

Proceedings of a special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2002.

PRESENT:	Mayor	Karl N. Flagg
	Commissioner	Mary Lawson Brown
	Commissioner	Hernan Azula
	Commissioner	James Norwood, Jr.

Also Present: Commissioner-elect George Sanders, City Manager Allen R. Bush, City Attorney Donald E. Holmes, City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers, Finance Director Ruby Williams, Police Chief Gary Getchell, Fire Captain Randy Porter, Planning Director Adam Mengel, Accounting Clerk Holly Harris.

INVOCATION – The Reverend Frederick Demps, Pastor; Calvary Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Reverend Charlie Rabun

INTRODUCTIONS – Mayor Flagg introduced former Mayor and Putnam Co. Clerk of Court Tim Smith, Former Commissioner Kenny Downs, BOCC Chairman Brad Purcell, Property Appraiser Larry Pritchett, School Board Member Dothea Smith, Clint Snyder, and various ministers from the community. Mr. Bush introduced City Attorney Don Holmes Holmes, City Clerk Betsy Driggers, Finance Director Ruby Williams, Police Chief Gary Getchell, Parks Supt. Jeff Norton, Accounts Clerk Holly Harris, Fire Captain Randy Porter, Cemeteries Superintendent Larry Hartman, Planning Director Adam Mengel, Fire Marshall John Holley and Main Street Manager Debbie Banks.

Mayor Flagg introduced his wife, Terry, his daughters Karla and Kandyce, brother and two sisters, and mother-in-law.

INSTALLATION CEREMONY – Mayor Flagg introduced Judge Edward E. Hedstrom. Judge Hedstrom said tonight he has the privilege of administering the oath of office to three commissioners whom he formerly work for, and this is such a rare occasion, he does not believe any other judge in the State of Florida can claim to have done the same. He reminded the Commission they have a commission-manager form of government, and they can only act upon a majority vote at a duly constituted meeting. That process requires them to all work together for the common good of the citizens of Palatka. Differing points of view are healthy and democratic, but they can work towards a consensus. He has every reason to believe the spirit of cooperation and consensus building practiced by prior commissions will continue into the future, and that the City of Palatka is in good hands.

Judge Hedstrom invited Mayor Karl Flagg to come forward and be sworn in. Mayor Flagg asked his wife Terri, daughters Karla & Kandyce, and brother & sister to join him. Judge Hedstrom then administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Flagg.

Judge Hedstrom invited Commissioner Hernan Azula to come forward and be sworn in. Commissioner Azula asked his wife Lyn, son Adam, and sister-in-law to join him. Judge Hedstrom then administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Azula.

Judge Hedstrom invited Commissioner-elect George Sanders to come forward and be sworn in. Commissioner Sanders invited Gary Woods, Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, and Rev. Charlie Rabun to join him. Judge Hedstrom then administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Sanders. Mayor Flagg then invited Commissioner Sanders to take his seat at the Commission dais.

REMARKS – Commissioner Sanders thanked the voters for putting him back on the City Commission. He believes he did a good job in that position for ten years, and he is anxious to get back to work.

Commissioner Azula welcomed Commissioner Sanders, and thanked the citizens for their vote of confidence in him by allowing him to keep his seat unopposed. He had four good years with few difficulties, which they were able to overcome. They all work dilligently

to make sure they represent the citizens properly, and work hard to reach a consensus on the issues. He is glad to see so many department supervisors in attendance tonight, and hopes they will continue to attend regular commission meetings, and will also encourage their employees to attend meetings. They need more input from the employees and citizens. Together they can make Palatka one of the nicest places to live in Florida.

Mayor Flagg gave credit to the Lord Jesus Christ for all he is and continues to be. It is an honor and privilege for him to continue to serve as Mayor of Palatka. He thanked his family for supporting him, and thanked everyone in attendance for their trust, presence and support as well. He hopes to make Palatka the AAA City of Florida. They must work together to improve the quality of life for its citizens.

**MUSICAL TRIBUTE** – The Reverend Timothy F. Robinson performed a patriotic saxophone solo.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Mayor Flagg extended birthday wishes to Vice Mayor Brown and Chief Getchell, who both have birthdays today, and presented them with birthday cards on behalf of the City.

Mayor Flagg presented Judge Hedstrom with a Key to the City, on behalf of the Commission and the citizens of Palatka. Judge Hedstrom said as he drove across the bridge tonight on his way to this ceremony, it reminded him of all the times he drove across the bridge at this same time of evening to attend commission meetings during all the many years he served as the Palatka City Attorney.

Mayor Flagg acknowledged the presence of many parishioners from Mt. Tabor First Baptist Church, saying he could not do all that he does without their support.

Mayor Flagg asked everyone to join the Commission for refreshments immediately following adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Norwood.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR