

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2000.

PRESENT: Mayor Tim Smith  
 Commissioner Mary Lawson Brown  
 Commissioner Hernan Azula  
 Commissioner Ish Edwards  
 Commissioner James Norwood, Jr.

Also Present: City Manager Allen R. Bush, City Attorney Edward E. Hedstrom, City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers, Finance Director Ruby M. Williams, Planning Director Adam Mengel, Police Chief Bill Dolinski, Assistant Fire Chief James Williams, Main Street Manager Debbie Banks, and Acting Water, Sewer & Street Superintendent Sam Willis.

INVOCATION: The Reverend Bill Shepard, Pastor; Providence Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Gene Caputo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2/22/00 and 2/25/00 – Commissioner Norwood moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Edwards seconded the minutes, which passed unopposed.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH – Mayor Smith asked Commissioner Brown to join him in presenting certificates to the following students in recognition of their academic excellence, leadership, citizenship and attendance:

Brandy A. Hughes	Mellon Elementary School
Philip Blount	Moseley Elementary School
Janessa Brooks	E. H. Miller School
Traci Driggers	Beasley Middle School
Amy Eller	Jenkins Middle School
Jonathan Oliver	Palatka High School (February)
Erica Calhoun	Palatka High School (March)
Jason “Cody” Barnes	Kelly Smith Elementary School
Javeshia Melton	James A. Long Elementary
Jacob Mast	Browning-Pearce Elementary School (Feb.)
Bryanna Lewis	Browning-Pearce Elementary School (Mar.)
Shannon Jones	Peniel Baptist Academy & High School

PUBLIC RECOGNITION - Margaret Willis, President of the Palatka Pilot Club, said their mission is to serve the community by providing financial and educational support and public awareness for brain related disorders, and projects supporting these disorders. They have been working with Parks Director Jeff Norton on a \$50,000 grant for playground equipment. Their member Amanda Watts played a key role in authoring the grant and deserves recognition. They have worked hard through fundraisers to earn money to promote their mission. She presented Mr. Norton with \$5,000 to be used toward the purchase of handicap accessible playground equipment for Hank Bryan Park. Mr. Norton said the equipment has been ordered and should be in within the next month. Mayor Smith thanked her and the Pilot Club of Palatka for their contribution.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Debbie Newman, Executive Director of Helping Hands, Inc. introduced her Board members Mary Kay Engleking and Diane Spraley. Helping Hands, Inc. is Putnam County’s domestic violence center. They depend on local support as a means of providing care to victims of domestic violence as well as leveraging federal and state funds. They have requested in-kind storefront space to help operate a second-hand store, on a part-time basis. They have an agreement with a thrift store from Lake Como’s United Methodist Church, who will supply donations along with community donations. Mr. Bush said Habitat for Humanity has outgrown the space they have on St. Johns Avenue, and have made a request to move next door to the corner space. If they do, the space they have now will be vacant. If they move into the building, their stay may be short-lived if the City’s plans for that block go forward as anticipated. The City already

has a number of tenants who pay a nominal fee, such as \$1.00 per month. He recommends the Commission allow them to use the space Habitat for Humanity is vacating. Commissioner Edwards moved to allow Helping Hands of Putnam County, Inc. to use the space located at 124 St. Johns Avenue. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Mayor Smith said Helping Hands has named its shelter after the late former Commissioner and Honorary Mayor Lee Conlee.

Gene Caputo, 1308 President Street, said he wants to thank the Commission for taking action at the 2/22/00 meeting to negotiate with the Regatta Pointe developers for the first phase of a marina development. Everyone is very excited about the project. Mayor Smith said the Commission is also very excited and knows they will hit a few bumps in the road, but will find a way to smooth things out and move forward. He said at the last meeting they also expressed their thanks to Mr. Caputo for introducing them to the folks at Palmetto, saying without his influence they would not be at the point they are with this particular project. They have been moving toward a project of this type for years.

PALATKA YACHT CLUB – Request for land/lease grant at riverfront – David Burnham, Commodore, 101 Riverview Drive, E. Palatka, said they have changed their agenda in light of recent developments for the riverfront park. They had intended to ask for a specific piece of land in order to build a clubhouse. They cannot now ask for a specific piece of land, but would like the developers and decision-makers to consider the needs of the Palatka Yacht Club when making their riverfront plans. He believes the Palatka Yacht Club needs to stay in Palatka. They plan to teach sailing to middle and high school students in order to develop inter-collegiate sailing teams. Other teams will be coming to Palatka to compete. They would like a vote for inclusion in the City's plans. Commissioner Brown said the Yacht Club is included in the long-range plans, which have been passed along to the proposed developers, who will work out a plan to bring back to the Commission. Mr. Burnham said they have held their monthly meetings at the Price Martin Center. They need a place on the riverfront to store their sailing equipment, which they use to teach sailing. They looked into buying the Boathouse Marina, but that did not come to pass. They need a place to be active from, as well as to meet at. Commissioner Norwood said the Yacht Club has been included in all the plans he has seen. They are not now in a position to designate any one place, but eventually the City will benefit from the resources they can bring to the community. They need to make sure everyone benefits from what the City is doing. He is willing to give them a vote of confidence. Commissioner Azula said they should make certain the developers include something for the Yacht Club. Mr. Bush said the developers will be in Palatka soon to take input from the community as to what should be included. Commissioner Azula thanked the Yacht Club's Erica Heinemann for inviting him over and giving him an overview of what they are trying to do. Commissioner Norwood asked what the Yacht Club is now doing for the community; Mr. Burnham said they are having fun on the water; they have rendezvous and outings in their boats. They have trained some instructors in order to begin their project. Mayor Smith asked John Hodge, Chairman of the Riverfront Advisory Council, if they have discussed this proposal. Mr. Hodge said they have endorsed it. Mayor Smith said periodically the Coast Guard uses City Hall to teach a boating safety course, as well as facilities at SJRWMD. In April the Gainesville Rowing Club is hosting a rowing competition off the Riverfront Park. 30 or 40 large teams will be competing along a mile-long course. He has encouraged the Yacht Club to become involved in some type of sailing effort for the community. The riverfront is not the place for storage, but they can place it less than a block away, possibly at the Tilghman House. They need to keep the riverfront open for public use as much as possible. The City is committed to keeping the Yacht Club in downtown Palatka.

Arlen Brewer, member of Palatka Yacht Club, said they are active in sailboat racing. Since their membership is beginning to age, their racing league has diminished, so are looking for younger members. At one time the member's boats were very large, but they have no big boats left. They are down to small 1, 2 or 3 person sailboats. They have built a fleet of 1-person training type sailboats, and this is the direction they want to go in. The main thing hindering them from getting a youth program started is the lack of a training facility. They are deeply involved with the Gainesville rowing competition.

LEFTY TURNER PARK ISSUES - Bobby Wilson said he has worked in the community for over 40 years. Recently his group had a Black History Program at Lefty Turner Park. The fee was \$25.00. It has gone up to \$100.00, plus a \$100.00 deposit. If this is a community facility, why do non-profit organizations have to pay for it? There are no lights, no kitchen, and nothing to be used but the building itself. The concession stands are empty and only the bathrooms are there. When they used it there was no toilet paper in the bathrooms. They could not get into the ladies' restroom or the utility room. He wants to know why they have to pay \$100.00 for the use of a community facility, and why the fee was increased. They have almost 50 kids in their organization, and cannot get permission to use the facility for a meeting. There are no lights or fence around the ballpark, the dugouts are not fixed, and the playground is not put up. Commissioner Norwood did pay the \$25.00 fee for the Black History program. Commissioner Norwood said there is a committee in place that is over this park, and asked if he has been in touch with that committee. Mr. Wilson said he has spoken with Commissioner Norwood and Reno Fells, who is also on that committee. Several times over the last year he has tried to meet with this committee, and all he heard was they would get back to him, but they never have. He asked why the Committee would not meet with him. Commissioner Norwood said Mr. Wilson has spoken to him as an individual, not as a group. He has invited Mr. Wilson to their meetings and has given him dates and times. He invited him to their meeting at 5:00 on March 13 at the Palatka PD. He would like to table the discussion until they have had a chance to discuss these issues with Mr. Wilson within the Committee. Mr. Wilson said he has come to him numerous times to talk about his ideas for this park, but he feels the group does not want to meet with him. They have no place to meet except this park or his church. His is a non-profit organization. The money they raise is for the community. He does not want to pay it out for the use of the park. They want to help fix up the park. Commissioner Norwood said they do not charge for use of the field. Mayor Smith said when they have a project located in a specific neighborhood, they try to let the neighborhood determine how they should use it. When they received the funds to rebuild this park, they set up a committee made up by people who use it. The lights are being put up now. The buildings and basketball courts are in place. They tried to establish a nominal fee to help with the upkeep and keep it from just being open without supervision or anyone guaranteeing the safety of the building. A non-profit group that is providing an activity for the community's youth is a separate issue, and they should be sensitive to that. It needs to be a fair system with some oversight for the facility, and it needs to be maintained for the citizens. Someone should be responsible when they start handing out keys. Mr. Wilson said there is nothing in there to be used. Commissioner Brown said they got this grant through perseverance and had to come up with matching funds, whether in-kind or monetary. When they started the project, everyone fussed because nothing was getting done. The City stepped up to the bat and pushed this project through. The money that is collected will go to providing equipment for the building. People said they would help raise money for the matching, but no one did. Mr. Wilson should attend some meetings and share his ideas. The people who use it should pay for it. Maybe the rates should be adjusted. They have taken a lot of criticism from the public on what they should and shouldn't have done with this project, but there is much more out there now than there was a year ago. Even though the City owns the property, the citizens should take charge and make it a great park. Mr. Wilson asked who set the fee; Commissioner Brown said the committee did, based on many factors. They had vandals out there before they even opened the park. The money goes into a fund to purchase amenities for the park, and part of the fee will go to pay someone to supervise the Park. The City has put in a request for more grant money, but may not get it. The Committee holds a meeting each second Monday of the month at the PD at 5:00 p.m.

James Williams, 1424 Ocean Street, said the committee needs to be revised. No one comes to the meetings except Commissioner Norwood, Reno Fells, and Mr. Bush. Commissioner Brown said she attends these meetings, and there are full committee meetings at times. Mr. Williams said the committee has no regular meeting. Mayor Smith said the Commission will look to Commissioner Norwood to advise them whether the membership needs to be revised, and asked for a report at the next meeting. Mayor Smith and Commissioner Brown asked the Clerk to notify the newspaper of the meeting for Sunshine purposes, since both Commissioners Brown and Norwood are on this committee, and it should be posted.

REPORTS:

a. Old Palatka Water Works – Scope of Work – Robert Taylor, Architect, said they have measured and evaluated the existing structure and roofing materials. They have made photos and rubbings, and requested information from manufacturers as to the availability of suitable replacement products. The objective is to restore the old water works building to its 1890's character. The building is in very deteriorated condition. It is a collective opinion that the roof is so deteriorated it is impossible to re-use. They recommend the existing roof materials be salvaged where possible, but the existing structure be demolished and re-built using new materials. This is practical because the structure can be easily measured and restored so that an individual visiting the site will not know the old structure has been removed and replaced. He would like approval and a recommendation from the Commission on that issue. Today the existing brick was evaluated for a recommendation for replacement and/or cleaning of the old brick. Due to numerous coats of paint on the building, they feel it is best just to repaint the old building. After further consideration, they will look further at trying to clean and restore the old brick faces and mortar. He recommends trying to clean the brick and repoint the mortar. On the NE and S elevations, the doors and windows can't be restored; they will install replacement windows and doors. They can be matched with comparable products. The first storage/filtering tanks were built in the 1930's about 7 feet away from the W elevation. At that time they raised the grade and eliminated a couple of the old windows, which was done with great care. They would like to leave those windows closed. A door was installed in a portion of one of those old windows, which was not done carefully, and he recommends removal of that old door, to be replaced with brick. Also on the W elevation they put in an old block and brick chimney, which they would like to remove, along with a storage building and clock constructed on the E side. All the doors on the E and N elevation will be restored. One partition inside will remain; others added later on will be removed. Suspended ceilings added later will be removed. There is a pressed metal ceiling which has been destroyed, but they were able to take some rubbings and are looking for suitable replacement materials. They plan to make the site accessible to Ravine Gardens. SJRWMD is cleaning the old reservoir, which will be incorporated. Greenways and Trails plans to use this structure, and it will be used as a teaching museum. The facility was in continuous use for 100 years, until the mid 1980's. They will try to restore the interior finishes as much as possible. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the scope of work on the restoration of the Old Palatka Water Works Building as presented by Robert Taylor, Architect. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. Mayor Smith gave Commissioner Norwood a brief history of the building, which was abandoned and fell into disrepair when the new facilities were opened in the mid-1980's. The City received funds from the State for an archaeological assessment and engineering for restoration of the building. Last fall a Committee lobbied for \$225,000 in construction funds, and the City was ranked third in this division. If money is funded for historic preservation through this legislature, the City will receive \$255,000 for the construction. The long-term plan is to use the structure as a natural history museum and for environmental education. Mr. Bush said the Chamber has identified eco-tourism as a goal for Putnam County, which they feel could be a major part of the County's future. This facility will support that. Commissioner Brown said the State has designated Palatka as the 'gateway' for Greenways and Trails, which will also be incorporated into this project. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unopposed.

b. Engineering Services for Putnam County Industrial Park Water & Sewer Lines – Mr. Bush said some months ago a committee met and went through an engineering selection process, and BHR was finally selected after the RFP. BHR is now under contract with Putnam County for the design of the new industrial park, which includes the water and sewer lines. A short line will run from St. Johns Avenue to the main entrance of the Park, and another loop water line will run up Kay Larkin Drive. It made sense to 'piggy-back' the City's portion of the engineering onto the County's contract, so all would be done by the same engineering firm under the same permit. They have offered a proposal at a very good price. He has now been informed by the EDA that they cannot amend the County's contract to include this, and they want the City to request proposals for the work. This will not be difficult to do. He has short-listed three companies, which he will solicit for proposals, and will put an advertisement in the newspaper, in order to satisfy EDA's requirements.

James Williams, 1410 Ocean Street, asked questions about the work on the water line tie-in on the International Cuisine project's proposed building. Mr. Bush said that is a different project than the one under discussion. Mr. Williams is referring to the CDGB grant for International Cuisine. If the principal on that project ever gets his money together, the road going into the City's industrial park will be widened and a major lift station will be built. They are only bringing the water down through there on this project for loop purposes. You have to have two routes in, plus it allows the water to circulate. He can go over this in more detail with Mr. Williams if he will come by his office.

c. Downtown Palatka Update – Judy Caputo, President of Downtown Palatka, Inc., said they are having a downtown sidewalk sale this week. The savings are considerable. This Friday night is the St. Patrick's Day parade and block party starting at 6:00 p.m. In July they will sponsor a "Christmas in July" event. They have done it in their store, and are going to expand it to incorporate the entire downtown area. She thanked the Commission for the new sign on the triangle; they have gotten a lot of positive feedback on it.

Gene Caputo, Downtown Palatka, said he wished to speak to the Commission on two items. One is the request made to increase the number of billboards within the City, and the other is the downtown C-3 rezoning proposal. The C-3 proposal is moving through the Planning Board and will be ready to present to the Commission soon. With respect to the billboards, he and Debbie Banks did a survey of billboards within a 3-mile radius of downtown, and found there are 106 billboard faces advertising activities in and for Palatka. A request will be coming before both the City and County commissions asking for an increase in that number, and he and Ms. Banks are going to request a deferral on any action from the County until the City can meet on the issue and act on the request. He will not go into the details on their recommendation on the request at this time.

d. State of the Police Department Report – Chief Dolinski passed out booklets containing his written report to the Commission, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these minutes. The report contains information relative to improvements to the Department since he has been Chief. In 1990 results of a 'crime census' showed that Palatka had the 4<sup>th</sup> highest crime rate for a city of its size in the State of Florida. He hopes that by next year, when the new census is taken, they will rank in the 30's or 40's. About half of their computers have NCIC/FCIC capability. It utilizes a radio link through a UHF system. Mayor Smith suggested Chief Dolinski invite the newspaper reporter to the station and go over this report with him, so they can do an article for the newspaper. He commended the Chief, particularly on the grant portion of his budget. He hopes those grant funds continue to be available. The last five years, with the exception of last year, the crime rate has come down. Chief Dolinski said the officers are very proactive and community oriented policemen. Commissioner Brown said they are getting a better racial mix of police officers; the ratio more mirrors the town's racial make-up. Mr. Bush said they have made great strides on this in the last decade. He is very proud of what the Police Department has done, particularly holding the line on the budget. Palatka has one of the most technologically advanced police departments for a town this size, certainly in NE Florida. Commissioner Norwood asked if they are doing anything towards educating the community on what the department is doing. Chief Dolinski said they applied during the last round for three school resource officers in a joint effort with the Sheriff's Department. The next round begins in April or May. Commissioner Norwood said they do a good job of informing the public through their police partnership meetings. He said chief Dolinski's report was very professional. Commissioner Brown asked if they are ever going to open the Station on nights and weekends. She knows it saves money to close it during those times, but it does not help her level of comfort to know it is closed. Chief Dolinski said it is not financially feasible at this time. Mr. Bush said there is instant communication with the Sheriff's Dept. through the station at night, and there are additional cars on patrol. One aspect of the Indianapolis Plan is it affords the opportunity to saturate high crime areas with additional cars during certain times. Chief Dolinski said they have a 'power shift' that comes on from 9:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. Mr. Bush said a man in a patrol car is much more valuable than one sitting behind a desk. Commissioner Brown said the average female in trouble looks for a police station. Chief Dolinski said he would be against taking officers off the street just to man the building. Commissioner Brown said you would not necessarily have to do that, just add a

few people to the night shift to man the building. Chief Dolinski said St. Augustine started closing their station at 5:00 p.m. before Palatka did. Commissioner Brown said things are going to change, and they may have the money eventually to keep the Station open. Commissioner Azula complimented Chief Dolinski on his report, saying it was well done. As everyone knows, he and Chief Dolinski had a rocky start with some issues that were brought to his attention some years ago, and there were two incidents last year that created some tension, but he admires the way the Chief has come around, in his opinion, and put together a department that works very well together. During the last six months he has not had the first complaint on the Police Department, and if anyone is going to get a complaint on the PD, it will be him. He has heard nothing but praise. He, his son and some of his son's friends have had some dealings with some of the officers. The officers were extremely professional and handled the teens as individuals. He regrets if the Chief felt he was being attacked personally; he did not intend any personal attack and apologized if it seemed so. It was based more on information he had, and from what he has seen, that is not happening anymore. Professionally he has no complaints about the job he is doing. They have all seen a positive change in the PD. Commissioner Brown complimented him on his improved public speaking skills.

**ORDINANCE** – The Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, REVISING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA BY REMOVING POLICE OFFICERS FROM THE CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN, AND CREATING THE POLICE OFFICERS' RETIREMENT PLAN, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Brown moved to place the ordinance on its first reading. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. The results of a roll call vote are as follows: Commissioners Azula, Brown, Edwards and Norwood, Yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was placed on first reading.

**APPOINTMENT** – Commissioner Edwards said he can no longer serve as the City's representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Planning County, due to a conflict with his designation as his employer's representative on that same board. They meet the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Jacksonville. Commissioner Brown moved to accept Commissioner Edwards' resignation from the NEFRPC, and to appoint Commissioner Azula to serve as the City's representative. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

**APPOINTMENT** – Commissioner Edwards said his work schedule no longer permits him the time to serve as the City's representative to the County Recreation Committee, which meets the first Monday of each month at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Brown moved to accept Commissioner Edwards' resignation from the Committee and to appoint Commissioner Norwood to serve as the City's representative on the County Recreation Committee. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

**POLICE DEPT. SURPLUS PROPERTY REQUEST** – Mr. Bush said an attachment shows the vehicles the PD wishes to surplus. The policy in the past is to allow other departments to utilize surplus vehicles to replace vehicles in even worse shape. The Building and Water Departments have requested some of these vehicles. Commissioner Azula made a motion to declare the listed Police vehicles as Police Department surplus for disposal or transfer. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion. Mayor Smith said Chief Dolinski has asked that the proceeds from these vehicles go towards the purchase of an evidence van. Mr. Bush said the City will benefit more from the continued use of these vehicles in other departments. That is the City's policy. Chief Dolinski will be able to use the cars these vehicles will replace as trade-ins towards a new evidence van. The van is not in this year's budget. Mayor Smith suggested they work with the Chief on a payment schedule, so they can include it in this year's budget. Mr. Bush said the Chief has been good about holding his budget expenses down, and he feels they can amend the budget to include the evidence van. Automatically they will budget the remaining balance next year. The best use of these surplus vehicles is to utilize them in other departments. Chief Dolinski needs to come see him about amending his budget to include time payments on a new evidence van, which he can do. The Commission can approve an amendment to the budget. In answer to Commissioner Norwood's question, Mr. Bush said the bookkeeping procedure is to show a transfer of the vehicle from the PD's inventory to another department's inventory. There being no

further discussion, the motion passed unopposed. Mr. Bush said the Commission usually amends the budget at the end of the year. Items like this, that are non-budgeted, should get prior approval from the Commission. He will bring it back when they obtain a firm price on a vehicle.

#### COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Brown said the Riverboat Committee is selling T-shirts for \$12.00 each.

Commissioner Brown said the Farmers' Market will open on March 23 and 24. It will be located at the 100 Block until they have to move. For information, contact Jeff Norton. The Commission is invited to the opening day ceremony on March 23 at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioner Brown said she has been talking to Mr. Theobald at Beasley Middle School about taking some 45 students to Tallahassee for Legislative Action Day. The League of Cities will help to put together a package for a school tour. If anyone would like to be 'shadowed', please let her know and she will get them a package. The League will take some pictures and put them in their monthly magazine.

Commissioner Azula said former Mayor Punk Walker was featured in an Eckerd Drug Store publication as having received a commendation. He would like for the Commission put together a proclamation honoring him. Commissioner Brown said they should give him a plaque; he was Mayor for 19-1/2 years.

Commissioner Azula said he would like to give a Community Service Award to Beck Chrysler. They have a nice new addition, which looks very good for the City. Carl Beck is very active through donations for the Fire Department and the Explorers, as well as other charitable contributions.

Commissioner Norwood said they should have a ceremony for former Mayor Walker, who deserves the same type treatment they gave to Congresswoman Brown. He volunteered to work with Commissioner Azula on some type of ceremony to honor him and his accomplishments for the City.

Mayor Smith reminded everyone of the Azalea Festival/Mayor's Reception at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow at the Bronson-Mulholland House. Also, the City's March of Dimes Fundraiser Breakfast is at Golden Corral tomorrow, beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Mayor Smith welcomed Adam Mengel back from his trip to India. Mr. Mengel said it is good to be home, and presented the Commission with gifts he brought back from India.

Mr. Bush said he has had a request from a company requesting to tie up dock a replica of the Nina, one of Christopher Columbus' ships, at the City Dock for seven days during the last week in April. They charge admission to visit the ship, and will pay a docking fee.

Mr. Bush said the Golf Course wants to replace all 19 of their greens, re-do the cart barn and pay-off and renovate the clubhouse, among other improvements, and would like to borrow \$500,000 to do so. They feel these improvements will attract more play and increase their revenues. The greens have not been re-done in more than 20 years and are in bad shape. When they consolidate their debt and pay off the clubhouse, they will actually have smaller payments each year. They can get a better rate going with a local bank than they can through a League bond issue. At the same time, there are a number of roads in town that badly need repair and paving, and the City would like to borrow an additional \$500,000 to address the City's priority list of streets to be paved. The Commission can look at the list and give priority to whatever roads they choose. Commissioner Brown said the people living on Eagle and 20<sup>th</sup> Streets have been waiting a long time for paving. Mayor Smith said they should share the road improvements all over the City. Every section of the City has their bad streets. Mr. Bush said some of the heaviest traveled are quickly going down; St. Johns Avenue has been mentioned.

Mr. Bush said the Golf Course has let their landscape maintenance company go, and has essentially hired the existing crew to maintain the golf course. They have eliminated the 'middle man' and hope this will save some money and improve service. The

Commission will hear from the Golf Department next report. In the meantime, they took bids on the greens replacement and received a low bid from Southeastern Golf Course Consulting for \$104,000. They would like permission to award the bid and proceed with the work in May; it will take approximately 45 days to complete. The loan should be in place by then. Commissioner Edwards moved to award the bid to Southeastern Golf Course for \$104,000 for replacement of 19 greens at the Municipal Golf Course. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

Ms. Driggers said the NEFLC meeting will be in Starke on the 16<sup>th</sup>, next Thursday, and she needs to RSVP reservations for the meeting tomorrow.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR