

**BUSINESS MINUTES
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL
August 10, 2010**

The Business Meeting of Seminole City Council was held on Tuesday, August 10, 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 Quinn provided the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Councilor Bob Matthews; Vice Mayor Leslie Waters; Councilor Thomas Barnhorn; Councilor Patricia Plantamura; Councilor Jim Quinn; Mayor James Johnson; City Attorney John Elias; City Manager Frank Edmunds and City Clerk Rose Benoit. Councilor John Counts was excused.

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Johnson presented Councilor Quinn a Certificate for the completion of eighteen hours of instruction at the Institute of Elected Municipal Officials.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Bob Lasher, Community Relations Manager from Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, 3201 Scherer Drive, St. Petersburg, FL spoke of proposed fare increases. Mr. Lasher stated that the lowest producing runs will be eliminated. Route 58 will be changed to a commuter route. More information may be found on the PSTA website: www.psta.net.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - BUSINESS MEETING JULY 27, 2010, WORKSHOP MEETING JULY 27, 2010.

Motion made by Councilor Quinn, seconded by Vice Mayor Waters to approve the business minutes for July 27, 2010.

Roll Call	
Councilor Matthews	AYE
Vice Mayor Waters	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Plantamura	AYE
Councilor Quinn	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion made by Councilor Barnhorn, seconded by Councilor Quinn to approve the workshop minutes for July 27, 2010.

Roll Call

Councilor Matthews	AYE
Vice Mayor Waters	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Plantamura	AYE
Councilor Quinn	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. CONSIDER AN EXTENSION TO THE CITY MANAGER'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT.

Motion made by Councilor Waters, seconded by Councilor Matthews to approve an amendment to the City Manager's employment agreement providing for a three year extension to the agreement with a new expiration date of July 31, 2016.

Discussion: Councilor Plantamura stated that three years still remain on the City Manager's contract therefore; she did not understand the hurry in extending the City Manager's contract to 2016. She mentioned that Manager Edmunds said that he did not ask for the extension. She believes that this action would tie the hands of future council members. She said she wanted the viewing public to understand her rationale behind her vote. Councilor Plantamura ask that great care be taken in considering the details in the City manager's contract just as the care taken in considering the details in the firefighter's contract. She spoke of former Councilor Dan Hester's remarks that council needed to revise the previous contract to meet present standards. She requested that this amendment be held and discussed in details at a future date.

Councilor Quinn stated that he had no problem in extending the contract and that every contract has a bail out clause for both parties. He said that if there is a problem with Mr. Edmunds in the future, Council does have the opportunity to end the contract. He believes Mr. Edmunds has the same right if he chooses to leave the City. He said that the reason the City wants to "lock him in" is because someone like Mr. Edmunds are far and few. The job that he has done along with his staff of dropping the mil rate for three consecutive years and consistently managing a balance budget is a good enough reason for him to approve the extension offer.

Vice Mayor Waters reminded Council that almost everything done from the Dias, approval of expenditures, approval of the budgets, approving contracts were items approved by former Council members. She stated that approvals done now will be discussed by future Councilors. She stated she did not have a problem extending the contract. She asked for this issue to be put to rest and continue moving forward in discussing other important issues.

Councilor Barnhorn stated that he agrees with 95% of tonight's comments. He stated that he believes that Council performed their fiduciary responsibility. He believes this is a win-win for the City and the City Manager. He stated that with the additional amendment regarding a change in staff or the budget, the City has the option to renegotiate the City Manager's salary.

Councilor Matthews stated that he has enjoyed working with Mr. Edmunds and that he was part of the Council that hired Mr. Edmunds. He stated that Mr. Edmunds performance for the last 15 years has always been exemplary. Mr. Edmunds during his first year with the City managed the merger of the Fire Department with the City. He supports this extension wholeheartedly.

Councilor Plantamura mentioned that the language in the contract only covers a contingency for negotiation of salary in the event of consolidation of the firefighter's department. It does not provide for renegotiation of salary in the event of an economic downturn. She stated that that language needs to be broadened. She stated she respects the majority of the vote on this issue.

Roll Call

Councilor Matthews	AYE
Vice Mayor Waters	AYE
Councilor Barnhorn	AYE
Councilor Plantamura	NAY
Councilor Quinn	AYE
Mayor Johnson	AYE

ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor Matthews stated that at the next meeting he will speak about the changes on the waterways.

Vice Mayor Waters complimented the efforts of Scott Meehan and the Seminole Mall Merchants on their effort on the Fresh Market & More concept held at the Seminole Mall. She attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the EOC/Public Works buildings. She believes the citizens of Seminole are and should be proud of these two buildings.

Councilor Barnhorn attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the EOC/Public Works buildings. He stated that the advance technology used on these two buildings will bring a great savings for our community.

Councilor Plantamura attended the EOC/Public Works ribbon cutting ceremony and provided full details on the advance technology used on the two buildings. She gave thanks for the team effort to those associated with the completion of the EOC/Public Works buildings. Councilor Plantamura mention the next "Operation Medicine Cabinet" which is scheduled for Saturday, August 21st.

Mayor Johnson attended the Mayor's council meeting and the Fresh Market & More event at the Seminole Mall.

Councilor Quinn spoke about his trip to the Midwest. Councilor Quinn attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the EOC/Public Works building and stated that he was most impressed with the power strips on the roof. He stated that according to charts shown to him, the power strips produce 50% more electricity than used. He mentioned Station 29's blood drive on Friday, August 13.

5. **CITY MANAGER REPORTS:**

Community Policing – Deputy Klase spoke about “Operation Medicine Cabinet”. Deputy Klase provided details about his community policing and about speaking to the kids that attend summer camp at the Recreation center.

City Manager Edmunds reminded Council of the “Ribbon Cutting Senior Lounge” event scheduled for August 23rd at the Recreation Center.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilor Quinn made a suggestion to Council regarding letters they may receive from residents. He asked that the name and address of the resident should be mentioned.

Vice Mayor Waters mentioned the approved tax holiday which begins this Friday through Sunday. More information may be found on the state’s website; myflorida.com/dor.

Councilor Matthews asked for consideration in improving the left turn traffic light signal on 113th Street.

8. **CONSIDER A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Vice Mayor Waters, seconded by Councilor Matthews to adjourn the meeting.

Date Approved: August 24, 2010

Rose Benoit
Minutes prepared by Rose Benoit

James Johnson
James Johnson, Mayor