

MINUTES
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL
February 9, 2010

The Business Meeting of Seminole City Council was held on Tuesday, February 09, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., in City Hall, City Council Chambers, 9199 - 113th Street North, Seminole, Florida.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilor Hester, before providing the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance read a story by Jim Willis titled "How Could You?"

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Councilors John Counts; Thomas Barnhorn; Dan Hester; Vice Mayor Bob Matthews; Patricia Plantamura; City Attorney John Elias; City Manager Frank Edmunds; Mayor James Johnson; and City Clerk Rose Benoit. Councilor Leslie Waters asked to be excused.

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Honored Guests were Ryan Schiebinger-Demuth, Conner Schiebinger-Demuth and Richard Dunn from Boy Scouts Troop 431.

Councilor Barnhorn presented Executive Director Micki Thompson, the National 2-1-1 Day Proclamation. Micki Thompson from the National 2-1-1 Day gave her thanks to the City of Seminole for recognizing February 11 as National 2-1-1 Day. She provided a 2-1-1 Pinellas Snapshot Call Center report for the time period of January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009. Councilor Plantamura asked if 2-1-1 was staffed with bilingual personnel. She was informed by Ms. Thompson that yes it was.

Councilor Hester presented the SPOT Proclamation – A representative from SPOT was not present to accept the proclamation.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT.

Tom Christy, 11224 82nd Avenue, Seminole, FL addressed the council on various issues. One issue is the travel/training expense budget. He would like to see the money put to better use. In his travel through different neighborhoods in the City of Seminole, he noticed some areas in the City that can use some upgrades.

Jim Quinn, 8350 112th Street, Seminole, FL addressed the council regarding an article in the St. Petersburg Times neighborhood section about the City of Seminole's efficient operations. Mr. Quinn stated that he is in agreement with this article. He said that since the City's operation runs efficiently, it allows the Council to do an excellent job.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - BUSINESS MEETING January 26, 2010.

Motion made by Councilor Hester, seconded by Councilor Counts to approve the minutes for January 26, 2010. Councilor Hester requested confirmation that present minutes on hand were the corrected version. City Clerk confirmed that they were.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. CONSIDER A FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 01-2010 ANNEXING A VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11665 – 91ST TERRACE N.

City Clerk Benoit read the Ordinance in its entirety. Motion made by Councilor Barnhorn to consider a first reading of Ordinance No. 01-2010 annexing a voluntary annexation of property located at 11665 – 91st Terrace N., seconded by Councilor Counts.

Roll Call

Councilor Plantamura	AYE
Vice Mayor Matthews	AYE
Councilor Hester	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Counts	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CONDUCT A FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 02-2010 REGARDING FISCAL YEAR 2009 ENCUMBRANCES.

City Clerk Benoit read the Ordinance in its entirety. Vice Mayor Matthews moved to conduct a first reading of Ordinance No. 02-2010 regarding fiscal year 2009 encumbrances, seconded by Councilor Counts.

Discussion: City Manager Frank Edmunds explained that this process is done every year in order to establish an encumbrance for project expenditures committed in the prior fiscal year that won't be completed until a later date. The majority of the appropriation is for the construction of the Public Works/EOC facility. The remaining are general incidental to our operating cost that needs to be done in order to close out one fiscal year and move on to the next.

Roll Call

Councilor Plantamura	AYE
Vice Mayor Matthews	AYE
Councilor Hester	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Counts	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOL AT THE SEMINOLE ROUND-UP KICKOFF DINNER EVENT SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH AT THE 2010 POW WOW FESTIVAL.

Councilor Hester moved to consider authorization of the sale of alcohol at the Seminole Round-Up Kickoff dinner event scheduled for Saturday, March 6th at the 2010 Pow Wow Festival, seconded by Councilor Counts.

MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Plantamura stated that she attended St. Petersburg College's tree planting activities. She also acknowledged Dr. Olliver and Landscaping Department Project personnel for their team efforts. She extended her thanks to Mayor Johnson for providing her with a ticket to attend the Appreciation Dinner for Law Enforcement, Firefighters, EMS personnel and the Crisis Intervention Team and Councilor Barnhorn for providing her the registration to attend the National League of Cities Workshop. She also mentioned "Hands Across the Sand" event scheduled for Saturday, February 13th at 1:00 pm on the Gulf beaches.

Vice Mayor Matthews attended the National League of Cities Workshop seminar held January 28th, 29th and 30th. He brought back material presented by national economist and professionals that are familiar with our economy and are following it through the recession. They provided ideas on how to manage the city through the storm, managing city business, how to use city funds and get the community involvement through volunteering.

Councilor Hester – no report.

Councilor Barnhorn attended the "Fit for 50" event, where he took part in the diabetic screening. The event was well attended and gave credit to the staff. He also attended the "National League of Cities Workshop" – Leading through an Economic Storm-Navigating a New Normal in Local Government Workshop, the Shen Yun -2010 World Tour presentation and the Greek community festival. Councilor Barnhorn also mentioned a National Fire Awareness Week newsletter that was distributed by the Fire Department. If residents would like a copy they will need to contact Alison Shanabrook with the Fire Department at 393-8711.

Councilor Counts – no report.

Mayor Johnson attended the monthly Mayoral meeting. The main topic was rapid transportation. Once he receives the minutes, he will distribute to council. He also attended the PARC – Mardi Gras Celebration, tutored nurses who will be receiving their RN degree and are required to meet with city officials and learn about the city there will be supporting and MC a Women's Fashion show which raises money for scholarships.

7. CITY MANAGER REPORTS.

Deputy Borland gave her report on the Vehicle Burglary Prevention program. This is a proactive approach to educate the public and reduce the amount of burglaries that are occurring. The City of Seminole, unincorporated Seminole as well as areas in Palm Harbor are the test areas for this program. This program deploys deputies assigned to the midnight shift into neighborhoods checking for unlocked vehicles. If unlocked, a brochure is left in resident's car and then deputy secures the vehicle by locking it. Councilor Plantamura asked about the legality of the program.

Councilor Hester asked about the effectiveness of the program and how it was going. Deputy Borland stated that since January 20th, approximately 1200 brochures were left in vehicles.

City Manager mentioned that the temporary traffic light installed on Park Street and Burning Tree is installed and soon will be functioning if not functioning already.

City Manager Edmunds reminded Council about the Public Works/EOC building site visit this Saturday, February 20th. He said that both buildings are under construction but, that it is a great opportunity to see them at various stages of construction. Meeting location will be at the construction floor at 9:30 am.

Councilor Plantamura asked for an estimation of completion date for the Public Works/EOC buildings. City Manager Edmunds stated that final completion is scheduled for July but that the contractor indicated that it should be in completion before July. City Manager Edmunds is optimistic that both facilities will be available for occupancy before the beginning of hurricane season.

City Manager Edmunds informed Council that the City received recognition as a Patriotic Employer from the National Committee for employer support of the Guard and Reserve. This is in recognition of the City's HR practices to support those employees that are members of the National Guard and reserve units.

During budget process, City Manager Edmunds stated that he suggested that the Administrative Assistant position assigned to his office be reduced to 32 hours. He would like Council to know that has not been possible. A 40 hour schedule has been maintained and he expects a 40 hour schedule be continued for the balance of this fiscal year.

Councilor Hester inquired if the position should be full time immediately? City Manager Edmund noted he would appreciate if council would support his request to make the position full time immediately. Councilor Hester asked other council members to express their opinions or concerns?

Councilor Plantamura expressed concerns on hiring expenditures. She stated that if the Charter is changed on the March ballot, the City Clerk will be able to provide more support to the City Manager. Councilor Hester added that the potential change in the Charter had nothing to do with the workflow and the Charter change only deals with the City Clerk's hiring procedure and supervision.

Councilor Barnhorn stated that the pending Charter amendment removing the City Clerk position from a charter position to an employee position still has job functions that the Clerk has to maintain.

Vice Mayor Matthews stated that at one time there were two and half individuals working between staff and the clerk. Now it is operating with one clerk working full time and a part-timer. He reminded everyone that the salary for the City Clerk position was reduced. Vice Mayor Matthews also supports City Manager Edmund's request.

Motion made by Councilor Hester to approve the current part time position of Administrative Assistant to a full time position effective immediately, seconded by Councilor Barnhorn.

Roll Call

Councilor Plantamura	NAY
Vice Mayor Matthews	AYE
Councilor Hester	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Counts	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

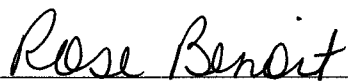
Councilor Plantamura spoke of a discussion that resident Tom Christy and she had recently. Councilor Plantamura spoke to a Seminole family living near Old City Hall about a ditch. The ditch is located just south of the water tower on the southwest corner of that intersection, across the street from the water tower. The resident's concern is of an open culvert that when it rains, the flow of water could pull a small child into the culvert. The resident cautioned that the City should place something to keep a dog or a person from being pulled into this culvert. Councilor Plantamura inquired if a grid could be placed over this culvert and if is a need to look at other potential areas such as this one. She stated that it was incumbent upon her to mention because of the possibility of something happening. City Manager Edmunds agreed to look into this situation.

She also mentioned that residents are concerned about the use of trucks carrying city water to water plants in the medians and suggested the possibility of a water sprinkler irrigation system and cost. City Manager Edmunds agreed to look into it and stated that the city does not have access to reclaimed water directly to the medians.

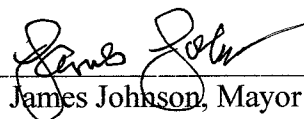
10. **CONSIDER A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion made by Councilor Hester, seconded by Councilor Counts to adjourn the meeting.

Date Approved: 2/23/10



Minutes prepared by Rose Benoit


James Johnson, Mayor