

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN MEETING ON
OCTOBER 19TH, 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
Melissa Arnold, Deputy City Clerk (ABSENT)
Brandon Roberts, Public Works Director
Steve Ramunni, Attorney

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL:

ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:

Invocation given by Roberts. Pledge lead by Tibbs.

ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

There are none.

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

September 28,2021 Special Meeting Minutes.
October 5,2021 Planning/ Zoning workshop Meeting Minutes.
October 5,2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.
October 7,2021 Special Meeting Minutes.

MOTION by Decker to approve the September 28,2021 Special meeting minutes. Seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

MOTION by Eighner to approve the October 5,2021 Planning/Zoning Workshop meeting minutes. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

MOTION by Gunn to approve the October 5 ,2021 Regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Eighner. Motion carried.

MOTION by Gunn to approve the October 7,2021 Special meeting minutes. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE MOVING TENNIS COURTS.

Whidden stated the board discussed moving the tennis courts in the previous meetings. They spoke with Ramunni and Larue about the steps it would take to achieve it. Whidden stated the main concern was the monetary fines and penalties due to the grant. He stated that he would like to move it so work can begin with the downtown area. He stated to build a new tennis court and it could be an asset to the redevelopment of the downtown area. Decker asked how the property in question came about for sale. He asked if it came from TDC and if it was brought up in front of the council. Whidden stated to sell any property the council must vote on it. The council has not voted to sell the property that the tennis courts are sitting on. They board is discussing whether they want to relocate it. Browning asked where the City is going to move the tennis courts to. Whidden stated they could move them across the street on City property or down by the basketball courts. Gunn stated she is not in favor of moving the tennis courts. She stated she is not in favor of putting housing where the tennis courts are sitting now. Whidden asked Decker what he wants to do with the property since he doesn't want to move it. Decker stated that it could be used for parking for Christmas at the Caloosahatchee. Gunn mentioned that if the board decides not to sell the property where the tennis courts are that Clyde would not be interested in building apartments on Ave J. Gunn stated that she doesn't want the park to be enclosed with apartments. Eighner stated that these are the only lots the City has available for development. Gunn mentioned there are other options. Eighner stated he must go home, he forgot he has something going on at his house. Browning stated that whoever won the bid would have to be the ones to move the tennis courts. Ramunni stated in the RFP one of the criteria would be that whoever bought the property would have to build the City a new tennis court. If the board wants DEP to wave repaying the grant contingent on doing so. Browning stated if the board decided to move the tennis courts the City wouldn't have to pay the grant back. It would be rebuilt at the purchaser's cost.

MOTION by Gunn to not move the tennis courts. Seconded by Decker. Gunn and Decker voted no. Whidden, and Browning voted yes. Motion failed due to tie.

Tie due to council member Eighner leaving.

ITEM 6: REPORT OF OFFICERS:

6A: CITY MANAGER

Tibbs stated he is glad to be present.

Roberts asked where the City stood with the memorial site. Browning stated per Jake they are going to try to pour the concrete as soon as the electrical part gets done. It should be done by Friday. Roberts stated as goes for the hydrant in front of it they can't find a way to isolate it without shutting down the entire tower. He stated they must shut that hydrant off and replace it with a new one. Roberts stated the sewer plant truck is extremely old, so they had new tires put on it with an alignment. The water plant chlorine analyzer went out again. They took it out and went to Fort Myers and dropped it off. Roberts stated they are still waiting on the radio towers

for 720. The manufacturer warranted the part so now the City has two. Brandon stated that him, Wills and Arnold spoke with the auditors about the American Rescue Plan funds. They were very clear on what the City can and can't do with the money. The money must be used for repairs. Roberts stated there is about 12 items that need to be fixed. Roberts stated that they did pull the permit for the Moore Haven restaurant to fix the roof. He stated he told Felicia not to bill him the \$500 because the permits are pulled. Whidden asked if Roberts knows anything about the code violation with the Eagles. Roberts stated he will ask Felicia. Whidden asked Roberts where they are out with the pole change out. Roberts stated that Bell told him that there are 14 poles that need to be changed out. Whidden asked how many transformers the City has on hand. A single-phase pad mount transformer would take about 52 weeks to be delivered. He stated next storm season is approaching the City needs to be prepared.

6B: CITY ATTORNEY.

Ramunni stated he has merged his law firm with one in fort Myers.

6C: CITY CLERK

Internet is doing great.

6D: CRAIG A. SMITH

Nothing to report.

6E: CAS GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

Nothing to report.

6F: WATER PLANT SUPERVISOR

See 6A

ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,825.62.

Gunn asked what the Liability Insurance is. Wills stated it is split across all departments and it is paid on a quarterly basis.

MOTION by Decker to approve the bills in the amount of \$91,825.62. Seconded by Browning. Motion carried.

ITEM 8: CITIZENS COMMENTS/ GENERAL CONCERNS:

Belinda Ash introduced herself to the board. She asked if her neighbor could speak over the phone. Michelle Thompson introduced herself over the phone. They had a concern about cars speeding on their street. They wanted to request a speed bump on their street for everyone's safety. They live on 4th/5th st and Ave E. They are also requesting children at play signs. Whidden stated that it is a law enforcement issue. Roberts stated they can set out a child at play sign. Whidden stated that

October 19th, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

the speed bump is extremely expensive. They are \$7,000 each. Whidden stated they could place a stop sign where the other streets meet.

A gentleman asked the board if they shop at DCSC equipment for cheaper equipment. He stated that the board could investigate it.

Roberts stated they ordered the \$36,000 worth of chemical for the Water Plant. They order them 4 times a year.

ITEM 9: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GIVE REPORTS

Decker and Gunn mentioned about the mosquito truck not driving down certain roads. Whidden stated he spoke with Ahern.

ITEM 10: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED.

No discussion needed.

ITEM 11: ADJOURMENT

MOTION: was made by Browning seconded by Gunn to adjourn. Motion carried.

Ashley Wills, City Clerk
Meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

Bret Whidden, Mayor