

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Palatka, Florida, held on the 25th day of September, 2003.

PRESENT: Mayor Karl N. Flagg  
 Commissioner Hernan Azula  
 Commissioner James Norwood, Jr.  
 Commissioner George E. Sanders

ABSENT: Commissioner Mary Lawson Brown

Also Present: City Manager Allen R. Bush; City Attorney Donald E. Holmes; City Clerk Betsy Jordan Driggers; Police Chief Gary Getchell, Fire Chief Ken Venables, Planning Director Adam Mengel, Water & Sewer Supt. Rhett McCamey, Airport Manager Mike Cavello, Sanitation Supt. Ed Chandler, WWTP Supt. Platt Drew, Parks Supt. Jeff Norton, Main Street Manager Cathy Nagengast.

INVOCATION - Fire Chief Ken Venables

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Carl Dennard

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 9/11/03 - Commissioner Azula moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOGNITION: Mayor Flagg read a commendation into the minutes recognizing the work of the Safety Committee. Members present: Allen Bush, Ken Venables, Betsy Driggers, Adam Mengel, Mike Cavello, Ed Chandler, Platt Drew, Jeff Norton.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD - Mayor Flagg presented a Distinguished Service Award to Carl Dennard in recognition of his service on the General Pension Board.

PROCLAMATION - Mayor Flagg read a proclamation proclaiming the week of October 5 - 11, 2003 as Fire Prevention Week. Fire Chief Ken Venables accepted the proclamation.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH - Vice Mayor Brown joined Mayor Flagg in presenting certificates to the following students for academic excellence, leadership, citizenship and attendance:

Samantha Reyes	Beasley Middle School
Heather Piccalo	Browning Pearce Elementary School
Frankhiri Shorter	Central Academy School of Excellence
Ansley Hall, IV	E. H. Miller School
Brianna Mellon	James A. Long Elementary
Kaitlyn Mast	Jenkins Middle School
Katelynn Smith	Kelley Smith Elementary School
Ernie D. Silcox	Mellon Elementary School
Alexis Bivins	Moseley Elementary
Cody Alford	Palatka High School
Noah Fegter	Peniel Baptist Academy
Kyle Coleman	River Breeze Elementary School
Jesse Holtz	Children's Reading Center Charter School

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Authorize contract with Palatka Daily News for display advertising rates eff. 10/1/03 - 9/30/04.
- b. Authorize execution of contract with Ayers & Associates as lowest & best bidder on Phase II Environmental Audit on CSX Properties, per City Manager's recommendation.

- c. Authorize execution of contract with Armstrong Contracting Services, Inc. for Restoration of Old Palatka Water Works, Phase II, per Bid Result recommendation of Robert E. Taylor, Architect
- d. Authorize execution of contract with EDSA for development of a Riverfront Master Plan, per Master Plan Selection Committee's recommendation.
- e. Approve Final Budget Amendments - per recommendation; Finance Director Ruby Williams

Commissioner Azula moved to adopt the consent agenda as recommended. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed

PUBLIC HEARING - 2003/04 TRIM Calendar – Mr. Bush noted the proposed millage rate was set at 8.0, which is 5.94% above the rolled-back rate. The budget has been on display for the public in the Clerk's office during the interim leading up to this meeting.

LEVY ORDINANCE No.03-20 - the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2003 TO RAISE THE NECESSARY REVENUE TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2003-04. Commissioner Sanders moved to pass the ordinance on second reading for adoption. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. There were no further comments. A roll-call vote yielded the following results: Commissioners Azula, Norwood, Sanders and Mayor Flagg, yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE No.03-21 - the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE MAKING AN APPROPRIATION OF MONIES FOR THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF PALATKA FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE SEVERAL GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY, AND FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE SEVERAL SINKING FUNDS OF THE CITY TO PAY INTEREST ON AND PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF THE OUTSTANDING BONDS AND OTHER FIXED OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY, AND FOR PALATKA GAS AUTHORITY, FOR AND DURING THE FISCAL YEAR A.D. 2003-04. Commissioner Norwood moved to pass the ordinance on 2nd reading for adoption. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken which yielded the following results: Commissioners Azula, Norwood, Sanders and Mayor Flagg, yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted. Mayor Flagg closed the public hearing.

LIFT STATION AT 3424 ST. JOHNS AVENUE - Demand for cost reimbursement - Mark Stanton, owner, presented a Letter of Demand for costs incident to his lift station, which he read into record (filed). Mr. Bush also read a memo answering this demand into the record (filed) in which he states the City's position denying liability for the cost of the installation and operation of Mr. Stanton's lift station at his business. Mr. Stanton stated his contractor & subcontractor both recalled that the City came out and showed them where to connect. He initiated annexation procedures at the time he was building. City B&Z took up his application at that point. He feels the City by virtue of the ignorance of the Water & Sewer Department not knowing the tap was there has injured him. Mayor Flagg asked what responsibility does Mr. Stanton's engineer have? Mr. Stanton answered he has no recollection of Engineering. Mr. Bush read into record Ed Huntsberger's letter (filed). Mr. Stanton read Mr. McNab's (contractor) letter into record (filed), which contradicts Mr. Huntsberger's letter. Mr. Bush stated if the plans had been reviewed by W&S, they would have known it was there. There is a question if anyone from W&S actually went to the site. Mr. Stanton stated he feels the City is responsible. He annexed in order to tie into the system. Per the question, Mr. Bush said he could not have tied in without starting the annexation process. This was considered a private lateral serving a single business; those lines do not show up on the City's maps. In this (Downs) instance, Mr. McCamey went out and hunted it up. Mayor Flagg said someone from the City was responsible for going out to this site and discussing this with the owner and contractor. Obviously someone was there who discussed the tie-in at Holden Road and lift station. He asked Mr. McCamey who decides these things. Mr. Bush stated if the contractor looked at a utility map he can see the tie-in at Holden Road. Mr. Garrett, who was the supervisor at the time, did not even know the contractor was tied into the sewer system. Our person may not have been there at all.

Rhett McCamey, Water & Sewer Distr. Supt., said on houses the superintendent would choose where to make the tap-in. There is no paper trail on this particular connection, and no evidence that this was even inspected by the City. If the superintendent had known about it they would have inspected it.

Adam Mengel, Planning Director - said, per the question, typically they would be involved if it was already in the City Limits. According to Mr. Huntsberger's letter, the request was for fees only. There was no review at the City's level, and no permitting done by the City. He only looked at the plans for plumbing requirements to determine the size of the required water & sewer connection. Mayor Flagg asked Mr. Bush, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Stanton, as well as Mr. McNab, Mr. Mengel, Mr. McCamey, and someone from County B&Z with their files, to reconstruct the circumstances surrounding the permitting. The City would like to seek a peaceful resolution to this matter. Mr. Bush said they can all sit down and rehash the issue, but most of this is a he-said/she-said situation. The City's position is if it was permitted, the contractor decided the tie-in. The best obvious place to tie in was Holden Road, according to published maps. Commissioner Norwood asked if the City is inspecting lines for unauthorized tie-ins, and what the trigger mechanism is to get the tap on record. Mr. Bush said the process that should have taken place is that Mr. Stanton would have paid the proper impact fees and his contractor would have made the tap. Mayor Flagg stated then there is no way the City did not know he tapped into the sewer, as he paid the tap-in fees. There needs to be a process involved where there is better communication between County and City on instances like this, especially where enclaves are involved. They need to come to some resolution.

Commissioner Norwood moved to remand this item to the mediation meeting proposed by Mayor Flagg; make-up previously established. Mr. Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

APPOINTMENTS - Board of Zoning appeals - The Clerk noted that all applicants were interviewed at the previous meeting. Commissioner Norwood moved to appoint George Chester, Jr. to the at-large position with BZOA for a five-year term. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

APPOINTMENTS - Code Enforcement Board - The Clerk noted that all applicants were interviewed at the previous meeting. Commissioner Norwood moved to appoint Nancy Jones to the Real Estate/Ins Representative position for a 3-year term. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Commissioner Sanders moved to appoint Kenny Downs to the contractor representative's position for a 3-year term. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Commissioner Norwood moved to appoint Allegra Kitchens to the at-large position for a 3-year term. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Commissioner Azula moved to appoint LaSandra Williams as Alternate #1 for a three-year term. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Commissioner Azula moved to appoint Robert Svetlik as Alternate #2 for a 3-year term. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed.

ORDINANCE - Adding the Mayor & Commissioners to Step-In-Grade Plan - the Clerk read an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 2-32 TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE THE POSITIONS OF MAYOR AND COMMISSION IN THE CITY OF PALATKA STEP IN GRADE SALARY PLAN, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION ON 4/1/86; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Sanders moved to pass the ordinance on 2nd reading for adoption. Commissioner Azula seconded the motion. A roll-call vote yielded the following results: Commissioners Azula, Norwood, Sanders and Mayor Flagg - yes; Nays, none. The ordinance was declared adopted.

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD REPORT- Gene Caputo, Chairman & Jud Neufeld, Member. Mr. Caputo said this year their focus was the draft of the Airport Master Plan Update as it relates to action plans for the airport. AAB suggested additional activities in addition to those in draft recommendation. They chose not to evaluate, criticize or

prioritize the suggestions, but they did categorize the actions into short term, intermediate and long-term goals. Written presentation filed. They are preparing a memorandum of understanding to present to the City and Putnam County BOCC proposing an Interlocal Agreement on the Zoning Diagram.

Bob Barnhart, HTA, Airport Engineers, said he has been working with Mike Cavello on draft and zoning ordinances and has received input from both the Commission and AAB on the Draft Airport Master Plan. Mr. Caputo said the most important action is to finalize the master plan, and get it adopted. Per the question, Mr. Barnhart said they should be able to finalize it in time for the last meeting in October (10/23).

**PROPOSED ALCOHOL ORDINANCE - Request for directive -** Chief Getchell said this relates to calls they receive on alcohol related emergencies. They receive many complaints from citizens as well as businesses. He presented a written recommendation (filed). There is a need for local legislation to curb alcohol related crimes, which he listed. Crimes include prostitution, vandalism, burglary, criminal mischief, public urination, public exposure of sexual organs, open containers, open-air drug markets, assaults, and when arrests are made few are prosecuted. There has been a lack of attention to certain quality of life issues. The PD has started paying attention to these issues, and the numbers are coming down. Vacant buildings with broken windows cause neighborhoods to decline; a good example is the Florida Furniture building. They need to enforce trash laws and codes. The more hours alcohol is sold and the more locations selling it, the more crime a community experiences. People + Booze, over time, = problems, and the problems compound with time. He has seen too many people ruin careers and lives over alcohol. Research indicates that Downtown Palatka will not be revitalized until they scrutinize the alcohol ordinances. The more alcohol outlets you have, the more you get, and the secondary businesses thrive, such as t-shirt shops, tourist traps. He is not sure that this is what they want. They need to look at density issues as it relates to alcohol. On St. Johns Avenue, every single building can be an alcohol outlet, due to the way the ordinance is written. He is somewhat confused about churches -- with so many churches, they have too many social issues. Alcohol outlets are the single factor that drives assault rates up. There is also a higher rate of alcohol-related auto accidents, which is related directly to the number of alcohol establishments in the area. The more licensed liquor establishments, the more people are liable to drink. The lower the price of the alcohol, the more people drink. Many communities have outlawed specials, such as ladies' night. It also contributes to underage drinking. The majority of the business owners in the community have been willing to work with them, especially Peabody's and Spurs. If all businesses were run correctly, they would never have to see the police. Packet items were discussed; i.e. various studies, similarly situated community comparisons. Chief Getchell stated Palatka has the most lenient alcohol ordinance of any city in NE Florida. Compared to the big party towns, Palatka's ordinance is still more lenient. In surrounding counties the average sales stopping time is 2:00 a.m., and there are restrictions for sales on Sunday. Restaurants are exempt from Palatka's ordinance, which allows them to serve beer & wine around the clock. Tonight he is here to talk about what Palatka is doing that it could be doing better.

Chief Getchell said based on Mr. Holmes' research, Palatka can revise its ordinance. He outlined recommendations on hours of sales, distance limitations, high-risk activities. He would like direction from the City Commission as to whether or not to proceed, and if so, what the next step will be. This is not about responding to calls for service; this is about alcohol and how it relates to crime. Unless something is done, Palatka is heading for a catastrophic event. He has made his recommendations. The Commission can look at the current ordinance and change it. They can wait to finish the study, or act now, or within the next few weeks, to address hours of sale and loopholes. Per the question, Chief Getchell said he can't say why arrests are not being prosecuted. He offered a paid position to State Attorney to prosecute cases on behalf of the City, but was turned down.

Edward LaFountain, Owner, Club 714, said when he opened, the City & County knew it would be an after hours establishment. With any nightclub situation, you will run into problems with the public. People at baseball games who have been drinking get into fights, but the violator is prosecuted, not the team owner. He has had people arrested in his establishment and has filed charges against them. When he closes each morning, his staff polices the entire block for trash. He has never been issued a noise complaint

citation nor has he been told of nuisance complaints. If complaints are on file, he would like to see them. He will do whatever is necessary to help the PD do their job. He has even called and reported public drinking. He does not close until 7:00 a.m. If people come in too intoxicated to drink more or drive, he has fed them coffee & breakfast until they are sober enough to drive. He cannot stop people from driving away and throwing bottles out of their vehicles.

Dana Appleby, owner of the gift shop across from Club 714, said she spoke with Mayor Flagg recently about the issue. She does not have a problem with this establishment being there, but has a problem with public safety i.e. broken bottles and blood. Since Sept. 11 through 22, she has picked up broken bottles in front of her store and stores adjacent to hers nearly every day. She has had to clean up blood. Many people have told her that people urinate on her storefront. Sept. 13 was her first incident with blood. Two days later she couldn't open until she cleaned up the blood. Two days later, she there was more blood and the SO informed her there had been a fight in front of her store that weekend and that was why blood was on her door and windows. She had to close to scrub and scrape the blood off her windows. She had to hire someone to finish the job. The bar needs to be more responsible. They need to be more understanding of people who live and work in the area. Blood is a dangerous issue. She loses business when she is closed to clean up blood. She has tried to speak to the owner about this, and he got somewhat cocky with her about it. All she wanted was some help cleaning it up, but he did not care. The fights, beer bottles, blood on the streets needs to stop. Kids ride bicycles and walk by barefooted.

James Appleby, 713 St. Johns Avenue, said when Club 714 was opened, everyone was told it was going to be a Bingo Hall. No Bingo was ever played there, but this is what they were lead to believe. The public had no say-so, and they can live with the bar, but they would appreciate some respect for their business & building. He has picked up bottles every day for six weeks.

Clem Saccareccia, owner, Peabody's/Steamboats, 311 St. Johns Avenue, said they have been through this before. Her business is open until 2:00 a.m. on weeknights and 4:00 a.m. on weekends. Many of the late night people just come in and drink water. She takes offense that all that this crime is being related to alcohol. There are lots of drug issues in this city.

Gregory L. Payne, 1503 Eagle Street Apt. 154B, bouncer Club 714, said he has been in the business for 15 years. He sees what goes on. He has worked at clubs that stay open 24/7. They have three doormen (bouncers) on duty. They check IDs. If someone is too drunk, they cut him or her off. People can sit and relax until they close, and sober up. They have had some incidents, and he has issued trespass warnings against the violators. They are not supposed to go off the property to break up fights, but they do. They hold the offenders until the police come. On many occasions the police just let them go and drive home. They say the judge just lets people go, but the police are just as bad. He has never seen blood spilled outside the bar. He is the head doorman and checks the streets both ways. They do not permit loitering. He calls the police to report loiterers. If there were fights outside he would know it. He is always the last bouncer to leave. He polices the area for trash. If the bottle was thrown there outside of bar hours, he cannot help that. Commissioner Azula said at this time Chief Getchell is searching for direction to enforce an ordinance that is not enforceable. He suggests they give the chief direction to finish the ordinance. He has been in most of the establishments, and the rules are not the same in the establishments. Citizens deserve some respect. He suggests giving Chief Getchell time to prepare an enforceable ordinance. Hours of operation are important. Some bars stay open until 6:00 a.m., some until 2:00 a.m. They don't need to listen to a lot of he said/she said. They can take public input on an ordinance when it comes up for a reading. Mayor Flagg said there will be no official action tonight. The Commission is not declaring people a nuisance and stopping them from running their business. There is an issue that needs to be addressed. Their purpose tonight is to give directives to the Chief, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Bush to allow people to do business that also protects the rights of the citizens. Time certain set for a public hearing on a proposed draft relative to hours of sale and restrictions. They need to address the entire ordinance and fix the loopholes. The Commission has a responsibility to strike a balance between establishments and citizens. Commissioner Sanders said he would like to see some

prosecution of people who are arrested but not prosecuted, and would like Mr. Holmes to check into that. Mayor Flagg said the States Attorney is responsible for prosecuting cases; they can make a request for that information. Mr. Bush can write them a letter and the reply can be disseminated. Mr. Holmes said he can't provide much insight into why cases aren't prosecuted. He can try, but can say these decisions are based on the merits of the individual cases. Chief Getchell said if their focus group had to take a vote today, there is no question on how that vote would go. He needs to include other community representatives in their group. The process takes longer but they end up with a better product. Not everyone will be happy with the finished product, but the best way is a compromise. He would like to know what the Commission wants them to focus on. Mayor Flagg said to focus on hours of sale and prohibited areas for sales. Chief Getchell said his research shows that the State gives them authority to regulate hours of sale, but there is nothing that gives the City the ability to say that Churches cannot locate within a certain distance from a bar. Mr. Holmes Said this is an area that is not politically popular; it is a separation of church and state; and regulating churches is not necessary to the health, safety and welfare of citizens. Most zoning regulations allow churches in multiple districts. He has seen an increased use of special exceptions to assist in these issues. If you allow a church by special exception into a district, you have to address adverse impact on surrounding properties. There is a possible impact on surrounding property from the perspective of alcohol sales, because new alcohol establishments can't come in within a certain distance, and if an existing establishment is destroyed, it can't rebuild. You cannot establish a 'reverse-beverage zone.' If the church comes second, it is not a violation. The code does not prohibit it. You can't establish an alcohol establishment if the church is there first. Mr. Mengel concurred with Mr. Holmes. Mayor Flagg said if a church comes in second, they cannot complain about the alcohol establishment being there, as they were there first. Mr. Mengel said they have looked heavily at proximity to alcohol service when looking at certain uses. They have not looked at alcohol package sales. Mr. Holmes said if a church wants to establish in certain zones, they are allowed in any instance. You can establish special exceptions where the BZOA can impose exceptions; they can decide to grant it or not. In the South, churches have favored status. You don't see many of those applications rejected at the zoning level. In 16 years he cannot recall one. Mr. Mengel said the analogy to the Adult Oriented Business was a correct one; they had a substantial amount of evidence based on health, safety & welfare in establishing zones for those businesses and distance requirements. Distance requirements are a valid basis to make changes, and they are willing to look at support from a planning aspect. Mayor Flagg directed the Chief to Focus on hours of sale, hours of sale for New Year's Eve, and distances for points of sale. They can advertise a meeting and hold it at the best location. This is not an "us vs. them" situation. The Commission is not against bar owners. Chief Getchell said they calendared a focus meeting at Price Martin two weeks from now, but they can schedule it for 30 days hence at Price-Martin Center. They can invite the public at large to be involved. This will be facilitated by the PD. He is considering bringing someone in from outside to facilitate. Mayor Flagg said the commission will not attend that meeting nor will they comment until the recommendation comes before them.

R.T. Kohuth, 1949 Loving Road, Morganton, GA, said they have made it clear that they can't resolve anything tonight, but the Chief is still talking. The best thing they did was hire the Chief. Some of his statistics are skewed. The City will kill the Main Street program if they do this. As to revitalizing downtown, there are only 3 late-night clubs in the community - Steamboats, Club 714 and Vicks. He is involved with two of them; he holds the mortgage on Steamboats and rents the facility to Club 714. Steamboat's profit is not in food. If they roll back the hours, the City will put her out of business. There are many families that are employed by these businesses. 500 - 700 people go through Vick's on any weekend night and many of them don't drink. They fill up motels and hotels because people who come back to town need a place to meet their friends. Vick's keeps all the motels full all weekend. If the bars close early, he will go out of business. Other sales establishments will suffer. If these businesses go out of business he will end up with unrentable buildings, and if that happens, he will donate them to 5013(c) businesses. He threatened to do this 3 years ago; when he did it then, 13 ministers showed up and wanted the building Club 714 was in. Nine of those ministers are now opposed to his business. If people purchase beer from a convenience store, people toss them out their car windows because they don't want to be caught with open containers.

He has not seen bottles on the streets, contrary to Mrs. Appleby's complaint. If he gets these buildings back he is giving them away. They are putting him in a win/win situation; either he gets his rents or gives them away and he gets a tax deduction. They will destroy the downtown unless they allow dining and entertainment. T-shirt shops would be great for the empty buildings. He is trying hard to get the downtown going. Many families will lose their business.

Askew Vickers & Elnora James, his employee, 207 N. 18th Street, Vick's Supper Club, said the City has increased property taxes, but now they have to close early and lose their revenue to pay the taxes. He knows of no murders that are related to the bars around here. The data Chief Getchell has collected is what the Commission will consider. Mayor Flagg said if they were going to base their decision on what Chief Getchell gave them, they would be making a decision tonight. They are giving everyone an opportunity to give input. They can bring whatever data they wish to that meeting. This is not a done deal. Mr. Vickers said he does not know who the community is that wants this. Chief Getchell references complaints from the community, but who are they? He has not heard the complaints. He has public record that says these things haven't happened. Mayor Flagg said Chief Getchell was here to get a directive from the Commission. They are not here to decide the issue tonight. Mr. Vickers said they have all been here before on this same issue. Three establishments are being focused on all the time. There are more drug related crimes than alcohol related crimes. People commit crimes and they get blamed for it. Commissioner Norwood asked Mr. Vickers to make a statement if he is going to make it. He should not attack the Chief or question his data tonight. That is what the public meeting is for. Their decision will be based on the outcome of the focus meeting and the work the committee is doing. Everyone will have an opportunity to participate. Mayor Flagg said the nature of the issue is not whether or not the community wants this; the issue is about hours of sale. They will have adequate time to bring facts and data forward. The reason the Chief gave his stats was to address the Commission, not the audience. This is not the meeting to dispute anyone's stats. That meeting is forthcoming. They can refute the Chief's stats at that meeting. Everyone will receive due process. Commissioner Azula said the Chief has his direction and public meetings will be held. He has what he asked for. The Commission should move on

HOLIDAY MEETING SCHEDULE -- Commissioner Sanders moved to set the Holiday meeting schedule as Nov. 20 & Dec. 11, 2003. Commissioner Norwood seconded the motion, which passed unopposed. Holiday closing dates will be established ahead of time and publicized

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Betsy Driggers, City Clerk said Commissioners Brown and Norwood were reelected without opposition. There is no need for a primary or general election. Commissioner Norwood said he is glad to have an opportunity to serve another four years

City Manager Allen R. Bush read a memorandum on a new meeting format for administrative and commission reports/comments into the record (filed). All topics for discussion under Commissioner Comments as well as Administrative Reports should be listed on the agenda in advance. The New commissioner/administration agenda item forms (filed) can either place topics on the agenda, or allow action to be taken by the Commission. This will allow everyone to prepare for any topic that may be discussed at a meeting. Mayor Flagg said this is for the benefit of all. No one likes to be caught off guard when they are looking for information. Commissioner Azula asked if they as public officials will be called out of order if he brings up something that is not on the agenda. He is a representative of the people and cannot be limited on his speech during a meeting. He usually takes minor questions to Mr. Bush. He does not mind filling out the form, but it will not limit him on what he has to say in a meeting. Mayor Flagg said Commissioner Comments will stay on the agenda, but if they have a particular item they want to discuss it needs to be listed on the agenda. Commissioners can bring their comments under comments, but commissioners don't have to feel as though they have to make comments at every meeting. Commissioner Norwood said he concurs with the new policy and form; Department heads will know if they need to be at the meeting if it is on the agenda. Mr. Bush said this new procedure will help everyone. Anything can be asked, but there may not be an answer until the next meeting. If they need answers at the

meeting, this allows people to get the answers they need. Commissioner Sanders said he is in favor of this procedure. They all have a right to bring up whatever they want to, but sometimes many things come up at the last minute and it creates ill feelings and havoc. This is the right approach.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Mayor Flagg requested a one-page schedule on the EDSA meeting schedule.

Allegra Kitchens, 1027 S. 12th Street, Palatka, said she believes the meeting will go on all day Oct. 1 for committee members only, but the public meeting will take place at Price Martin. Mayor Flagg noted they should never close meetings to the public. Mr. Bush needs to get some clarification on that. Public should be allowed to attend all meetings, whether they have input or not. Ms. Kitchens said she would like a definition of the word "stakeholder."

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. upon a motion by Commissioner Norwood

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR