

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN MEETING ON  
DECEMBER 07, 2021, AT 7:00PM, IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY  
HALL, 299 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, MOORE HAVEN, FLORIDA.**

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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  
Larry Tibbs, City Manager  
Brandon Roberts, Public Works Director  
Steve Ramunni, Attorney

**ITEM 1: ROLL CALL:**

**ITEM 2: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE:**

Invocation given by Roberts. 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:**

November 16, 2021, Regular meeting minutes

**MOTION:** by Decker to approve the November 16, 2021, Regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Browning. Motion carries.

**ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT CHANGES:**

Ramunni states I need a motion to continue item #5 until the next meeting on December 21, 2021.

**MOTION** by Gunn to approve continuing item #5 until the next meeting on December 21, 2021, seconded by Decker. Motion carries.

**ITEM 6: RATIFY PAYING THE DEPOSIT FOR THE FUEL TANK FOR THE WATER PLANT FROM THE WATER MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR BANK ACCOUNT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,965.00:**

**MOTION** by Gunn to ratify paying deposit for fuel tank in the amount of \$4,965.00. Seconded by Browning. Motion carried.

**ITEM 7: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE AMENDING THE BUDGET TO INCLUDE THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN MONEY FOR 2021-2022:**

**MOTION** by Eighner to amend the budget to include the American Rescue Plan Money for 2021-2022. Seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

**ITEM 8: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE UPDATES TO THE PURCHASING POLICY:**

Gunn states what is this? Whidden states this is where we have a limit on what certain people at the city can purchase without having to go through us. Gunn states are we trying to change it? Tibbs states I just changed some of the language since we've got the American Rescue Plan Money.

**MOTION** by Gunn to approve updates to the purchasing policy. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

**ITEM 9: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE USE OF ARPA FUNDS TO UPGRADE SOFTWARE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE BROADBAND EXPANSION:**

Tibbs states in the American Rescue Plan they have a category for the expansion of broadband. Our intent here is to upgrade our systems so that we are ready when broadband gets here. Our financial system is old, it is based on a server. We will have to get a system so that we can do things on-line. There is a company that came to the County meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup> they are going to put the clerk's office on this new system, we would like to piggyback of that and have them give us a price. They are going to give us very good price on the implementation. We need to update this as well as the website.

**MOTION** by Gunn to approve use of arpa funds to upgrade software to make improvements necessary to accommodate broadband expansion. Seconded by Eighner. Motion carried.

**ITEM 10: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE RFQ'S FOR REPAVING STREET AVE J FROM RIVERSIDE DRIVE TO 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET:**

**MOTION** by Gunn to approve RFQ's for repaving street Ave J from Riverside Drive to 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

**ITEM 11: FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #348 CONCERNING ADDING THE PROPERTY RIGHTS ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:**

Ramunni reads ordinance #348 title only.

**MOTION** by Decker to approve the first reading of Ordinance #348 adding the property rights element of the comprehensive plan. Seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

**ITEM 12: REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

**12A: CITY MANAGER**

Tibbs stated at the last meeting there was some discussion about doing a rate study for the electric. We have had FMEA do some work for us some time ago. At this point in time is it the Council direction that we go back to them and officially ask them to do a rate study. Whidden states yes, we have not had a rate increase in several years, everything has been going up, we are behind with keeping up with the time.

**MOTION** by Eighner to approve moving forward with FMEA to do an electrical rate study. Seconded by Browning. Motion carried.

Tibbs states also at the last meeting we discussed about the capital credits from Glades Electric, we have put that money into a restricted account in the electric fund. I researched that, and it is rebate due to the city, because it is a cooperative. There is no requirement that the money be in a restricted cash account. I believe there is another coming shortly, so after we get it with the council's direction, we can move that money into the general fund and then at some point in time we can set it up with a budget amendment however the council wants to allocate that money.

**12B: CITY ATTORNEY.**

Nothing to report.

**12C: CITY CLERK**

Nothing to report.

**12D: CRAIG A. SMITH**

Nothing to report.

**12E: CAS GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES**

Vanassche states DEO release a grant application for the rural infrastructure program, I call the program manager about the downtown revitalization project to see if she thought it might be

applicable and based on the conversation she thought it was a viable project. The deadline is January 7<sup>th</sup>. If you want to go after this application, we must prove the economic benefit of the project and the long-term viability. I was forwarded the drawings for you downtown revitalization. I got with Gene and explained to him the timing.

### **12F: WATER PLANT SUPERVISOR**

Roberts stated the 1<sup>st</sup> Street pump is back in service. At 720 pump station the communications and grounding are all back in services. I talked with Craig Brown about the membranes and they were delivered today, and we will install them next week. The pole change outs, not sure where we stood with that. Whidden states we need to see some prices. We just have one from ULCS, the one I sent you is the only one we have received. The price for the nine poles is \$57,400.00. Whidden states we need to do that, what is the pleasure of the board.

**MOTION** by Eighner to approve the \$57,400.00 from ULCS for the 9-pole replacement. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

### **ITEM 13: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,000.04.**

**MOTION** by Eighner to approve the bills in the amount of \$48,000.04. Seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

### **ITEM 14: CITIZENS COMMENTS/ GENERAL CONCERNS:**

Whidden call on Mr. Cook. Mr. Cook states I just want to inquire about the steps I would need to take to get into the marina. Gunn states what would you like to put in there? Cook states a bait store, the slips for the boats, fishing equipment and maybe some small rentals, like scooters or bicycles. Gunn states when are you wanting to start? Cook states I would like to get in there by at least January. Eighner states are you willing to sign an agreement? You can come by City Hall and pick up a copy of the agreement and make some changes you would like to see happen, turn it back in and we will have Mr. Ramunni look it over to get things going.

### **ITEM 15: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GIVE REPORTS**

**Jake Eighner:** Eighner stated update on the veteran's memorial, we are going to be setting the poles tomorrow, Taylor's electric will be here mid afternoon to work on the electric, it will be lit and the flags will be up before Christmas on the Caloosahatchee.

**Clay Browning:** Browning states where are we with moving the no wake signs? Eighner states I was told there was no way we could move it.

**Mark Decker:** Decker states I had a phone call again about the trucks coming through town from the driving school. I asked Bob Jones to talk to them and he said he did. I do not know what we can do about it. Whidden states I would get the Marcus (new County Manager) to see what he can do about it.

**Jan Gunn:** Gunn states the chalo nitka grounds, is that our responsibility as far as maintenance? Eighner states the county does the mowing, and we stock it and clean it when someone rents it. Gunn states no, I am talking about the actual maintenance. The bathrooms are horrendous, it is terrible, we need some TLC.

**Brett Whidden:** Nothing to report.

**ITEM 16: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED.**

NONE

**ITEM 17: ADJOURNMENT**

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

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**Ashley Wills, City Clerk**  
Meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

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**Bret Whidden, Mayor**