

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN MEETING ON
February 02, 2021 AT 7:00PM, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL, 299
RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA.**

Council Members Present:

Bret Whidden, Mayor
Jacob Eighner, Vice Mayor, Financial Officer
Marcus “Marc” Decker
Clay Browning
Jan Gunn

Others Present:

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
David Miller, City Manager
Brandon Roberts, Public Works Director (ABSENT)
Steve Ramunni, Attorney

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL:

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:

Invocation given by Miller. Pledge lead by Gunn.

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

There are none.

ITEM 4: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:

January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION was made by Marc and seconded by Gunn to approve the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

**ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE THE CITY TAKING OVER CHALO NITKA
FESTIVAL:**

Eighner states that he asked to have this be put on the agenda for this meeting. We have removed the Chalo Nitka Festival from the Economic Development Office where Tracy works so she can concentrate more on the EDC aspect of the job. So, I just want everybody to know and to spread the word on if anyone needs anything for Chalo Nitka come to City Hall, it is all happening here. Whidden states we are pretty much doing everything anyway; it is our festival. Gunn states it really is not our festival. We have no say so in any of it, we do not choose the committee and all these decisions are made without us even knowing. Our Facebook says we are doing the bass tournament trophies and none of this was ever discussed. All this stuff is just thrown over to City Hall and the girls have their own work to do. Eighner

states it is not interfering with their work. Gunn states it should be. Eighner *points to Wills* she runs the office, is it extra work on you? Wills states it is not that bad at all. Whidden states Courtney is flexible with holding up her end of the deal with invoicing and stuff. Gunn states that if the City is going to be taking it over, we should choose our own committee and change everything. Whidden states with that Jan we cannot be on the committee. Gunn states I do not want us on the committee I want to choose who is on it because Chalo Nitka is not what it used to be. If our name is going to be on it and we are going to be over it then it needs to be changed, my opinion. Browning states clarify something for me here Jake but first off, the Chalo Nitka books this year are probably the best it's looked in the past 3 or 4 years. With that said, when you say we are going to be taking over Chalo Nitka, can you be a little more specific for me? Eighner states Chalo Nitka is a City of Moore Haven Festival and before Mr. Miller was hired there were a lot of indecisive decisions being made. The City of Moore Haven would do all the labor up there and not get compensated for it until Mr. Millers' direction and Chalo Nitka has begun to reimburse us. When certain questions would be brought up to Tracy at her office, she would not be able to answer any of their questions. Basically Jan, the only thing that the City of Moore Haven did not oversea is collecting the money. But the Chalo Nitka Board is already set, we have bylaws in place, and we vote for who gets on the board. Gunn states if we are going to be taking over, we are going to make it better. We will re-vamp the board and re-vamp the people that have anything to do with it. Eighner states this is the smoothest Chalo Nitka has ever run in 5 years since we put it in this office and if you go and try to restructure as we are moving along it is going to set us back. Gunn states I do not like how work just keep piling on and on and none of this was ever discussed. Whidden states alright well Chalo Nitka has got to go on and we cannot sit here and beat this horse all night. We will have to table it.

MOTION was made by Browning and seconded by Decker to table discussion and/or approval of the city taking over Chalo Nitka to the first meeting in April. Motion Carried.

ITEM 6: REPORT OF OFFICERS:

6A: CITY MANAGER:

Miller states just a update on the Ranch Lake Estates we've been cleaning ditches and culverts out there and we'll continue. There are some things I want to have done over on the south side as well. Decker states how much longer do you think you will be working on the north side? Miller states he hopes by the 3rd or 4th week in February I will be able to head over here and look at some things. Manpower wise I have a few people out on vacation. I have been pushing hard as far as getting these hours straightened out with the guys. We cannot have guys sitting on 240 hours and them saying they are going to go home because they don't want to lose hours and you know it's not fair to them. I have set them down got a schedule together for the whole year and scheduled vacations so we can be back where we need to be. Browning states do we have a cap on hours? Miller states 240 hours on vacation is the cap. Anyways, we have a lot of projects going on so bear with us for a little bit. Gunn states do you have all your staff? Miller states I just hired the last one today, so I am fully staffed again. Now is the time of year where I have got to do a lot of other things so I can kind of use the parks guys. Yes, it is likely we will get behind, but it takes both those trucks to get through each street. Whidden states this is the first time we have had so many employees with CDL licenses. Miller states yes, and it was not easy to find. The last thing I want to mention is AJAX and the paving we are going to have done. In the last meeting, I did not include the radius on the roads. I estimated about 7800 sq yds. I got the new estimate which is about 8173 sq yds which I agree with. It

raised the total by like \$3000 so the correct total 88,876.10 and that is what I am going to approve for AJAX. Whidden states yes, we've already approved that with the adjustment. Miller states yes, I just want everyone to know. Whidden states alright so just \$3000, that's fine. Miller states other than that I am done.

6B: CITY ATTORNEY:

Ramunni states did you find anything on the Yacht club yet? Miller states yes, I had a meeting with them last Wednesday or Thursday. The gentleman that is on that committee is getting back with the guy that owns the property. I gave him a couple alternatives, like we discussed at the CCPWA meeting as far as possibly trading lots so we would own that lot. I also told him we are having a survey done, in about another week or so- if they want to keep the lot, they will have to grant us the easements so we can legally get on and take care of those facilities. I do not know if the CCPWA would consider just buying a lot, but that is for the next meeting. I planned on giving him a call maybe tomorrow or Thursday to see if he has spoken to that guy. When I spoke to the gentleman, I told him I would get the information from him myself. Whidden states was he interested in anything about the county property doing a swap? Miller states yes, I think they were interested in that. Browning states let me ask you a question Dave, when you pulled up to the pump station is it the lot to the east or the lot to the west? Miller states that pump station fits right in the middle, that lot is like a pie shape. Ramunni states alright well the other thing is David and I have been talking about the apprentice position. If we are going to send someone for training and spend a good chunk of money, we want to make sure they work for the city for a period of time and that's some of the blanks you have to fill in and if they don't, they'd reimburse the school the money. So, I drafted an agreement for the apprenticeship training program to where they're working with the city for 4 years before the debt is forgiven. Gunn states so they will do the 3 year program then after its another 4 years after they are certified. Ramunni states well it is a 4 year program and after they are certified then it'll take another 4 years to repay the debt. Miller states that I can reassure the council that the guys are not going anywhere but I want something in place. Eighner states if it does not work out with them it will be in place for the next person. Ramunni states we can also adjust it in the future if needed. That is all I have.

6C: CITY CLERK:

Nothing to report.

6D: CRAIG A SMITH AND ASSOCIATES:

ABSENT

6E: CAS GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES:

ABSENT

6F: WATER PLANT OPERATOR:

Nothing to report.

ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,905.55:

MOTION was made by Browning and seconded by Gunn to approve bills in the amount of the \$27,905.55. Motion Carried.

ITEM 8: CITIZENS COMMENTS/GENERAL CONCERNS:

Nothing to report.

ITEM 9: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GIVE REPORTS:

Whidden states the only thing I have is did that lady from Ortona about the reservations at the dock ever call back? Wills states no.

ITEM 10: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED:

There are none.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Eighner and seconded by Browning to adjourn. Motion carried.

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
Meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Bret Whidden, Mayor

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM, IF ANYONE WISHES TO LISTEN TO THE MEETING IN ITS ENTIRETY, DIGITAL RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE.