

CITY HALL, SEBRING, FLORIDA, January 16, 2018

Minutes of regular meeting of Council held this date.

PRESENT: John Shoop, Mayor; Mark Stewart, President Charlie Lowrance, Pro-tempore; Tom Dettman, Councilmember; Bob Swaine, City Attorney; Scott Noethlich, City Administrator and Kathy Haley, City Clerk.

ABSENT: Lenard Carlisle and Scott Stanley, Councilmembers.

The invocation was given by Mayor Shoop followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Shoop announced that former Councilmember Ellene Fields passed away.

Councilman Lowrance reminded everyone that there will be a joint CRA/City Council workshop regarding direction of the downtown area. Mr. Lowrance stated he will not be at this meeting but encouraged citizens to provide their input and suggestions.

President Stewart presented the consent agenda items. The items presented for approval were: minutes from Council's regular meeting on January 2, 2018; announcement of upcoming meetings from January 18 – February 6, 2018; approve appointment of Mr. Mark Wilson from alternate member of the Planning & Zoning Board to a regular member with term ending on December 31, 2019; approve 2018 road reconstruction/paving projects as presented; adopt Resolution #2018-03 and budget amendment #22 of \$10,000.00 for DEO grant funding/water supply plan; instruct City Attorney to prepare continuing contracts for professional engineering services as presented.

Moved by Dettman, seconded by Lowrance and with the unanimous vote of Council the consent items were passed.

Mr. Parke Sutherland, Attorney representing Ken and Cheryl Hinkle, came before Council to ask for conceptual approval to vacate road right of way between 4709 and 4673 Kenilworth Blvd., unity of deed for the two properties and approval of a new building at 4673 Kenilworth Blvd. as an accessory structure which will also require approval of the Planning & Zoning Board. Mr. Sutherland stated he is only looking for comments from Council tonight so they know whether to proceed with a vacation of right-of-way, etc. Mayor Shoop asked if property at the southern end of this road belongs to the Sheriff's department. Mr. Sutherland stated he did not know but would check it out if he moves further with the petition to vacate. Mr. Lowrance asked if there are any utilities there now. Mr. Sutherland stated there is a utility line and the power company has an easement but he will petition to vacate the easements. Mr. Lowrance asked how big the proposed building going to be. Mr. Sutherland stated roughly 2,000 sq. ft. but no larger. Mr. Stewart stated he supports this and feels we should encourage growth. The consensus of Council agreed. Mr. Sutherland stated he would come back with an application.

Mr. Bob Boggus, Utilities Director, came before Council and reported that bids were received in December for the Country Club of Sebring water distribution line and sewer force main extensions. Mr. Boggus explained the project and how the interconnection would work with the City's system. The low bid is from Excavation Point in the amount of \$654,401.00. This funding was not included in the 2017/18 budget so Council has received a budget resolution and budget amendment to transfer the money. Mr. Boggus stated the sewer line will be completed at a later date.

Moved by Dettman, seconded by Lowrance and the unanimous vote of Council to accept Excavation Point, Inc.'s bid in the amount of \$654,401.00; adopt budget Resolution 2018-02 authorizing budget amendment #21 and instruct the City Attorney to prepare the necessary contract for the completion of this project and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City.

Mr. Jack Cunningham, resident on Hawthorne Drive, came before Council to ask for a vacation of Hawthorne Drive at the end of Elizabeth Avenue. Mr. Cunningham stated he owns down the end of this road to the church and will maintain the right-of-way. Mr. Lowrance asked if this would eliminate the access to S.R. 17. Mr. Cunningham stated no that S.R.17 is at the other end. Mr. Cunningham stated the problems they are having with people trying to use this as a road when it is not a road. Mr. Stewart stated that Council would need more information on this issue and to have it put on a regular Council agenda so they can discuss the issue and vote.

Mr. Eddie Diaz-Flores, 1724 Hawthorne Drive, stated the problems with Elizabeth Avenue and that maybe instead of vacating the road the City could put closed road signs up. Mr. Diaz-Flores explained the problem with speeding, trash, etc. Mr. Diaz-Flores also stated that there is no fire hydrant. Mr. Stewart stated that someone from the City staff will contact him and Mr. Cunningham to try and resolve this issue.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SEBRING, FLORIDA, FURTHER AMENDING THE CITY OF SEBRING MUNICIPAL FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION PLAN, RESTATED PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 1307, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED; AMENDING SECTION 4, FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF

PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE was read.

Moved by Lowrance, seconded by Dettman and the unanimous vote of Council to approve Ordinance #1420 on 2nd and final reading as presented.

AN ORDINANCE VACATING THAT PORTION OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF CRANGE GROVE DRIVE LYING NORTH OF THE NORTH RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SUMMIT DRIVE AND BETWEEN LOT 13, BLOCK C, THE GROVE FIRST ADDITION AND LOT 1, BLOCK G, OF THE UNRECORDED PLAT OF THE GROVE, LYING IN SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 34 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS SHOWN ON HIGHLANDS COUNTY TAX MAP 68C, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE was read.

Moved by Dettman, seconded by Lowrance and the unanimous vote of Council to approve Ordinance #1421 on 1st reading as presented and schedule 2nd and final reading for February 6, 2018 conditioned upon utility easement being granted.

Mr. Noethlich reported that City Building Official, Sal Massaro, has turned in his resignation effective January 5, 2018. Staff is requesting that a committee of Mr. Mark Stewart, Mr. Charlie Lowrance, Mrs. Kathy Haley and Mr. Scott Stanley (if available) be appointed to advertise the position, interview candidates and recommend appointment to the Mayor. The Mayor will fill the position with the advice and consent of the full Council. Mr. S.Y. Moseley has agreed to return as Interim Building Official.


Moved by Dettman, seconded by Lowrance and the unanimous vote of Council to approve committee as presented and appoint Mr. S.Y. Moseley as Interim Building Official.

The City bills were presented for payment as follows:

General Fund	\$ 37,716.17
CRA	\$ 8,152.58
Water & Wastewater	\$292,204.61
Solid Waste	\$ 37,274.42
Golf Course	\$ 781.39
Risk Management Fund	\$ 2,500.00

Moved by Lowrance, seconded by Dettman and with the unanimous vote of Council,
the motion passed to approve the paying of the bills as presented.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Mark Stewart, President

ATTEST:



Kathy Haley, CMC, City Clerk