TAVARES CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 2019 – 4:00 PM
TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 EAST MAIN STREET, TAVARES

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Troy Singer, Mayor
Lori Pfister, Vice Mayor
Amanda Boggus, Council Member
Kirby Smith, Council Member - *Absent*
Roy Stevenson, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

John Drury, City Administrator
Bob Williams, City Attorney
Susie Novack, City Clerk
Mike Fitzgerald, Community Development Director
Bob Tweedie, Economic Development Director
Tamera Rogers, Community Services Director
Lori Houghton, Finance Director
Richard Keith, Fire Chief
Stoney Lubins, Police Chief
James Dillon, Public Works Director
Phil Clark, Utilities Director
Crissy Bublitz, Human Resources Director
Mark O'Keefe, Public Communications Director

TAVARES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Brenda Smith, President

TAVARES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

J. Scott Berry, Executive Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Singer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. He asked those present to silence their cell phones and noted hearing devices are available. Mayor Singer asked those who would like to speak on an agenda item to complete a Request to Speak form.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tab 1. Pastor Tom Cavanaugh, First Baptist Church of Mount Dora

Pastor Tom Cavanaugh, First Baptist Church of Mount Dora, provided the invocation and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Drury said he would like to add an item under New Business; Appointment of Council Member to the Collective Bargaining Management Team for the fire union contract.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve the Agenda with changes, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

IV. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Tab. 2. Republic of China (Taiwan) National Day Proclamation

Mayor Singer made the following presentation:

> *The City of Tavares and New Taipei, Republic of China (Taiwan) have established and continue to maintain a sister city relationship in furtherance of bilateral economic, trade, and cultural opportunities. Each year the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) is observed on October 10th and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Miami holds ceremonies in celebration of this occasion. The Office of the Director General has contacted the City requesting a proclamation in honor of the National Day and has invited the Mayor to present the proclamation at their ceremonies to be held in Miami on October 3, 2019.*

Mayor Singer read the proclamation in its entirety.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve the proclamation, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Discussion was held and there was a consensus from Council for Vice Mayor Pfister to deliver the proclamation to the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) event in Miami scheduled October 3, 2019.

V. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Attorney Williams stated there were two quasi-judicial matters before Council at second reading [Tab 6 – Ordinance 2019-15 Rezoning 33.15 Acres – Stokes Grove – West of David Walker Drive, South of Merry Road; and, Tab 7 – Ordinance 2019-16 Rezoning 20.71 Acres – Shanti Niketan FL, LLC – South of Slim Haywood Ave., North of Camp Road]. He gave the oath to those who wished to provide testimony.

Attorney Williams asked Council if they had any exparte communications to disclose. there were none. Vice Mayor Pfister, Council Member Stevenson and Amanda Boggus said they had no exparte communications to report. Mayor Singer said he was contacted by one person who had a legal question for Tab 6 – Ordinance 2019-15.

VI. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD

Ms. Novack read the following resolution and ordinances by title only:

RESOLUTION 2019-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE 2019 FISCAL YEAR ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF TAVARES, REPRESENTING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE ADOPTED BUDGET, AND PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2019-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES REZONING APPROXIMATELY 33.15 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED WEST OF DAVID WALKER DRIVE, SOUTH OF MERRY ROAD FROM COUNTY URBAN RESIDENTIAL (R-6) TO CITY RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY (RSF-2); SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE 2019-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES REZONING APPROXIMATELY 20.71 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF SLIM HAYWOOD AVENUE, NORTH OF CAMP ROAD AND WEST OF SR-19 FROM RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY (RMF-3) TO RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY (RMF-2); SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED

BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VII. CONSET AGENDA

Mayor Singer asked the audience if they would like to speak on any items on the Consent Agenda items. There were none.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 3. Hidden River Lakes – Preliminary Plat

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Tab 4. Resolution 2019-06, Second Budget Amendment to the Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2019

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

Tab 5. Request Authorization to Award Bid to Cathedral Corporation and Enter into a Contract for Bill Print Services

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

VIII. RESOLUTIONS

IX. ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING

First Reading

None.

Second Reading

Tab. 6. Ordinance 2019-15 – Rezone 33.15 Acres – Stokes Groves, Inc. – West of David Walker Dr., South of Merry Road

Mayor Singer said he received email from a concerned person who asked if the agenda item was properly noticed and posted. Attorney Williams said he provided an opinion that the item was properly noticed. He said Mr. Fitzgerald's will testify and confirm the propriety of the notice during his testimony when presenting his staff report.

Mr. Fitzgerald made the following presentation:

The city is in compliance with notice requirements as follows

- *Advertisement placed in the newspaper*
- *Signs were posted around the property noticing the Public Hearing*
- *Mailers were sent to residents within 300 feet of the property*

The subject property consists of approximately 33.15 acres located west of David Walker Drive, south of Merry Road. The property is currently owned by Stokes Groves of Eustis, Inc. and contains one single family home with the majority of the acreage being an orange grove. On December 17, 2008 City Council approved the annexation of the subject property. At the time of annexation the property owner elected to defer applying for a City zoning until such time that the property was considered for development. The applicant is requesting a rezoning from County Urban Residential (R-6), which under County code allows medium density single family housing, to City Residential Single Family (RSF-2). The property is surrounded by a mixture of multi-family and single family residential property. The applicant is requesting the rezoning with the intention of proposing at a future date a subdivision Plat consisting of approximately 121 single family lots having a width of 60 feet, and minimum square footage of 6,500 square feet. Preliminary and Final Plats must go before City Council for consideration and approval.

Any development of the property will be in accordance with the City's Land Development Regulations. Prior to the issuance of any Building Permits for this property compliance with all applicable regulations will be required.

A traffic study was submitted to the City of Tavares indicating that surrounding roadways will operate at adequate level of service at buildout of the proposed development. The City's engineering consultant, Griffey Engineering, Inc., reviewed the traffic study and had no objection to the study's methodology.

The property owner has reserved school capacity for 41 students.

The environmental assessment indicates that there are no environmental concerns.

The underlying Future Land Use designation of Mixed Use Neighborhood (MUN), approved by Ordinance 2008-40 on May 20, 2009, does not change and is compatible with the requested RSF-2 zoning district.

Mayor Singer said no Request to Speak Forms were received. Mayor Singer asked for questions from Council.

Vice Mayor Pfister inquired about compatibility with the future of the city. Mr. Drury said the next Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting will be held August 22, 2019 in the Civic Center. He said it is hard to predict what the Council will approve as a final Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations. The development is allowed 58-foot wide lots and the developer is extending those to

60 feet. Mr. Drury said the lots are larger than allowed and surrounding developments are compact which is typical in a downtown area. He said the Comprehensive Plan will be completed in approximately eight months. He said the request complies with the current Comprehensive Plan and is not inconsistent with the future Comprehensive Plan. He noted the YMCA and downtown that supports the area and a traffic study has been reviewed by the city engineer and it has been determined that there is adequate road capacity. Vice Mayor Pfister asked if there is sufficient infrastructure for the development. Mr. Drury said water and sewer lines have been upgraded along David Walker so there is adequate pressure for the entire area. He said elevations can create issue such as in Royal Harbor and this project is not in an elevated area.

Council Member Boggus said the concept plan is to plat lots 60 feet wide and the rezoning does not bind the developer to that size. Mr. Fitzgerald confirmed and said it is a conceptual plan based on a plat that is currently being reviewed. He said the conceptual plan is not tied to the zoning in the same way it would be for a planned development ordinance. Mr. Drury said the plat will come back before Council with 60-foot wide lots.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved for approve, seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried 3-1 as follows:

Troy Singer:	**Yes**
Lori Pfister:	**No**
Amanda Boggus:	**Yes**
Roy Stevenson:	**Yes**

Tab 7. Ordinance 2019-16 – Rezone 20.71 Acres – Shanti Niketan FL, LLC – South of Slim Haywood Ave., North of Camp Road, West of SR-19

Mr. Fitzgerald made the following presentation:

> *The subject property consists of approximately 20.71 acres located south of Slim Haywood Ave., north of Camp Rd., west of SR-19. The property is owned by Shanti Niketan FL, LLC, and is a vacant portion of the existing Shanti Niketan project that is currently undergoing development. The applicant is proposing to rezone the property from Residential Multi-Family (RMF-3) to Residential Multi-Family (RMF-2), which is a less intensive zoning that allows the construction of single family homes, duplexes, and townhomes. Shanti Niketan has primarily been developed in previous phases as an age restricted, multi-family condominium community, but the property owner has expressed an interest in providing single family housing as an option. The property is surrounded by a mixture of multi-family and single family property.*

Any development of the property will be in accordance with the City's Land Development Regulations. Prior to the issuance of any Building Permits for this project compliance with all applicable regulations will be required.

The underlying Future Land Use designation of Moderate Density (MOD) that was approved by Ordinance 2015-02 on April 15, 2015, does not change and is compatible with the requested RMF-2 zoning district.

Rachel Brewer, audience member, said she is in attendance on behalf of her Foxborough Subdivision Homeowner's Association President who was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Brewer said it sounds like the Council is in support of rezoning from RMF-3 to RMF-2. Mr. Fitzgerald confirmed and said it is considered a downzoning.

Mayor Singer asked if any other audience members would like to speak on the agenda item.

Chuck Hiott, BESH, 902 North Sinclair Avenue, said he concurs with the zoning and staff recommendation. He said he is available for questions.

Mayor Singer asked for questions from Council. There were none.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved for approval, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mayor moved up tab 12 to be heard next.

Tab 12. Concept for Primitive Camping

Ms. Rogers thanked those present for attending the meeting. She said staff was asked to conduct research for primitive camping and noted the discussion is not an implementation. She introduced Mr. Aldrich. Mr. Aldrich made the following presentation:

Previously, at the February 6, 2019 City Council meeting, Councilmember Roy Stevenson indicated a desire to explore a primitive camping opportunity at the Tavares Nature Park. Staff has conducted an initial overview and offers the following report on key points as it relates to primitive camping:

Grant Conditions

The FCT grant used to purchase the land for the park does allow for primitive camping. Staff would need to submit in writing an official request to amend the park management plan to include such an activity.

Park Improvements and Preparations

It is recommended that areas for primitive camping be identified in locations that would not interfere with established habitat including potential gopher tortoises, the Rosemary Scrub and other natural vegetation. The estimated cost to properly map out these locations, clear the land, install amenities such as garbage receptacles, a picnic table and fire rings, and sign the site with rules that address fires, noise, emergency notifications, etc. is estimated to be around $4,500. Another option would be to engage the services of the Boy Scouts or the Girl Scouts which could reduce this cost.

Current Primitive Camping Inventory

To our knowledge, the closest park that offers primitive camping is located at Lake Louisa State Park in Clermont. Others include Rock Springs Run State Reserve in Sorrento and Wekiwa Springs State Park in Apopka, but no other parks in Lake County offer primitive campsites for their user groups.

Annual Cost to Maintain

It is estimated that the maintenance cost would be limited to cleaning up garbage left behind or in the receptacles, grading/cleaning sites with excessive campfire/charcoal overflows, fire ring repairs, etc. Other costs would include rules enforcement upon receiving complaints or citizen concerns, as well as liability insurance for the increased level of service.

Issues to Consider

Staff contacted the Florida State Parks organization and the local parks that offer primitive camping in the region to ascertain what issues they have come across and offer a highlight of their responses:

All of the State Parks that offer primitive camping are monitored with park rangers and charge a small fee for the campsites.

Lake Louisa Park Manager stated their biggest issue is from campers cutting down trees and other brush to use for firewood.

Fear of attracting a large homeless population was the reason that Lake Griffin State Park in Leesburg did not create primitive campsites.

The biggest issue regarding primitive campsites in both the Lower Wekiva Preserve and Rock Springs Run Reserve State Parks is the trash that sometimes get left behind and outsiders using the primitive toilet facilities as they canoe or paddle through the areas.

Several rangers mentioned that all their sites are equipped with food lockers as a protection against bears and other wildlife.

The Wekiva River Basin State Parks Manager did mention that bears are a concern, however they have more issues with bears in their developed campsites verses the primitive ones because those sites have more food.

Public Comment

The following audience members spoke in opposition to primitive camping in Tavares Nature Park:

- Ed Zink, 1616 Sunshine Lane
- Dennis Williams, 12633 Milwaukee Avenue
- Melody Lewis, former Rainbow Family member
- Dara Treadwell, 2949 Lake Huron Lane
- John Varganolli
- Jonathan Duriga, 1620 Sunshine Lane
- Sharon Nask, 1610 Sunshine Lane
- Diana Aten, 714 N. Saint Claire Abrams Avenue
- Teresa Storms, 12740 Lake Dora Circle
- Vance Jochim, 12619 Milwaukee Avenue *(Presented a PowerPoint Presentation)*
- Robert Kurnig, 1700 Sunshine Lane
- Jim Jackson, 1760 Sunshine Lane
- Clifford Smith, 30122 Green Bay Drive
- Mike Cutlupp, 30028 Wisoki
- James Merket, 12653 Lake Dora Circle
- Debra Hurwig, 1727 Sunrise Court
- Rhonda Shaffner, 30050 Greenbay Drive
- Debbie Cooney, 1700 Sunshine Lane

Mayor Singer thanked the audience for voicing their opinions. He asked Mr. Drury to address audience comments.

Mr. Drury said staff would ensure the park restrooms are opened in the morning with the Police Department closing them at sunset. Staff will also look into replacing trash cans throughout the park with bear proof trash cans. He said the city has applied for a grant which was bumped from the yearly grant cycle. He said the city will re-apply for the CDBG grant. Ms. Houghton said staff will follow up on the CDBG grant opportunity. Mr. Drury noted it is a policy decision for Council's consideration.

Council Discussion

Council Member Boggus said she has enjoyed the park since she was in high school. She said it is unfortunate that the restrooms are being abused but staff will make every effort to ensure that does not happen. She said that the city has been working on making the docks wheelchair

accessible with paving to the docks. Ms. Boggus said she enjoys rural camping and said Council asked staff to research if primitive camping is viable, where it could be located, needed infrastructure and cost. She thanked the audience for providing their input.

Council Member Stevenson said he became interested in primitive camping at Tavares Nature Park after touring the area. He said that he has primitive camped his entire life and thought it would be a great area for a site. Mr. Stevenson said he cares about the adjacent neighborhoods and his idea was not to turn the park into a homeless camp. He said the dock should be repaired and he would not support a primitive camp ground without appropriate permitting and fees. He said camping in Florida occurs late fall and early winter and if the city were to create a primitive camping site then it would have to be supervised both day and night and may eliminate problems that currently exist as expressed by the audience. He said issues expressed from the audience regarding fire, displacing wildlife, a second and different entrance, first responder access are great ideas as well as other uses with the monies. He said the proper role of government is health, safety and welfare and primitive camping is a quality of life enhancement. He said he loves the community and would not want to invite problems into the community.

Mayor Singer said he appreciates the audience participation. He said he understands and hears that the audience does not want primitive camping in their neighborhood. He noted Council can be contacted at any time regarding issues or concerns and said he takes pride in taking all information into consideration to make the best decisions for all citizens of Tavares. He said he is in support of completing a 5 year parks comprehensive plan. The grant that was received for Tavares Nature Park allows primitive camping and future grant opportunities may not allow primitive camping. He noted the closest primitive camping is located in Lake Louisa State Park.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve Option 2 – do not approve, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Mayor Singer adjourned the meeting at 5:36 for a recess.

Mayor Singer reconvened the meeting at 5:42

Tab 8. Approval of 2020 Mayor's Youth Council Syllabus

Mr. Drury made the following presentation:

> *Attached is the 2020 Mayor's Youth Council syllabus for Council's approval. The following changes have been made to the syllabus and program:*
>
> 1. *Tavares High School will designate a Mayor's Youth Council 'alternate' member.*
> 2. *Students shall attend each meeting or event for one hour. (ex: City Council meetings between 4-5pm)*

3. *Student shall attend a morning Department Overview Seminar and write a report about the functions of one of the Departments that was presented during the seminar for the paired Council Member to grade.*
4. *Department shadowing morning removed.*

Mr. Drury noted students have after school activities such as soccer, music, band practice and homework and are unable to attend into the evening hours during a City Council meeting. He said the city agreed to the school's request of limiting meetings attendance for the students to one hour.

Mayor Singer said he is in support of the program and noted the Mayor's Youth Council program is entering its fourth year. He said he is a member of the Toastmaster's Club which may be disbanding. The club members would still be willing to come to City Hall to conduct a clinic in public speaking and asked if the syllabus could be changed to require attendance in a course or clinic for public speaking. Mr. Drury said he would recommend the requirement be removed at this time in order for staff to meet with the school and develop a program that includes a safe, adequate training on public speaking from someone who is qualified and is acceptable to the school board, school and students.

Council Member Boggus inquired about department shadowing. Mr. Drury said that the shadowing has been removed and replaced with a meeting where Department Directors will provide a presentation and overview of each department. The students would then choose a department for their written report. Council Member Boggus said she is in support of department shadowing. Mr. Drury said the school has indicated the students do not have time to complete a multi-hour shadowing program and can only commit to one hour. He said he can speak with the school and possibly limit the shadowing program to two hours. Council Member Boggus said she would like the students to have the opportunity to sit with Council at the dais for more than one meeting. Discussion was held and Mr. Drury said the syllabus will be changed to reflect students sitting at the dais during two meetings, and in the audience for two meetings.

Mayor Singer noted Ms. Paulling Mayor's Youth Council Coordinator, is in the audience. Ms. Paulling thanked Council and said public speaking is an important aspect of the program that she would like to see continued. She said job shadowing is also a desired program highlight. She thanked Council for limiting the program into one-hour segments. Mr. Drury asked if shadowing for one hour would work with the school. Ms. Paulling said yes, it could be done on a Friday during the students Power Hour class.

Mayor Singer asked if public speaking could be pursued but not be a requirement to complete the program. Ms. Paulling said she would speak with the Tavares High School Principal.

Vice Mayor Pfister said it was her hope the program would be more robust. Mayor Singer noted the past two years four students graduated and each student who participated gained a lot from the program.

Ms. Paulling said she is eager to obtain student participation and noted the school can not require students to participate after school. She noted some students do not have transportation and it is unfortunate to have to make the one-hour adjustment.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to approve the Mayor's Youth Council Syllabus with suggested changes if feasible, seconded by Roy Stevenson. The motion carried 3-1 as follows:

Troy Singer:	**Yes**
Lori Pfister:	**No**
Amanda Boggus:	**Yes**
Roy Stevenson:	**Yes**

Tab 9. Christmas Lighting Design Concepts

Ms. Rogers made the following presentation:

> *Previously, City Council Members requested that the city's lighting design company return with some visual examples of lighting options for the tops of the palm trees (known as "boots"). The color options for the boots that will be presented at this meeting and will include: green, blue, gold, and multi-color lighting options.*
>
> *Decisions on the "boot" color, the tree in the Square, a $5,000.00 add-on and additional add-on options will be needed during this council meeting.*
>
> *Council has the opportunity to select a $5,000 option from this list now or wait for additional funding surplus options during the delivery of the budget workshop.*
>
> *In summary, the Christmas lighting display from last year is currently scheduled to be similar but with an increase of $5,000 budgeted in fy2020 and additional lighting options are possible through budget surplus soon to be defined at tonight's budget meeting.*

Joe Campbell, Director of Sales, Christmas Designers, presented a PowerPoint presentation with lighting options. He said there were no price differences in lighting color choice.

Council Member Boggus asked if the item could be discussed after Tab 13 so that possible additional funding could be identified during the Budget Workshop. Mr. Drury said yes, and clarified that Council has to choose between a 24-foot tree that is animated or a 30-foot tree with one single color. He said Council could have a discussion on that single issue and then discuss the remaining options during the Budget Workshop.

Mayor Singer asked if there was a cost difference for the boot color of the palm trees boots on Main Street. Mr. Campbell said there is no charge for color preference for the palm tree boots.

Mayor Singer asked if Council could also decide on the tree and palm tree boots before the Budget Workshop.

Discussion was held and there was a consensus from Council for the larger tree with multi-colored lights in Tavares Square.

Vice Mayor Pfister noted her support in continuing the city's branding with blue and white lights on the palm tree boots.

Mayor Singer asked Mr. Campbell for his recommendation. Mr. Campbell said the blue lighting can appear dark and recommended putting blue palm tree boots at the gateways only.

Council Member Singer noted his preference for multi-colored palm tree boots.

Council Member Boggus noted her preference to try the boots at the gateways with multi-colored boots in downtown.

Vice Mayor Pfister asked if there will be a cost to change the colors of lighting each year. Mr. Campbell confirmed.

Audience Comments

Denise Laratta, Royal Harbor, noted her support for blue and silver lights in support of the city's branding.

Jay Cunningham, 311 Woodview Drive, noted his support for multi-colored lighting.

Diana Aten noted her support for blue lights at the gateways and multi-colored lighting in the remainder of downtown.

Vance Jochim recommended leaving the lighting decision to the Community Services Director.

Vice Mayor Pfister noted her preference for maintaining multi-colored lights in Wooton Park for the children to enjoy.

Ms. Rogers said $5,000 can be used to select lighting for the Chris Daniels gateway or Council could wait to determine additional monies identified during the budget workshop for one of the larger items. Mayor Pfister said she agrees with lighting the gateway and noted her support and proceeding with the vote.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved to approve optional lighting at entrance sign and the retention pond with blue and silver lighting, multi colored [tree boots in downtown] and the large tree in multi colored lights, seconded by Amanda Boggus. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 10. Water, Wastewater, Reclaim Utility Rate Study Presentation

Ms. Houghton made the following presentation:

> *Background – In order to meet revenue sufficiency requirements for Water, Wastewater, Reclaim, and Stormwater debt (bank loans, bonds, and State Revolving Loans), a Utility rate study for the Utility Funds is generally accomplished every five (5) years. Below provides the most recent details for past and current studies:*
>
> - *A Rate Study was completed in May 2009 and presented to Council on June 18, 2009. This study recommended annual rate increases for water, wastewater and reclaim water of 1% plus CPI.*
>
> *Council adopted this recommendation by way of Ordinance No. 2009-22, effective October 1, 2009.*
>
> - *A subsequent Rate Study was completed in September 2014, and presented to Council November 9, 2014. This Rate Study recommended no change to Ordinance 2009-22, therefore rate increases of 1% plus CPI would remain in effect. Council approved this recommendation.*
>
> - *A current rate study has been completed by the City's Rate Consultants, Raftelis & Associates. The Study recommends a slight decrease in the Water Rates, with a slight increase in the Wastewater Rates.*
>
> *The Rate Consultant will provide a presentation to the City Council summarizing the Rate Study results and their recommendations.*
> *Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Water, Wastewater, Reclaim Utility User Rate Study, and instruct staff to bring back an Ordinance for Public Hearing for the Board's consideration, and to provide the required Utility Bill Message for the Public Hearing as required under Florida Statutes183.136.*

Joe Williams, Reftilis, provided a PowerPoint presentation including the current rate structure and said the recommendation is an overall average increase of approximately 2% each year over the next four years which includes a 1% reduction in water rates the first year with no increase the following three years and a 5.5% increase in sewer rates the first two years, 2% the third year and no increase the fourth year. The current ordinance rate structure designates an increase is CPI (2.5% estimated each year) plus 1% for a total average each year over four years at 3.5%.

Mayor Singer asked for confirmation that if the Council does not move forward there will be an increase of 3.5% each year, and if the Council moves forward there will be a 1.95% increase average per year for four years. Mr. Williams confirmed.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to approve the Water, Wastwater, Reclaim Utility User Fee Rate Study and instruct staff to bring back an ordinance for public hearing for the Boards consideration, and to provide the required Utility Bill Message for the Public Hearing as required under Florida Statutes 183.136, seconded by Lori Pfister. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Tab 11. Request from Lake County Museum of Art

Ms. Rogers said this agenda item is to consider a request from Lou Buigas on behalf of the Lake County Museum of Art (LCMA) for a City Councilmember to serve as a representative/liaison to the LCMA Board of Directors.

Ms. Buigas said LCMA would like one Council member to serve. She said the board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Discussion was held and Council Member Boggus said she would volunteer. Ms. Buigas noted the position is not as a voting member. Ms. Boggus said that she will attend the meetings and report back to the Council.

There was a consensus from Council for Amanda Boggus to serve as the City Council Representative on the Lake County Museum of Art Board.

Tab 12. Concept for Primitive Camping

Moved to be heard first under General Government.

XI. BUDGET WORKSHOP

Tab 13. FY2020 Budget Workshop

Ms. Houghton provided the following presentation:

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Previously, Council has reviewed the FY20 Proposed Budgets as follows:

- *At the July 3rd City Council meeting, Council was presented the FY2020 Proposed General Fund Budget.*
- *At the July 17th City Council meeting, Council was presented the Utility Funds and Special Funds Proposed Budgets for FY2020, and after which the Council had opportunity to discuss the General Fund budget as well as the Utilities and Special Fund budgets.*
- *At the July 24th City Council Budget Workshop, the City Council discussed the FY 2020 General Fund Proposed Budget and the FY2020 Proposed Millage rate. At this meeting the Council reviewed and discussed the Cut List, the General Fund Budget, and set the Maximum Tentative Millage rate.*
- *The Maximum Tentative Millage Rate was set at 6.950, and the Maximum Tentative Voted Debt Service Millage Rate at .2932.*

City staff has updated the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget as described in Exhibit A. Updates to the proposed budget have resulted in $15,732 in available funding for appropriation. Options for appropriation are detailed in Exhibit A.

It is recommended that Council continue discussions on the budget and direct staff on how to appropriate the available budget savings ($15,732) so that staff can bring back finalized budgets and resolutions of all funds for the two upcoming Public Hearings on the budget for Councils consideration.

Ms. Houghton reviewed the expenditure options for the budget savings. Discussion was held regarding increasing funding for community grants, placing the funds in reserves, increasing the road paving program and increasing Christmas lighting. Vice Mayor Pfister noted there is a cut list that the Council may wish to review before allocating the monies. Ms. Houghton said the funds could be placed as an expenditure contingency line item to provide the Council an opportunity to review the cut list further.

MOTION

Amanda Boggus moved to place the remaining funds that are not allocated into a contingency line item on the finalized budget for Council to determine allocation at the September 4, 2019 City Council meeting, seconded by Lori Pfister. The motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Drury noted there will be two public hearings in September; September 4, 2019 at 5:05 p.m. and September 18, 2019 at 5:05 p.m.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Colective bargaining.

Mr. Drury said previously Council Member Grenier served on the Collective Bargaining Management Team which negotiates the Fire Department collective bargaining agreement. He asked for Council representation on the Management Team.

Council Member Stevenson volunteered to serve on the Collective Bargaining Management Team.

There was a consensus from Council for Council Member Stevenson to serve on the Collective Bargaining Management Team.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Pfister noted there is new state leadership and said she would like staff to pursue a golf cart crossing on US 441.

There was a consensus from Council to move forward with staff pursuing a golf cart crossing on US 441.

XIV. HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Tab 14. Tavares Historical Society

Brenda Smith, President, Tavares Historical Society, provided information on the 1959 and 1960 property tax rolls. She provided enrollment information on the Tavares schools in 1969 and said the Tavares City Council passed a $1.25 million-dollar budget in 1979.

XV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD

Shannon Haney, 715 N. Disston Avenue, said a speeding issue on Disston Avenue appeared once the one-way paring road design was implemented with attempts by vehicle traffic to avoid a light. She suggested installing small speed bumps. Chief Lubins said the city is in the process of moving the speed limit sign. Chief Lubins said the police will enforce by radar and noted speed bumps have mixed success for traffic control.

Diana Aten, St. Claire Abrams Avenue, commended Council and Administration for doing a great job on the budget. She thanked Mr. Stevenson for providing information on primitive camping. She noted that during the school year there are speeding issues on St. Claire Abrams just past the school zone. There are also issues with traffic entering the school road not adhering to road rules during back-ups. Chief Lubins said he will confer with Mr. Dillon for possible action.

Lou Buigas, Ianthe Street, said she is in support of the Mayor's Youth Council attending the entire meeting and more representation.

XVI. REPORTS

Tab 15. City Administrator Report

Mr. Drury said the Police Chief will develop a good enforcement program on Disston. He thanked Ms. Haney for bringing traffic issues forward.

Chief Lubins said the Police Department will be operating out of the Public Safety Facility at 911 Gateway Drive beginning August 26, 2019. He said they were located at City Hall for 25 years and all operations will be fully operational at the new location.

Mr. O'Keefe stated it is National Senior Citizen Day.

Mr. Fitzgerald noted a Comprehensive Plan Public Workshop will be held August 22, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Tab 16. City Council Member Reports

Vice Mayor Pfister encouraged everyone to watch the upcoming Little League World Series.

Mayor Singer said he recently attended the Florida League of Cities Conference. He said it was a great experience with informative classes. He thanked Mr. Fitzgerald for the upcoming Comprehensive Plan Meeting and encouraged those present to attend.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Mayor Singer adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Susie Novack, MMC/FCRM
City Clerk