

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING ON JULY 7, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 299 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA

Council members present: Bret Whidden, Mayor
 Jacob Eighner, Vice Mayor
 Marc Decker, Councilman
 Clay Browning, Councilman
 Dave McGee, Councilman

Others Present: Ashley Wills, City Clerk
 Steve Ramunni, City Attorney
 David Miller, City Manager
 Brandon Roberts, Public Works
 Melissa Arnold, Deputy City Clerk

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL.

Whidden gave the roll call.

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA.

Whidden we are going to add a bill to the bill submitted list this is something that we already have approved, the invoice just came in.

ITEM 4: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE WESTERGAARD HOME AT 270 AVENUE L.

Ramunni states I made a resolution for the Westergaard home, do they have bylaws? Whidden states Ramunni there is something you need to look at the whole time we have discussed resolving the Corporation to sell to the City. I think they were going to give it or just deed it to the City. Ramunni states that is what I thought that is why I left it generic since I still need to review their bylaws. Whidden states I will give you my notes for you to go over them. Eighner states I do not know if I mention it, but it is two lots also I will get with Ann and get the bylaw. Whidden states make sure this is on the next agenda.

ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE BUDGET WORKSHOP.

Whidden states I spent some time with Miller the other day on the budget he has already started working and he has it pretty much in line. We need to have a budget workshop on the second or third week of August.

ITEM 6: DISCUSS DEPOSIT/RECONNECT/CHARGES ORDINANCE.

Whidden states if everyone is fine with this, we can move forward. The only thing I would like at the bottom is to add the afterhours of 4 pm to 7 pm because the outside employees get off at 4 pm and the office closes at 5 pm so there is no confusion of the afterhours starting time. Eighner states Ramunni is there any way when an old tenant leaves a debt and before the new tenant can put up a deposit, can we have the landlord-owner pay off the debt? Ramunni states we need a title and number for it. Whidden states we can add it after the reconnect fee and hours and get it approved at the next meeting.

ITEM 7: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE WATER CONSERVING LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION ORDINANCE.

Ramunni states we need to continue this to the next meeting I need to finish the draft up.

MOTION was made by Decker seconded by McGee to continue to the next meeting July 21st, 2020. Motion Carried

ITEM 8: DISCUSS AND/OR TRADING LOTS ON AVENUE J WITH BAPTIST CHURCH.

Ramunni states I am still working on the title service. Whidden states we need to put it on the next agenda.

ITEM 9: REPORT OF OFFICER.

9A: City Manager

Miller states on the River Garden bid packets the sealed bids are due July 29th at 2 pm here at City Hall.

Miller states Avenue N, O and S project I have completed the non-hookup list, I will start preparing the packets for them. Arnold, are some of these in progress? Arnold states no, the list you have, has not done anything to start the connect process and I started a separate list on the one in progress.

Miller states the auditors are coming tomorrow to meet with Wills, Arnold and myself at 8:30 am.

Miller states I hired Antonio Hernandez for the Water Distribution department; he does have a water distribution license. I also hired Kelton Hallback for the Parks Department he just graduated from Moore Haven, and Al Brown recommended him.

Miller states we received \$5,420 for the junk vehicles we had at the warehouse.

9B: City Attorney.

Ramunni states on the two Code Enforcement cases we are working on, they are pending at the judge's office.

Ramunni states on the case involving the car accident with Jerry Lynn Schlueter we had a mediation and we were able to settle it.

9C: City Clerk.

NONE

9D: Craig A Smith.

NONE

9E: CAS Governmental Services

NONE

9F: Water Department Supervisor

NONE

ITEM 10: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$136,828.81.

MOTION was made by McGee seconded by Eighner to approve the bill submitted list in the amount of \$137,893.81. Motion Carried with added invoice# 3335 from Pure Power Automotive in the amount of \$1,065.

ITEM 11: CITIZENS COMMENTS / GENERAL CONCERNS.

Jeff states I want to thank you all for letting us hold the 4th of July event at the park. Also thank you for all the help to put the event into place.

Haynes states on Elmwood where I live there is a two way stop sign, I am asking if you all can do something because a lot of the time people do not stop at the sign and there are children that live in that area, we just need something to slow them down. Eighner states I spoke to Littles and she is going to put some caution slow children at play signs at the start of the intersection all the way down.

11A: Douglas B Korinke

Korinke states I want to buy a parcel of land that the City owns; it is at Avenue J and 1st Street. During the summer of 2017, the building was demolished, and the land was cleared and filled in. During that summer I had a problem with flooding due to the runoff being redirected on to the property from back filling to street grade and it still continues to this day. On September 10, 2017 hurricane Irma hit Moore Haven, a tree fell from the abstract property on my fence I had the tree removed and my fence repaired at my expense. On November 7, 2017, a tree fell onto my fence. I did inform the City that I was going to remove the tree and fix the fence and send the City the bill. The next day the City removed the tree and I made repairs to the fence. I went to the next City Council Meeting and asked if you can

remove the remaining trees that presented the same issue, the City removed the trees along our common property line. I had to contract Aron Fence due to the City mowers damaging my fence twice April 2016 and May 2017 the prices were roughly \$800 for the repairs. Approximately one year later and no progress has been made to rectify the flooding. On December 28, 2018 I sent in a letter to the City to purchase the property in the amount of \$7,500 I never got a reply from the City. On April 11, 2020, the City mowers again damaged my fence with currently requires repairs, June 25, 2020 I received a voice mail from Mr. Miller that he was placing me on the July 7, 2020 meeting agenda. As you can see there is an ongoing problem with this property, I am making the same proposal today to buy this property from the City. This will help in many ways, one the City will receive the funds for the property second the property will go back onto the tax roll and it will receive revenue on taxes and third the upkeep of the property will no longer be a burden on the City I hope the City will concerned my proposal. Eighner states we are putting a plan into revitalizing the downtown area starting with a restaurant under the bridge. We have a couple of people interested in the properties; our goal is to put a business there that would attract people to the downtown area, our city park and along with the rest of the shops We all know the property is worth a lot more than \$7,000. Regarding the flooding issue I live three blocks from you and my property floods all the time and I live next to a drainage ditch. On the mowing issue you were asked to spray around the fence or let us mow the inside and outside to keep us off it. As far as selling the property currently I do not think we should sell it.

ITEM 12: MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS TO GIVE REPORTS.

McGee states the fireworks looked good and I appreciate all the work that went into it.

Decker states when the City contracts the bidders that go into hook up the sewer, we need to make sure that the property owner is satisfied and that we put enough fill in. Decker states on Thursday morning I called City Hall on a streetlight that was burning constantly and as of right now it is still burning. Will you check on the work order?

Browning states one of the guys can go before dark and can ride around and make notes on the streetlight that need to be replaced to be able to help Miller out. Whidden states they can do that, but the employees need to call City Hall to make the work order out not call Miller.

Eighner states we met Steven Guelff he is the owner of the old Burger King and Seacoast Bank building he is a dentist he owns property in Highlands County. He had offers on the property, but covid-19 hit he lost the deal. He has a roofer to come and fix the flashing on the front and he has gotten in touch with EDC.

ITEM 13: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED.

NONE

ITEM 14: ADJOURNMENT

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

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Bret Whidden, Mayor

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