

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 6, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 299 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA

Council members present: Bret Whidden, Mayor
 Dave McGee, Vice Mayor, Financial Director
 Marc Decker, Councilman
 Patricia Lucas, Councilwoman
 Harry Ogletree, Councilman

Others Present: Maxine Brantley, City Clerk
 Steve Ramunni, City Attorney
 Jerri Lynn Schlueter, Public Works Director
 Sam Briefman, Water Plant Supervisor

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL.

Whidden gave the roll call.

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

McGee gave the invocation; Brantley led in the flag salute.

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.

NONE

ITEM 4: REORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL BOARD.

Ramunni states the floor is open for the position of Mayor for the next fiscal year. McGee nominate Bret Whidden.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Decker to nominate Bret Whidden as Mayor. Motion carried.

Ramunni states the floor is open for the position of Vic Mayor for the next fiscal year. Decker nominates Dave McGee.

MOTION was made by Decker seconded by Lucas to nominate Dave McGee as Vice Mayor. Motion carried

ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES.

September 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Decker to approve September 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

ITEM 6: REPORT OF OFFICERS.

6A: Public Work Director

Schlueter states on the marina I got an email from Clyde this morning the cover material will be delivered on the 19th and they will start work as soon as it comes in. McGee states did he cover up the trusses? Schlueter states he said he will be here first thing in the morning. Schlueter states we got an updated quote from Rayburn Fence for the fencing at the warehouse it is lower than we expected. McGee states how is our new employee doing? Schlueter states great they did double bucket work today so everything seems to be doing fine. Decker states was it one of our employees involved in something at the court house? Schlueter states no we let the county use the bucket truck, they had to clean the window on the second floor and one of the county employee moved the bucket truck and backed in to the county's backflow we did help to fix it; but we were not the cause of the problem.

6B: City Attorney.

Ramunni states follow up on the last meeting regarding the two properties; we have got an offer to purchase. I did convey the council's counteroffer of 50% of the appraised value; I also added in that the buyer pay all of the closing cost Mr. Gil has agreed on this parcel the purchase price will be \$4,500 plus all the closing cost. Decker states what's that address? Ramunni states I just have a parcel number. Ramunni states I was going to ask the council for approval for the city to extradite this contract on the 229 Avenue K.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Decker to approve contract of 229 Avenue K. Motion carried.

Ramunni states on the other parcel they offered \$2,500 I had convey the information to them what it was valued by the property's appraisers he come back and offered \$3,500 I told him I will bring it up to the council. Whidden states I advise we stick to what the property appraisers did and reject it.

MOTION was made by Lucas seconded by McGee to reject the second offer. Motion carried.

Ramunni states I talked to Briefman and he has inquired on GE because I have not heard any response to our demand letter. A email was sent yesterday from GE that they are currently working on their response so we should have something shortly. Ramunni states the gentleman that was concerned about the Lundy building at the last meeting I did speak to him he had some concern on the demo and if the city was interested in conveying the property. McGee states are you working on the ordinance for the skirting of the trailers? Ramunni states yes Brantley sent me the past two ordinances I want to do a little bit of research to see if there is any state provision.

6C: City Clerk.

NONE

6D: Craig A Smith.

Gene states I was informed that you'll are having some issues on low chlorine residuals in the City and Schlueter asked if we can start the chlorination at the water tank in town. Whidden states what water tank in town? Gene states the one on 720 pump station. Decker states when did this start? Schlueter states the last two water line replacements that Denco has done it has taken three test try's to pass. Gene states we haven't been chlorinating out there. Whidden states why? Gene states there was no need to until recently we were getting away with just flushing the lines. I think we need to investigate what is going on. Whidden states have we been flushing? Schlueter states yes. Lucas states how long has this been happening? Schlueter states just the last couple of weeks. Lucas states we been flushing for a long time. Whidden states why haven't you called me. Bryant states we have been trying to fix it by flushing and Briefman has been doing all he can do. Whidden states what is it leaving the plant at; you have a maximum? Briefman states my maximum limit is 4.0 it's leaving the plant at 3.9. Briefman states we have an automated chlorine residual machine that reads the chlorine in the water 24 hours a day, so we have a 2.5 to a 2.8 a day range because what happens is when the pump runs it pumps water into the tank. The chlorine level goes up and as the day goes on the chlorine levels drop because of the heat. Lucas states isn't this the reason way we flush lines? Gene states the reason you flush the lines it because you have dead end areas and if there is no flow in those lines the chlorine never gets to the extremities and you have problems. We have been doing that for years and have not had an issue but now you have more customers and more activity out on state road 78 things have change a little over time but I don't know how dramatic. Whidden states stay in contact with each other keep flushing and make sure we have water but make sure you get it fixed.

6E: CAS Governmental Services

NONE

6F: Water Department Supervision Reports.

McGee states how is the crane working? Briefman states we have not used it but when Crayton comes to put in the membrane we will be able to use it.

ITEM 7: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-08 AUTHORIZING LIEN AGAINST PROPERTIES.

Ramunni reads resolution 2015-08 out loud by title.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Ogletree to approve resolution 2015-08 authorizing lien against properties. Motion carried.

ITEM 8: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE COST OF LIVING RAISES FOR EMPLOYEES.

Brantley states we put in the budget 3%.

MOTION was made by Lucas seconded by Ogletree to approve cost of living raises for employees. Motion carried.

ITEM 9: DISCUSS DOCK SPACE RENT AT THE MARINA (McGee).

McGee states I have a couple ask me to keep them in mind when the docks are ready, so we may need to set up a workshop meeting to start discussing what we are going to do. Ramunni states the problem with that is we don't know what we are going to do. If we are going to put an RFP or an RFQ or even a private entity to operate the marina then that will be their call.

ITEM 10: DISCUSS WATER SUPPLY UPDATE.

Ramunni states we got a letter from Mr. La Rue at La Rue management services they need to do some updating to the water supply facility's work plan and ties in with the comp plan.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Decker to approve water supply update. Motion carried.

ITEM 11: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$223,378.64.

Schlueter states I need to add an invoice Edward Cardona he does our box for the light at 6th Street and 10th Street lights it, for \$600.00

Decker states how many signs did we order from Municipal Sign. Schlueter states the invoice form Municipal sign are for poles for street signs.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Lucas to approve the bill submitted list in the amount of \$223,378.64. Motion carried. With added invoice of \$600.00

ITEM 12: CITIZENS COMMENTS / GENERAL CONCERNS:

Barbara Brown states I live at 821 Riverside Dr., on Monday Bryant came by my house and told me that I couldn't have chickens. First I want to let you know why I should be able to have chickens and then why the council should amend the ordinance. Most of the people here tonight either have chickens or want chickens. The reason I got my chickens was for the eggs I have asked my neighbors if they have any complaints and none do. The eggs that I get are more nutritionists than those you can buy at the grocery store. My friend Sue can't eat store bought eggs. As I did my research there are a lot of people that can't eat store bought eggs. On a retiree budget having fresh eggs from my own hens is a plus, the manure from my coup is free fertilizer for my garden I clean my coups regularly they don't stink and when I was doing my research about why you all should change this, one medium size dog poops more than all my hens. My hens do not encourage predators my coup is fenced in and it also has chicken wire around the coup and over the top it has a tin roof so they are protected from the weather and other animals. We are consider an agricultural area we are not a metropolis I have a short list of cities in the

United States that allow back yard chickens. Lucas states thank you Mrs. Brown for coming in and letting us know, but we do have an ordinance now that doesn't mean that it can't be amended. We have made a lot of people in the city get rid of chickens and no one has come up and gave us information to why they should be allowed. Whidden states Mrs. Brown I appreciate the information this is something we are going to have to work on because once this gets out we probably won't have room in here for the ones that want chickens and the ones that don't in the City. Brown states I know Bryant was just doing his job but if you change this out of date ordinance or amend it there are 4H kids all-around the city that would like to have an animal they can't have a cow, horse or a pig. Whidden states that's why we are going to have to look into it because we have a lot of taxpayers we have to listen to before we can make a decision so then we will decide if we are going to allow chickens. Brown states I know why we can't have the big farm animals in the city but if you amend it to where we can have chickens then a 4H kid can have a project also can you give me one good reason why chicken can't be allowed. Whidden states we are going to do a lot of work ahead of us, we are going to go through it and see what we can do. Marlene Summerall states I agree with Mrs. Brown you can redo the ordinance to allow 6 laying hens and no roosters; put a code on what type of pen you can have. I had three little show chickens, one little rooster and two hens I was told to get rid of them and I did but my pen was always keep clean. I didn't raise my chickens to eat they are just for show and for my companion so he has something to do since he is going blind, I don't see why in any city if you have a yard why we can't have at least six laying hens. I do agree on no big farm animals in the city but would like for the kids to be able to raise animals for show so I would like for the council to reconsider changing the ordinance. Mike Snow states there is a lot of big cities that are doing it, you may want to get with those cities and see how they are doing it. Diane Winiecke states I support Mrs. Brown, when she got her chickens I didn't think it would last but she has been faithful in taken care of them even when she fell and broke her arm running after them, these are her babies and she makes sure that they are looked after. There are chickens on the back side of my property and the side of my property; I'm out all the time they do not bother me at all I have nothing negative to say about the chickens. Sue Ellis states I agree with Mrs. Brown I am originally from Pennsylvania and both of my parents can't eat store bought eggs. But they are able to eat Mrs. Brown eggs and I understand that you are going to have people that say if you have chickens then why can't I have a steer but there is a big difference. Brenda Odem states I live behind Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Winiecke my question is until anything is decided can we keep the chickens. Whidden states it is against our ordinance right now, it was against the ordinance when you got them I'm not sure what we can do with them right now it's going to be a mess until we decide what we are going to do. Summerall states we have an issue with cars speeding down 5th Street and Railroad Avenue and there are children up and down that Street. Whidden states the only thing you can do is call the Sheriff Department. Summerall states they can't do anything. Lucas states we did talk about that and Schlueter said all we can get is a 25MPH sign. Bryant states I will talk to the deputies tomorrow to see if they can patrol the area more.

ITEM 13: MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS TO GIVE REPORTS.

Decker states I'll call the dog catcher; I've been calling him since school has started, I'll call him again tomorrow, I haven't seen him for the last two or three weeks. Bryant states he was over on north side of US 27 all last week. Summeral states I would like to know if there is any ordinance

on how many dogs can you have? Decker states Okeechobee has an ordinance that if you have more than three dogs you have to have a kennel license. Whidden states that is something we would have to look into also. Schlueter states you can also call the dog catcher if they are barking.

ITEM 14: DISCUSS FINANCIAL REPORTS IF NEEDED.

NONE

ITEM 15: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION was made by Ogletree, seconded by McGee to adjourn. Motion carried.

Maxine Brantley, City Clerk

Bret Whidden, Mayor

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm