



America's Seaplane City™

**AGENDA  
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
October 15, 2020  
6:30 PM  
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
201 E MAIN STREET, TAVARES**

(Members of the public wishing to speak on an item that is on the agenda must fill out a Request to Speak form available from the City Clerk or at the Council Meeting prior to the meeting being called to order. In addition, the Mayor will ask for comment under the agenda item titled "Audience to be Heard" for matters not on the Agenda. For further information contact the City Clerk at (352) 742-6209 or [snovack@tavares.org](mailto:snovack@tavares.org))

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

**Tab 1 Jones Brothers Assignment of Lease Agreement**

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

F.S. 286.0105 If a person decides to appeal any decision or recommendation made by Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he will need record of the proceedings, and that for such purposes he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Individuals with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk at least two (2) working days in advance of the meeting date and time at (352) 742-6209.

**AGENDA SUMMARY  
TAVARES CITY COUNCIL  
10/15/2020**

**AGENDA TAB NO.:** 1

**SUBJECT TITLE:** Jones Brothers Assignment of Lease Agreement

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**OBJECTIVE:**

For Council to approve a lease assignment for transfer of ownership of Jones Brothers Air & Seaplane Adventures per the provisions of their lease agreement with the City.

**SUMMARY:**

Jones Brothers Air & Seaplane Adventures first established commercial seaplane operations here in America's Seaplane City at the same time the new Tavares Seaplane Base was opened in 2010. At that time the company leased a small office space at the City owned Prop Shop facility providing part time seaplane aerial tours and flight instruction.

Since that time the company has grown along with the Seaplane Base and has become a thriving and robust commercial seaplane operation providing full time, full service aerial scenic tours, flight instruction as well as on demand air charter services under an FAA part 135 air taxi operations certificate.

Current owner Rob Galloway took over full ownership of the company in 2016 and has been instrumental in the growth of the company not only in terms of operations but through its physical expansion into the current leasehold at the former trail head building which Jones Brothers entered into a lease for in 2018 and invested in substantial improvements to occupy.

Recently Mr. Galloway recently informed staff of an offer he had received to sell his interest in the company to Mr. Peter J Closi Jr. and has formally requested a lease assignment for the purpose of closing the ownership sale (see attached letter). Under the terms and conditions of the lease (attached) a lease assignment may be allowed with the approval of Council.

The buyer, currently owns and operates a helicopter tour operation in Key West and Clearwater intends to maintain and expand upon the current operations and bring the company to its next level (Please see attached business plan and resume provided by Peter Closi). He will be retaining Mr. Galloway as Operations Director for the next 2 to 3 years as well as the majority of the current personnel.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Approve the lease assignment as requested.
2. Do not approve the requested lease assignment.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that Council moves to approve option 1.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact, rent and fees will remain the same under the current lease.

**LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

Legally sufficient.

**ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST:**

1. Lease assignment request letter from Rob Galloway.
2. Current lease agreement between the City and Jones Brothers.
3. Peter Ciosi Business Plan for Jones Brothers acquisition.
4. Peter Ciosi resume.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Description

Type