

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 2, 2017 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
Jacob Eighner, Councilman

Others Present: Maxine Brantley, City Clerk
Steve Ramunni, City Attorney
Jerri Lynn Schlueter, Public Works Director
Sam Briefman, Water Plant Supervisor (ABSENT)
Kevin Bryant, Code Enforcement

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL.

Whidden gave the roll call.

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

Whidden states I would like to make a statement before we continue this has come and goes in several meetings but when one of the City Councilman is making a statement, suggestion or asking a question they will be allowed to finish and not get interrupted anymore and you will hold your opinion until they are done. Also the Councilman will not be interrupted or talked to in an insubordination way by the audience or anybody in here whether you agree or not they will make their statement they were elected by the taxes payers.

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.

NONE

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

April 18, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Decker to approve April 18, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes. Motion carried

ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE REPAIRS TO THE FIRETRUCK. (BOB JONES).

Bob Jones states engine #5 is a 1999 firetruck we are looking at all the NFPA standards to bring it up to standards. The City firetruck has 30,000 miles it's in excellent condition but it is starting

to experience some electrical issues that we have been taking care of. When I started checking into bringing it up to NFPA standards; in there guide a truck that is eight to ten years old is the typical service years of the truck. That's something you see in bigger City's the trucks around here is a good twenty to thirty year life span. Your truck is in excellent condition to do the repairs; the repairs are an estimate of \$21,000. I was seeing if you all are interested in getting it up to 2016 NFPA standards; I think it's something that needs to be done. It will give you another twenty years or longer. Decker states are the LED lights required? Jones states yes. Ramunni states is this the only vender that provides this service? Jones states it's the only one I have ever done business with but if you all want me to look into it more and get some bid I will. Ramunni states yes that would helpful. Eighner states how long will the truck be out of service? Jones states three to four weeks. McGee states are we covered with an extra firetruck? Jones states yes one will be here at all times. Whidden states I don't have an issue with getting the firetruck up to standards; my issue is where I have seen the firetruck. I've have seen it in Clewiston and Labelle its being use to go ever where. Jones states I don't have an issue of taking the blame and fixing the issue but I'm not aware this firetruck of leaving the County but I am aware of engine 55 which is our Muse firetruck. It does go out of the County a lot the reason why is we do several inspections in the month and we give aid to other County's. Whidden states I don't mind that but I have seen it outside of the County not giving aid. Jones states they could have been getting parts or medicals supplies I don't think I have ever sent the firetruck out of County unless it's something that needs to be done. Whidden states I don't have an issue with that and I don't have an issue with the price. Jones states do you want me to bring back the bids? Ramunni states when you get them just give them to me. Whidden states just give them to Ramunni so we can cover our legal side. Jones states when and if Ramunni and Brantley give the go ahead when do you all want me to start the work in this budget or next budget year. Whidden states we are already in our budget once Ramunni says its ok just let Brantley know to send it off. Lucas states you all do a good job on monitoring the fires in the County but I would like to see a report from your office on how many fires and where they send the firetruck. Jones states ok but they will be quarterly. Lucas states that is fine.

ITEM 6: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE CRAIG A SMITH ENGINEERING & SURVEYING DESIGN SERVICES PROPOSAL.

MOTION was made by Lucas seconded by Decker to approve Craig A Smith Engineering & Surveying Design services proposal. Motion carried

Ramunni states are you working on the potable water yet? Gene states I'm working on it.

ITEM 7: REPORT OF OFFICER.

7A: Public Work Director

Schlueter states I don't have a report; does the Council have anything for me? McGee states when are we going to start filling the holes I know the County has to do it. Schlueter states the County would like us to purchase the fill dirt to put in the hole. Eighner states what about Denco the dirt they are digging up out of the roads. Schlueter states we can put regular dirt in there but

we don't have the ability to haul it. Eighner states how about the County will they lend us there truck? Schlueter states they will not lend us the truck without one of their drivers to operate it.

7B: City Attorney.

Ramunni states Brantley gave me a letter where someone is trying to purchase block 175 lots 17 and 18; I don't think they are buildable lots they didn't offer the 50% you all required so I am going to write them back about our ordinances and about it not being a buildable lot.

7C: City Clerk.

NONE

7D: Craig A Smith.

NONE

7E: CAS Governmental Services

NONE

7F: Water Department Supervision Reports

NONE

ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$73,637.10.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Eighner to approve the bill submitted list in the amount of \$73,637.10. Motion carried.

ITEM 9: CITIZENS COMMENTS / GENERAL CONCERNS.

Tomas Gil states I'm a resident of Moore Haven I was referred to Moore Haven from a friend so far I have not had any issues. I had purchase three properties besides the home that I live in but I have ran into some issues last Monday with a member of the City Council; member Marcus Decker. My kids play baseball in the park you guys are filling in. The lot across the baseball field on Avenue R. I was on my golf cart Monday and I decided to take two buckets of broken tile to throw in the lake my kids like to do that, on my way there as I passed Decker as he was talking to a City employee he was facing one way on the street so I went around him to the stop sign; my golf cart died so I tried to push my golf cart home with my three kids and my wife he just drove by me and did not offer to help. That is good public relation; don't get me wrong I know it's not his job to do anything about that just shows his character. I was able to get the golf cart home and fix it and was able to go back to my kid's game so I was parked on the side of the road and my kids were throwing rocks in the lake when Decker pulled up on his motorcycle and starts to scream at me not talking but screaming and he scared my kids he could of just came and talked to me normally. I have ran into the Code Enforcement plenty of times and didn't have any issues with him he was nice about it he told me what the issue was and I fixed it. What I'm trying to say

is he is giving the City a bad reputation. I asked him who he was and how can he tell me what to do and he just kept screaming at me and said I'm going to call the cops screaming down the road. There was an officer down the street and he came to me because Decker told him too; he could have asked me first if I had permission to be there like normal people do; just like I'm here talking to you guys right now. There was no reason to be screaming at me with my kids there if he would have been nice I would not be here so that is the issue that I have and for what I hear in town he has many issues with other people. It gives the City a bad name you are the City Officials we are the voters and taxes payers that want to be treated with respect; don't come to me and start screaming at me with my kids that is very unprofessional. I was reading in the City Charter article three sections 3.303 the powers and duties nowhere in there says he should be acting like a police officer and screaming at people he drove by a police officer he could of told the police officer there is a guy over there throwing items in the rock pit can you check it out; it's not his job to come and scream at me. If there was a conflict with him and me because I didn't recognize him at first he just started screaming at me my kids started hiding behind me because they were scared what if it had escalated is his bond going to cover it? That's a liability for the City. It also says in the Charter the City Council shall assure that policy is established and maintained where by the citizens are promptly responded to and their complaint about the performance of the City Government are promptly recorded addressed and resolved. Which City Council do I go to file that complaint? Ramunni states the City doesn't have any jurisdiction unless you are alleging something specific; you do have the ability to go to the State of Florida on the Commission of ethics and file a complaint. Decker states first of all I would like to say I was on my way to pick up my wife; just like you don't want to be late to pick up your kids that's where I was going when I passed you. Second I notice you had three buckets of tile in your golf cart and I did suspect you were going up there however we don't need everyone seeing you throwing items in the lake; and my statement to you was hay buddy I don't think you should be throwing that in there and I was abruptly told I was not allowed to restrict the public. I think the idea of going alongside the highway and throwing whatever it may be; you may have had permission to go inside there, because in the pass we have given people permission to go there and dump concrete blocks. But to stand there in the general public and throwing what you had in the buckets was the wrong place and wrong time to do such a thing even with your children there. I don't remember screaming at you matter of fact you made some comments and I told you I was not going to argue with you and I know where the police are and I'll send them right up. We can ask the police how you acted with them because I spoke to them and I don't think you were very nice to the police . Gil states we are not in court here everything that was said was not how it really happened; I don't have anything to gain coming here, I don't even know you, I don't have anything against you I don't even know him personally it is the way he approached me was all wrong. Whidden states you made your statement our attorney Ramunni gave you the information on what to do also I think this has escalated from the rooster issue you had in the past about our policy not being legal. According to you but you made your point you gave us your information. Gil states the reason I brought up the rooster was to give you an example when he came to my house he was professional about it now on Decker it was not professional, I don't believe on holding a grudge on anybody or anything this was just my concern. Jason Adams states Decker had stated that he had never had any issues with this type of situation. On behalf of the board I want you all to acknowledge that this is not the first complaint right, on yelling and cussing at the community? Whidden states I haven't heard of any. Adams states so I haven't myself put in a complaint? I made one with the City Attorney and the City Clerk of him jumping

off the golf cart and screaming at my dad and cussing at my mom. Ramunni states the City doesn't really have any jurisdiction unless you are alleging something specific; you do have the ability to go to the State of Florida on the Commission of ethics and file a complaint. Adams states here is my issue he is an elected official right? Ramunni states yes. Adams states who gives an elected official the right to go and scream and cuss at people we are supposed to look up to people like him correct? Should I have to worry about if I have an issue that I'm going to be screamed at or cussed at? That is the issue I know I have to go the proper route all I wanted to do was for the record he is making a complaint but this is not the first issue and something needs to be done.

ITEM 10: MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS TO GIVE REPORTS.

Whidden states the only thing I have is a couple of meetings ago I asked about the new garbage truck its bordering five years old the old, garbage truck we are going to put more money into it I seriously think we need to look at getting rid of the old garbage truck and making the new garbage truck which is old, swapping them out and get a new garbage truck. It's starting to cost us in repairs. Lucas states is the new garbage truck paid for? Schlueter states it will be paid for in August or September.

ITEM 11: DISCUSS FINANCIAL REPORTS IF NEEDED.

NONE

ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT

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

Maxine Brantley, City Clerk
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Bret Whidden, Mayor

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