

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF MOORE HAVEN MEETING ON  
DECEMBER 21, 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 Decker.

**ITEM 3: ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

Addition to the agenda item 3A.

**ITEM 3A: JEFF BREWINGTON FROM GLADES ELECTRIC:**

Jeff Brewington from Glades Electric returned \$74,969.35 to the City on behalf of the Board of Directors of Glades Electric for Capital Credits earned from 1988, 1989 and 1990.

**ITEM 4: PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING FUTURE LAND USE ELEMENT CHANGES:**

Ramunni spoke to Mr. LaRue moved to 1/4/22 meeting.

**MOTION** was made by Gunn to move the Public Hearing regarding Future Land Use Element Changes to 1/4/2022. Seconded by Decker. Motion carried.

**ITEM 5: DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:**

December 7, 2021 Regular meeting minutes.

**MOTION** by Decker to approve the December 7, 2021 Regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

**ITEM 6: EMPLOYEE PAY AND COMPENSATION PLAN-FY 2021-22:**

Mr. Tibbs states we have a draft of a Compensation plan for 21-22 that identifies the positions and their wages. The State of Florida passed a law to have minimum wage increased to \$15.00 an hour by the year of 2026. Positions will be impacted by that change but if we increase that by a \$1.00 an hour for year 2023, 2024, 2025 by year 2026 we will be in compliances with it. We are currently ahead of it as of September 30 the minimum wage is currently \$10.00 an hour and we currently don't have anyone under \$11.00 per hour. There are a couple employees that are under the \$15.00 an hour. Generally, we hire at the base level coming in but occasionally there may be times where you must hire someone with a specific experience/ qualifications.

**MOTION** was made by Decker and seconded Gunn. Motion carried.

**ITEM 7: RECLASSIFICATION OF THE CITY CLERK POSTION TO EXEMPT UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT (FLSA):**

The City Clerk position has always been classified as nonexempt as an hourly employee. If you look at the (FLSA) It falls under two categories executive and administrative so basically, it's just reclassifying it as a salary exempt position where is should have been, there is no other changes. Whidden states Wills works for this council as well as Mr. Tibbs

**MOTION** was made by Eighner and seconded by Browning. Motion carried.

**ITEM 8: REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

**8A: CITY MANAGER:**

The electric study meeting will be 1/6/22 for (FMPA) to start the process for the rate study, the same team who generated the preliminary study in 2020 will be the same team for this rate study. We are looking at a new financial system/website we did have a conversation with the company that is now contracted with the Glades County Clerks Office and they are willing to offer the same terms to us as they are to them they are going to wave some of the charges of implementation and in addition we will have them do the website as well it will be a one time cost of about \$5,000.00 and after it will be just a monthly subscription fee. One advantage is having one company doing it instead of two different companies also it's a cloud-based system and they can fix issues remotely. Thursday is half a day for Christmas.

**8B: CITY ATTOTNEY:**

At the last meeting, we received the proposal for leasing the Marina. I had Wills put a paper in your packets a lot of what's been proposed has several concepts to it. I was not sure what

direction you guys would want to go with it if at all I was going to suggest a workshop to go over leasing the Marina. Gunn states it is missing a few things like who is going to fund it for the year. Workshop date is set on 1/4/2022 at 6:00 pm. I have a reported regarding the project with Lee County/Florida Gulf Coast University and Lee Memorial Health System that is still moving forward there has been an inter local agreement drafted by my council, things are looking positive as far as Workforce Housing program.

**8C: CITY CLERK:**

Wills is scheduled off for vacation next week.

**8D: CRAIG A. SMITH:**

None.

**8E: CAS GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES:**

Mr. Tibbs stated Connie could not make it this evening, but at the last meeting she was talking about a grant opportunity opening-up for our project here with DEO where they can use it for design and there is a grant for construction, we are on a time crunch for that because it closes early January, we were trying to have Craig A. Smith get those numbers together so we can try and apply for that grant. Now the planning grant is a maximum of three hundred thousand at a 100%. The grant for the construction is a 50/50 grant and you must have the funding identified at the time you apply for the grant. Jean is trying to finalize the number basically he is looking at the project in two phases, with phase one being Ave J doing all the work with the roads, sidewalks the drainage and storm water equipment, phase two would be Riverside. And talking today he is thinking the planning for both phases one and two are probably about \$200,000. Mr. Tibbs asked would we like to try for the construction grant with the DEO? Whidden states, absolutely.

**MOTION** was made by Eighner seconded by Gunn. Motion carried.

**8F: WATER PLANT SUPERVISOR:**

Roberts states we installed the membranes last Monday they are doing very well. One of my concerns with talking with the operators are the turbidity in well number 1 with all the rain a couple months ago and we had about a foot and a half come across there and sit for a few days our TMP's went high on well number one, but well two, three and four are good and alternating now but we are flushing well number one. But we need to order a myron meter and what that dose is ORP, TDS, PH it lets us know how hard our water is and we need to start keeping a record of that. The meter is about \$800-\$900.

**ITEM 9: APPROVAL OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,502.64:**

**MOTION** by Eighner to approve the bills in the amount of 45,502.64. Second by Gunn. Motion carried.

**ITEM 10: CITIZENS COMMENTS /GENERAL CONCERNS:**

Bob Frank, whom is an associate of Jim LaRue states I have been doing planning for 35 years, I was asked to take on the assignment to review the site plan that was submitted and responded with a memo to Sumer Forster who I have been working with, and it was just a review of what your code calls for. And her response was straight forward.

Citizen states Veterans Park looks very nice.

**ITEM 11: MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO GIVE REPORTS:**

Eighner recognized Rosemary our EDC officer. Also, food trucks will be every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. March will probably be our last one due to our winter residents going back. Whidden stated the County has canceled their meeting on December 27<sup>th</sup> they will not be at the CCPWA, we can go ahead and cancel the meeting because we have to have a fifty person of to have a quorum.

**ITEM 12: DISCUSS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IF NEEDED:**

None.

**ITEM 13: ADJOURNMENTS:**

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

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**Ashley Wills, City Clerk**  
Meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

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**Bret Whidden, Mayor**