, 110 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., West, Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, Florida, on Monday, November 17, 2014 at 6:34 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilson. The Invocation was observed by a Moment of Silence, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Wilkerson. Upon roll call, the following Commissioners were present: Underwood, Wilkerson, and Wilson. Commissioner Burroughs and Commissioner Martin were recorded absent. Members of staff present were City Attorney Torcivia, Director of Public Works Montes De Oca, Finance Consultant Wood, Assistant Director of Finance Hughes, Director of Human Resources Hunter, Director of Planning & Community Redevelopment Services Parchment, Assistant Director of Public Works Gooden, Grants & Special Projects Manager Tomeu, Recreation Manager J.D. Patrick, Facilities Manager Hood, Public & Community Relations Coordinator Evans, Deputy City Clerk Carter, and City Clerk Buff.

Also present: PBSO Capt. Ed Luty and PBSO Lt. Terrence Carn.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

[Approved as Presented]

Vice Mayor Wilkerson MOVED, Commissioner Underwood SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to approve the Agenda as presented. [Burroughs and Martin Absent]

RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES:

Mayor Wilson recognized dignitaries and welcomed all other citizens in attendance at the Commission meeting. Mayor Wilson extended congratulations to PBSO Capt. Ed Luty upon his recent promotion to the rank of Captain.

PBSO Capt. Ed Luty said he had previously served the City of Belle Glade as Lieutenant, had recently been promoted to the rank of Captain, and was now privileged to serve the entire Glades area.

PRESENTATIONS:

OCTOBER 2014 EMPLOYEE SAFETY AWARD, RECIPIENT JOHNNY GOODEN, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mayor Wilson and Commissioners presented the October 2014 Employee Safety Award to Johnny Gooden, Public Works Department.

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT PRESENTED TO STUDENTS SCORING LEVEL FIVE IN 2014 FCAT: BELLE GLADE ELEMENTARY; GLADE VIEW ELEMENTARY; AND PIONEER PARK ELEMENTARY

On behalf of the City Commission, Public and Community Relations Coordinator Evans presented Certificates of Achievement to students of Belle Glade Elementary and Pioneer Park Elementary, who scored a Level Five on the 2014 FCAT. Glade View Elementary students were not present. Ms. Evans recognized and welcomed Dr. Matthew Shoemaker, Area Superintendent, Elementary School Principals, teachers, and parents. Certificates of Achievement were presented to students as follows:

Belle Glade Elementary School

Omari Kimbrough – Reading; Vannessa Garcia – Reading and Math; Dan’Kwan Dejuste – Math; Ashley Garcia – Math; Jose Garcia – Math

Pioneer Park Elementary School

Emma Jean-Baptiste – Reading and Math; Johan Silva – Reading; Aaron Davis – Math; Kenya Intervol – Math

Mayor Wilson and Commissioners congratulated and commended students for their exceptional achievements to score a Level Five on the 2014 FCAT, and encouraged students to proudly exhibit their certificates to inspire other students to reach higher goals in their educational pursuits.

PRESENTATIONS Continued:

WILHELMENIA JACOBS, LAKE SHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND 7TH AND 8TH GRADE AVID (ACHIEVEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION) STUDENTS

Willhelmenia Jacobs, AVID Coordinator, Lake Shore Middle School, introduced students in the AVID (Achievement Via Individual Determination) Program. Students read letters of appreciation to the Mayor and City Commissioners for their encouragement and support of students in the AVID Program. Students in attendance at the Commission meeting were as follows:

7th Grade Students

Matron Thornton – Spokes Person
Melissa Cervantes
Al’dajan Laws
Ariel Ray
Warnshara Butts
Christine Louis-Jeune
Aalmain Jenkins
Jazzy Phillips

8th Grade Students

Curtis Franklin – Spokes Person
Kei’nian Bowles
Tyrek Starling
Meriah Carey
Juan Loaisiga
Jonan Acevedo
Ra’shadd Ingrams
Shelley Louis-Jeune
Stacy Saint Clair
Fiorella Lopez
Heidi Paniagua
Terry Celestin
Josue Aguilar Gonzalez

Mayor Wilson commended Ms. Jacobs for her diligence and enthusiasm to instill incentives in the youth to observe and participate in their City’s governmental processes, and to encourage volunteerism and public service at the middle school level.

FRANKLIN PATRICK, URBAN LEAGUE OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, RELATING TO DIGITAL LEARNING ZONE

Franklin Patrick, President and CEO, Urban League of Palm Beach County, said City Commissioners would consider entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Urban League, to provide a Digital Learning Zone at the Youth Empowerment Center, in conjunction with Comcast. Said the program would provide a teen-based digital literacy program from October 14, 2014 through September 30, 2015. Mr. Patrick noted that several Glades area students had attended the recent conference on “Preventing Crime in the Black Community”, and expressed hope that even more students would have the opportunity to attend the next scheduled conference.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

[Motion carried to approve Consent Agenda items]

City Clerk requested Commission consideration to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

Minutes: Regular Meeting, November 3, 2014
Workshop Meeting, November 3, 2014
Special Meeting, October 30, 2014

Designation of Calendar Year 2015 Holidays

Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget Transfers No. 14-T-032, 14-T-033 and 14-T-034

Memorandum of Understanding and Associated Addendum with Urban League of Palm Beach County, Inc., with Authorization for Mayor to Execute the Same, Relating to Digital Learning Zone at the YEC

Award Item No. 1 of ITB No. 9-14, Belle Glade City Hall Roof Renovation, to NYC Construction Group, Inc.; Approval to Enter Into Contract for Goods and Services with Authorization for Mayor to Execute the Same; and Authorization to Pay the Contract Amount of \$76,400 as Governed by the Contract

Award Item No. 1 of ITB No. 10-14, Torry Island Campground Activity Building, to T & S Construction, Inc. with Authorization for Staff to Negotiate Contract in Order to Further Reduce Cost of Project

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CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS Continued:

Special Event Permit Application Relating to Turkey Shoot, November 19, 2014, Petitioner Belle Glade Rotary Club

Vice Mayor Wilkerson MOVED to approve Consent Agenda items, Commissioner Underwood SECONDED, and discussion ensued. Commissioner Underwood said he wished to ensure the award of Item No. 1 of ITB No. 10-14 to T&S Construction would be for a negotiated contract amount, rather than the proposed amount submitted by T&S Construction. Commissioner Underwood also noted that he is President of the Rotary Club, and inquired of City Attorney if there would be any conflict of interest in the vote, relating to the Special Event Permit for the Rotary Club Turkey Shoot. City Attorney stated there would be no conflict of interest, as Commissioner Underwood would not realize any financial gain by voting. Upon roll call, the Motion carried 3-0 to approve Consent Agenda items. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

CITY CLERK REPORTS:

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

City Clerk read the following Resolutions by title:

Relating to a Policy for a 2014 Lump-Sum Performance Bonus Gift Card Program and Employee Celebration

[Adopted]

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-3124

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, ADOPTING A POLICY FOR A 2014 LUMP-SUM PERFORMANCE BONUS GIFT CARD PROGRAM AND EMPLOYEE CELEBRATION PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Wilkerson MOVED, Commissioner Underwood SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to adopt said Resolution. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

Relating to Co-Sponsorship of Special Events (Parades)

[Adopted]

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-3125

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, DECLARING THE GLADES CENTRAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL HOMECOMING PARADE, AFRO ARTS FESTIVAL PARADE, BLACK GOLD JUBILEE PARADE, AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ANNUAL PARADE TO BE SPECIAL EVENTS CO-SPONSORED BY THE CITY; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE PARADE PERMITS FOR SAID EVENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2015; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Wilkerson MOVED, Commissioner Underwood SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to adopt said Resolution. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

Relating to FDOT Grant to Fund Belle Glade Express

[Adopted]

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-3126

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, GRANTING APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR OPERATIONS OF THE BELLE GLADE EXPRESS SERVICE ROUTES; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Vice Mayor Wilkerson MOVED, Commissioner Underwood SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to adopt said Resolution. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

CITY CLERK REPORTS Continued:

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS Continued

Relating to Reduction and Release of Lien, Case No. 09-629, Sasser Seafood, Inc.

[Adopted]

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-3127

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, APPROVING A REDUCTION AND RELEASE OF A LIEN IN CODE ENFORCEMENT CASE NO. 09-629, FOR RESPONDENT, SASSER SEAFOOD, INC., IN THE REDUCED AMOUNT OF \$500.00; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A RELEASE OF LIEN; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAID RELEASE OF LIEN IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR A CONFLICTS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Underwood MOVED, Vice Mayor Wilkerson SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to adopt said Resolution. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

Relating to Release of Lien, Case No. 08-732, J&D Lakatos, Inc.

[Adopted]

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-3128

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA, ISSUING A CODE ENFORCEMENT RELEASE OF LIEN ON CASE NO. 08-732, J & D LAKATOS, INC. AS OWNER, FOR CONSIDERATION OF \$850.00; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID RELEASE OF LIEN; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD SAID RELEASE OF LIEN; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Underwood MOVED, Vice Mayor Wilkerson SECONDED, and the Motion carried 3-0 to adopt said Resolution. [Burroughs and Martin absent]

OTHER BUSINESS

Announcements

City Clerk made the following announcements:

Mayor's Proclamation Declaring December 1, 2014 as World AIDS Day and December 1 – 7, 2014 as World AIDS Week

City's On-Line Auction Continues through November 24, 2014

November 27, 2014 City Hall will be Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Holiday

December 1, 2014 Commission Workshop Meeting at 6:00 p.m., Followed by Regular Commission Meeting at 6:30 p.m., City Hall Commission Chambers

CITY MANAGER REPORTS:

BIRTHDAY WISHES

City Clerk said City Manager wished to extend belated Happy Birthday wishes to Vice Mayor Wilkerson.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS: None.

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YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM:

OCTOBER 2014 ACTIVITY REPORT

Assistant Director of Finance provided a report of Youth Empowerment Center Activities for the month of October 2014. Highlights of activities as follows:

Activities

- Total of 56 youths participated during September, with an average of 31 youths per day.
 - Students visited Quiet Waters Assisted Living Facility to engage residents in their favorite Bingo games. Students provided prizes and refreshments for facility residents.
 - Male students began a new year of basketball training in conjunction with the Belle Glade Boys and Girls Teen Club.
 - Students enjoyed a day of fishing with Captain Bob in the Florida Fishing Academy, and posed for photographs in front of the new Lomax Harrelle Pavilion.
 - Students attended the City Commission meeting on October 20, 2014 to receive a third place trophy and check, presented by the Mayor of Miramar, Florida / President of the Florida League of Cities Lori C. Moseley.
 - State-wide video competition “My City” was sponsored by the Florida League of Cities, and this was the first year that the Belle Glade YEC had competed.
 - Four students participated in the City’s Essay Competition “My City: I’m Part of It, I’m Proud of It”, and students presented their essays at the Commission meeting.
- Mayor Wilson requested City Clerk to ask City Manager to determine the status of the Boys & Girls Club Gymnasium, and to inform Commissioners in a memorandum.
- Mayor Wilson requested the Finance Department to follow up with a letter to the Urban League requesting to send ten students and four chaperones to the next scheduled conference on “Preventing Crime in the Black Community”.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS:

STATUS REPORT RELATING TO SOUTH BAY LITIGATION

City Attorney said the Judge had scheduled a ten-minute Motion Hearing for tomorrow’s date, November 18, 2014 to set a Hearing date for a Motion for Summary Judgment on the City’s lawsuit against the City of South Bay.

PBSO (PALM BEACH SHERIFF’S OFFICE) COMMENTS:

HOMICIDE

Lt. Carn reported that PBSO was working diligently to solve a recent homicide in Belle Glade.

CITY-WIDE CLEAN UP

Lt. Carn said PBSO would partner with the Solid Waste Authority and the City to perform a City-wide Clean-up Day the latter part of January 2015.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None.

COMMISSION REPORTS/COMMENTS:

UNDERWOOD:

Youth Programs/Projects – No new report.

City Parks – No new report.

Grants – No new report.

Golf Course – No new report.

City Attorney Vacation – Extended a welcome home to City Attorney after a long vacation.

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COMMISSION REPORTS/COMMENTS Continued:

UNDERWOOD Continued:

PBSO Capt. Luty – Extended congratulations to PBSO Capt. Ed Luty upon his recent promotion.

AVID Program – Commended Ms. Jacobs and AVID students for their outstanding academic achievements in the middle school program.

2014 FCAT – Commended students upon their accomplishments to achieve a Level 5 on the 2014 FCAT.

WILKERSON (Vice Mayor):

Marina Campground Improvements – No new report.

Job Training – No new report.

Congratulations to Students – Extended congratulations to all students in attendance at the Commission meeting, upon their scholastic achievements in the AVID Program and Level 5 FCAT.

Resolution – Requested a Resolution extending condolences to West Palm Beach City Commissioner Ike Robinson, upon the recent loss of his son.

Code Enforcement Repeat Violators – Inquired of the process to address repeat code enforcement violators.

- Director of Planning & Community Redevelopment Services said violators who brought properties into compliance were cited again if property was not kept in compliance. Noted that staff and Commissioners were working to strengthen the Code Enforcement Ordinance to address repeat violators.

Blue Garbage Containers and Dumpsters – Inquired if notices of violations, relating to blue garbage containers and dumpsters, were given to tenants of apartment buildings or to the property owners. Expressed concern of conditions around dumpsters on NW 11th Street and NW Avenue D.

- Director of Planning & Community Redevelopment Services said notices of violations were given to property owners of apartment buildings; however, notices were given to tenants of duplexes or triplexes. Noted that dumpsters were under the Sanitation Division of Public Works.
- Mayor Wilson suggested staff should make efforts to find grant funding to purchase surveillance cameras to identify violators who abuse and misuse dumpsters.

WILSON (Mayor):

Transportation – No new report.

Recreation Activities – No new report.

Thanksgiving Food Program – Expressed appreciation to PBSO for assistance with the recent Thanksgiving Food Program for needy families in the community.

Loading Ramp – Suggested consideration of starting a tradition of putting a Christmas tree at the Loading Ramp for the annual toy give-away program.

Boys & Girls Club Gym – Reiterated that staff should determine the anticipated availability date for the City's use of the Boys & Girls Club Gym.

- Recreation Manager reported that over 500 people utilize the Lake Shore Civic Center Weight Room and Aerobics facilities on a weekly basis.

Congratulations to Students – Extended congratulations to all students in attendance at the Commission meeting, upon their scholastic achievements in the AVID Program and Level 5 FCAT.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, Mayor Wilson adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Steve B. Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra R. Buff, MMC, City Clerk