

Proceedings of a special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka held on the 15th day of July, 1999.

PRESENT:	Mayor	Tim Smith
	Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
	Commissioner	George Sanders
	Commissioner	Hernan Azula
	Commissioner	Ish Edwards

Also Present: City Manager Allen R. Bush, City Attorney Edward E. Hedstrom, City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers, Finance Director Ruby M. Williams, Police Chief Bill Dolinski, Fire Chief Rudy Howard, Planning Director Adam Mengel, and Water, Sewer & Streets Superintendent Gene Garrett

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order and read the following call:

TO MESSRS.: Mary Lawson Brown, George E. Sanders, Hernan Azula and Ish Edwards:

You are hereby notified that a special meeting of the City Commission is called to be held at the regular meeting place of the City Commission at City Hall, 201 N. 2nd Street in the City of Palatka at 5:00 p.m., Thursday, July 15, 1999.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

1. Set the property tax millage rate for the 1999-2000 budget year
2. Amend the 1998/99 budget
3. Declare two police vehicles as surplus equipment (for trade-in)
4. Hear a report and recommendation from the Planning Board on the annexation, rezoning and land use change on approximately 30.28 acres of land located northwest of the intersection of Hwy 19 South and Moody Roads, Palatka, Putnam County, Florida

/s/ Tim Smith

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the foregoing notice of a special meeting this 10th day of July, 1999.

/s/ Mary Lawson Brown

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/s/ George Sanders

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/s/ Hernan Azula

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/s/ Ish Edwards

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ITEM 1: Mr. Bush said he recommends setting the millage at the rolled-back rate of 7.042 mills. Mayor Smith concurred and said the contingency was the best he had seen.

Commissioner Azula asked what effect taking the mills down to 6.99 now would have on the budget. Mr. Bush said making these small cuts in the millage don't have a great effect on the budget, but anything larger would have an effect on the contingency, which is not really what it should be and would not cover a large catastrophe. The community seems to be pleased with the adoption of the rolled-back rate each year for the last 11 years. Once they get down to the low 6's or high 5's, they can think about keeping it there. Also, the City will pick up additional revenue with new construction.

Mayor Smith said Commissioner's Brown comments during the Workshop about the enclaves of non-annexed properties that exist due to the City's expansion Westward warrant looking at. He suggested they get the values of the properties in those unincorporated areas and look at what would happen if they brought those properties into the City Limits, and determine the revenues versus what it would cost to service those areas. If it is reasonable, they can identify incentives to entice them to annex, if for no other reason than to "square up" the boundaries. Commissioner Sanders said this would be a good project for the Building & Zoning Department. Mayor Smith said there might be other revenues that a higher population would afford the City.

Commissioner Azula made a motion to adopt the rolled-back millage rate of 7.042 for the Fiscal Year 1999-2000. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

ITEM 2: Mr. Bush said these are simply fund transfers and overruns from last year's budgets. Most of this has to do with grants and inter-departmental transfers. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the F/Y 1998-99 Budget amendments recommended by Ruby Williams, Finance Director. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

Commissioner Brown said one of the basketball courts at Lefty Turner/Booker Park was ready to pour, and they hope to have the park up and running in a few months. Mr. Bush said the plans and specs are almost complete. They are trying to do the basketball courts in-house, with volunteers handling the concrete. They ran into a bit of a problem with the volunteers and had a slight delay, so they are involving a City crew somewhat with the process. By the end of next week they should have it poured. Commissioner Brown said they are going to try and get some recognition from Rural Development for this project.

ITEM 3: Commissioner Azula made a motion to declare a 1992 Chevrolet Lumina and a 1990 Chevrolet Caprice, both Police Department vehicles, as surplus equipment. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion.

Fire Chief Rudy Howard asked the Commission to add a 1989 Chevrolet Blazer, a Fire Department vehicle, to this list of surplus vehicles. Also, the mower that was donated by the Airport to the Fire Department burned up; Outdoor Power said he would do an even swap on the burned up mower for a \$250.00 fan motor, which they need to replace a fan motor, which burned up. He would also like to add this Honda riding mower to the list of surplus equipment. Commissioner Azula amended his motion to include the 1989

Chevrolet Blazer and Honda riding lawn motor in the list of surplus vehicles and equipment. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unopposed.

ITEM 4: Planning Department Report on Annexation, Land Use Change and Rezoning a parcel of land located just North of the intersection of Hwy 19 South and Moody Road – Adam Mengel passed out two site plans for the building and parking lot detail on a proposed Super Walmart to be built on this site. At their July 6 meeting the Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend annexation, large-scale land use amendment and rezoning on this property. He would like the Commission to approve advertising for a special call meeting on July 29th for public hearings on the Annexation and Land Use Amendment transmittal to DCA, and also for a first reading on the Rezoning ordinance.

Mr. Bush asked if a portion of Hwy 19 is going to be included in the annexation; Mr. Mengel said it would, a section just to the south of their proposed driveway. Commissioner Edwards asked if the property owners would need to be relocated. Mr. Mengel said one house would have to be demolished, but the owners have signed off on this. There is another concrete block building, an insurance agency, which would be relocated. Commissioner Sanders made a motion to set a special call meeting for July 29, 1999 at 4:00 p.m., and to advertise public hearings on the Annexation and Large Scale Land Use Amendment transmittal to DCA for that date. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

This ends the items on the agenda.

Commissioner Brown said she is sitting on the FLC nominating committee, and if any one favored a candidate running for state offices with the League, she would pass that on to the delegates. Mayor Smith asked the Clerk to contact the League office to determine who is running for these offices, and who they would recommend, and advise the Commission, so they can get together on whom they want to endorse for nomination.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Eugene Foster addressed the Commission and said he is a well-known Reverend in Palatka, and had previously approached the Commission about renting one of the buildings in the 100 block as a church. He was told the building was located too close to a bar to be used as a Church. He knows of a similar church type of operation located right beside Dean's Still, also a bar, and they are allowed to operate. He is trying to rent one of the City's buildings located in the 100 Block at the Corner of Reid and N. 2nd Street, and would like the same opportunity. He checked on the building today and was told it was for rent for \$300.00 per month, and is available.

Mrs. Driggers said she had an inquiry that morning from a woman who said she wanted to rent the building for use as a 'mission' office and clothes-closet type organization. Mr. Foster said she was with his organization, and they also want to hold church services in the building. Mr. Hedstrom said he believes they can establish a church there if they submit a letter acknowledging the bar's existence and pose no objection to that location's continued use as a bar. Mrs. Driggers said he had been through this process on the other site, which was closer to the bar, and could not get Building and Zoning approval on its

use as a church. The distance change may make a difference. Mr. Bush said he also believed this was a 'double-edged sword'; if you can't locate a bar within 300-500 feet of a church, you also can't locate a church 300-500 feet from a bar. Mayor Smith directed Mrs. Driggers and the Building and Zoning Department to work with Mr. Foster in determining if that location can be used as a church.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR