CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA

CITY COMMISSION

MINUTES ● MARCH 27, 2018

City Commission Chamber **Regular City Commission Meeting** **7:00 PM**

CITY HALL
1065 RIDGEWOOD AVENUE
HOLLY HILL, FL 32117

City Clerk's office: (386) 248-9441 - Fax: (386) 248-9448

1. CALL TO ORDER

a. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Arthur J. Byrnes	District 1 - Commissioner	Present	
Penny Currie	District 2 - Commissioner	Present	
John C. Danio	District 3 - Commissioner	Present	
Chris Via	District 4 - Commissioner	Present	
John Penny	Mayor	Present	

b. Invocation
Commissioner Currie led the invocation.

c. Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Penny led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. POSITIVITY AWARD

1.

The Car Shop - Best Price Trailers - Robin Hanger

(Requested by Valerie Manning, City Clerk)
Commissioner Currie briefly spoke about her choice for The Car Shop - Best Price Trailers, owner Robin Hanger. He does a lot for and with the community and is involved with a lot of the Chamber of Commerce events/activities. He consistently shows positivity within the City of Holly Hill.

3. PRESENTATION

1.

Proclamation - Water Conservation Month

(Requested by Valerie Manning, City Clerk)

Mayor Penny informed the Commissioners that under the regular agenda section, Resolution 2018-R-21, Piggyback Contract for Foreclosure Registrations with PROCHAMPS, will be moved to Public Hearings section as the last item.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individuals spoke to the Mayor and City Commissioners:

Robin Hanger, 929 State Avenue, Holly Hill, thanked the Mayor and Commissioners for the award, he appreciates it, it's not necessary but he does appreciate it. Mr. Hanger stated he would like to see what they can do, he's heard talk about it but what they can do to clean up the city, the streets. They have businesses that have trash blowing around the front of them. It may or may not be from them but it's not just limited to businesses. He really would say a handful of the businesses do quit well, not just at our end but the other end too. There's others around there that, there's other businesses in town that don't do quit as well but it's not just businesses, homeowners. Their garbage gets picked up on Mondays and Thursdays, if something blows out and the guys happen to not see it because they're on a timeframe or whatever but nobody picks it up. Stuff just lays everywhere. The street sweeper that goes, he's not able to...he doesn't believe the guy goes down everyone of the streets but even at that, the guy goes so fast that the street sweeper doesn't pick up stuff, it just moves it. So, it's up to the residents and the people in the community. This is his town. He loves it here. He was born and raised here. He would just like to see the city give some authority to somebody, whether it be officers. He travels around a lot, he sees other communities, other cities where people get pulled over for throwing trash out when they stop at a stop sign. He was in one city about a year or so ago over on the west coast where there were signs if you threw cigarette butts out and the officers saw you, you were going to get a ticket. Now that was communities, it wasn't like on a main street or anything so he was informed that possibly was a community effort but Holly Hill is a community so we need to do something to clean this place up a little better than we do. He drives around, what little bit of free time he does have, and pick up stuff all around the park. People use the park and there are things all over there. We're limited on staff, he understands that. Somehow or another, they need to give the authority to, what he would suggest would be if officers see people throwing things out or people kicking a can, stop and say, "hey, this is my town here. If you're kicking that can, can't you stop and pick it up and put in the garbage can or something?" Or, if they see them, it's a cause to possibly stop them just to be nice and say, "I seen that piece of trash fly out of your window, the kids may have dropped it out, would you get out and pick it up? This is my town." Just have a little bit more respect for the town that they're driving through and if not, go around 95 and bypass Holly Hill.

Steve Smith, 1410 Riverside Drive, Holly Hill, stated on the same note that Mr. Hanger was talking about, he feels that if the city would start with the image that it projects by allowing the recovery groups to have hundreds of meetings in the city's parks, he's said this before and have made positive suggestions about how to stop it and one of the first rules at a public park, that he was at today, was an organized group by activity by permit only. So, if there's an organized group having an activity in the park, they've rented the pavilion, there's a responsible person in charge. The city he was in today has a rule that they don't get 52 permits for that pavilion every year. With simple rules like that, making a responsible party

in charge of the group that's using the pavilion, there will be hundreds of less cigarette butts in the city's public parks. Not letting them do it every week of the year, there will be a lot less people coming to the city for recovery groups or whatever is going on at the city's public parks. It's not discrimination to say that organized group activity by permit only and make a responsible person get the permit and perhaps this could change the image that the city is setting here. It's been going on too long, over 20 years. Of the 16 cities of the county, Holly Hill is the only place you can do this. Nobody else would tolerate it. The spillover from that would be good. Just two simple things. If you're going to have an organized group activity in a public park, you should have a responsible party and it should be permitted and limit the number of permits a year to something more reasonable than 52. Currently, they're not paying and they are taking over the park. There's no place to park in the park, often because of the organized group activity or whatever it is. If the city could get control of that then perhaps have more park-like activities in the park. That would be something to look forward to.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1.

Minutes - March 13, 2018 - Regular City Commission Meeting

(Requested by Valerie Manning, City Clerk)

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Chris Via, District 4 - Commissioner
SECONDER:	John C. Danio, District 3 - Commissioner
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via, Penny

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

6. CONSENT AGENDA - ITEM (1)

Mayor Penny asked if any member of the Commission or any member from the audience would like to discuss any item on the Consent Agenda? There was no one.

1. Resolution

Resolution 2018-R-19 A Resolution of the City of Holly Hill, Florida, Adopted Pursuant to Section 30-71 of the Code of Ordinances to Approve the Contract Extension and Authorize the City Manager to Execute Department of Corrections Contract Number WS962 Amendment, and Addendum a to the Contract Allowing Florida Department of Corrections to Provide an Inmate Labor Work Squad (S) for the Three Year Contract Period Ending April 8, 2021 Without Complying with the Formal Purchasing Procedure; Providing for Severability; Providing for Conflicting Resolutions; and Providing an Effective Date.

(Requested by Antoine Khoury, Public Works)

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Penny Currie, District 2 - Commissioner
SECONDER:	Arthur J. Byrnes, District 1 - Commissioner
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via, Penny

RESOLUTION

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

7. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Resolution

Resolution 2018-R-20 A Resolution for Assistance Under the Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Waterways Assistance Program.

(Requested by Joseph Forte, City Manager)
Mr. Forte stated this is the next round of grant requests that the city has for the improvements over at Sunrise Park South park where they are going to improve the parking lot, add pavilions, dredge the launch area out to the channel, and expand the launch. If the Commission recalls, about a year ago or so, the city had put out a bid out for that and the city had budgeted with the city's match money, somewhere in the neighborhood of $680,000 and the bids came back at over $900,000. So, the city is working with Beth Lemke who is here tonight and she is now applying for another round of FIND grants, which is going to delay the project and the city has to try and secure the costs for the construction and materials with the contractors who had put in the bids in hopes of getting this approved that the city could then move forward with it.

Commissioner Via stated since this is going to take a long time, when they put it out finally to bid, is it going to be even…

Mr. Forte stated no, it's out to bid. The bid has been awarded. The contractor has agreed to hold the bid. What the challenge comes up to is as the materials cost start to increase, the contractor would like to buy the materials and hold it as soon as possible but the city can't do that until the city gets all of its grants in place.

Commissioner Via stated okay, thank you.

Mr. Forte stated so far the contractor is willing to hold the bid price.

Beth Lemke, Planning Solutions Corp., 206 N. Beach Street, Daytona Beach, stated what the city applied for, for additional funding, the city talked to the Commissioner with Florida Inland Navigation District Susan McCabe who represents Volusia, if they could average the bids rather than take in the low bid as far as what the city was estimating its additional costs to be, so that enables the city to get a little bit more grant money if the grant is awarded, it will give the city an upper level, obviously the city won't get

reimbursed if the city doesn't spend it. It's just up to the cost, 50% of the cost but if the materials are higher that gives the city a little bit more wiggle room so she tried to do that creatively as they could to be able to account for that.

Mayor Penny opened public participation. No one spoke.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Penny Currie, District 2 - Commissioner
SECONDER:	Chris Via, District 4 - Commissioner
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via, Penny

RESOLUTION

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Ordinance

Second Reading - Ordinance 3000 An Ordinance of the City of Holly Hill, Florida, Creating Chapter 30 (Miscellaneous Offenses), Article III (Foreclosure/Vacant Property Registry) of the City of Holly Hill Code of Ordinances; Providing for Purpose, Intent and Applicability of the Ordinance Requiring the Registration and Maintenance of Certain Real Property by Mortgagees and Vacant Property by Owners; Providing for Penalties and Enforcement, as Well As, the Regulation, Limitation and Reduction of Registrable Real Property Within Holly Hill; Providing for Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; Providing for Repealer; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date.

(Requested by Valerie Manning, City Clerk)
Mr. Forte informed the Mayor and Commissioners that the changes they recommended at the last meeting, have been made and are noticed in red. Mr. Forte stated Attorney Simpson and himself had the opportunity to speak with the vendors and the vendors attorneys to work through the language because they didn't want to put anything in there that the vendors couldn't enforce or comply with so himself and Attorney Simpson were able to express what their concerns were and he thinks they have addressed everything. Commissioner Via, I don't know if you had the chance to look at the red lines, if you had any other questions they can address them now.

Commissioner Via stated first of all he wanted to thank staff and his fellow Commissioners for slowing this process down and making sure that they got this right. Reading through it, he didn't have any other questions. He thinks all his concerns were addressed. He just wants to say he appreciates the Commission in slowing this down.

Mayor Penny opened public participation. No one spoke.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED AT 2ND READING [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Chris Via, District 4 - Commissioner
SECONDER:	Arthur J. Byrnes, District 1 - Commissioner
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via, Penny

ORDINANCE

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

2. Ordinance

Second Reading - Ordinance 3002 An Ordinance of the City of Holly Hill, Florida, Adopted Pursuant to Florida Statute Sections 101.161 and 166.031 Setting Forth Proposed Amendments to the City's Charter to be Submitted to the Voters of the City at a General Election on August 28, 2018; Providing for a Ballot Summary and Title for Each Proposed Amendment; Providing for Conflicting Ordinances; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date.

(Requested by Valerie Manning, City Clerk)
Mr. Forte stated there are two items within this Ordinance. One is the elimination of the Civil Service Act and the city is putting this back out as a referendum question in hopes that the city can educate the public for them to see and understand that there's no purpose for the Civil Service Act. The city has unions that represent all the labor force in the city, department heads are at-will employees and middle managers are the ones that are really kind of the group that's not covered by a union contract and is not really considered at-will in the same regard as department heads. Many years ago, probably around 1995-1996 the city hired a Human Resources Manager that handles responsibilities of the Civil Service Board. Years ago the city used to have a board and used to have a board secretary and they had a budget and they were involved in the hiring process and the promotion process and to a limited degree, the disciplinary action process, meaning that their role was to determine if the actions of the manager in a disciplinary case were within those manager's abilities. Since having a Human Resources Director now, all of that responsibility falls under the Human Resources Director and for years, when the city had the board, the Human Resources Director kept in contact with them. They would meet on a quarterly basis and she basically provided the board with information about turnover rate. How many positions were vacated and how many positions were hired and they served no other purpose. So, the board basically disbanded themselves. So, they no longer exist and there is no board today. When Commissioner Via came on board, staff solicitated participation to serve on a Civil Service Board and staff didn't get anyone that was interested in serving. We are back to that point where we have the Civil Service Act in the Charter but it's not active. It plays no role in hiring, firing, promotions or disciplinary actions for any employees. He thinks it's important that the city try to educate the public on what this really means and see if they can have that removed. The second item is the terms of the positions of the City Commission and Mayor. Right now

they are at two year terms and this would be posing a question on a referendum ballot to extend those terms from two years to four years on staggered terms. Two Commissioners one election cycle, two Commissioners and the Mayor on the next election cycle. In the last election, in 2015, it failed by thirteen votes. There was about just over 750 votes that were cast during that election and it failed by thirteen votes. The Commission had expressed a little bit of interest in this several months ago and more recently, he received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce that the Board of Director supports putting this matter on the ballot. They believe that the members also supports putting this matter on the ballot. The Chamber President is here tonight to speak on her behalf as well as other members of the Chamber that may be here to speak on behalf of the board's position. He knows that he has spoken to some of the Commissioners about the ballot language and if this does get approved tonight, he thinks that they may discuss tweaking the language a little bit between the first and second reading just to make sure that everybody is clear on what is being asked and why.

Attorney Simpson stated he would also add on that the Civil Service Board actually, has a negative impact to the department heads because the city has Civil Service status, they are not eligible for senior management classification with the Florida Retirement System (FRS) so, they are limited in the retirement benefits they get, which means the city is limited in what they can offer to people they try to hire because they believe the Civil Service provides employment protection so they don't get the higher retirement benefit rate.

Mr. Forte stated so, specifically, the multiplier for retirement benefits for department heads, currently is at 1.6. Being in the senior management class it would make the multiplier 2%, which is a significant increase and certainly an incentive to keep the department heads here. That's for all positions except for Police and Fire; they're under their own separate pension plan. FRS does not allow the city to offer senior management to those employees because the Civil Service Act is in place.

Mayor Penny opened public participation. The following individuals spoke to the Mayor and City Commissioners:

Jeanette Duerr, Vice President, Communications and Marketing at Synergy Billing and President of the Holly Hill Chamber of Commerce, stated she is that person that sent a request to the Commission for a change to the city Charter that would increase the terms of office for the Mayor and Commissioners in the future to four years. This was after unanimous approval by the Board of Directors and they then polled their entire membership of nearly 200 members and received only supportive responses for this change with no objections. Last Thursday, anecdotally and some of the Commissioners know, they had some of the Best on The Hill ever at the Holly Hill YMCA and during that time, she spoke to quite a few folks and not one person that she spoke with at that event objected to this request. So, the Chamber of Commerce wants to share with folks some of the reasons why they are making this request and hope that people will understand their views on this. The Chamber wants to work more closely with the city staff to recruit new businesses to Holly Hill and one of the concerns that the Chamber hears is that short terms of office for elected officials don't provide the stability and continuity that businesses need to grow and to prosper here and to make plans for the future. A new Commission turning over every two years and Mayor, can completely change priorities and derail a project. It hasn't happened yet but the Fountainhead in

Holly Hill is an example, as the Mayor and Commissioners well know, that's a project dear to her heart. Fountainhead has been working with this current Commission or most of them for several years and making a huge investment in Holly Hill and it's important that Fountainhead is assured that those rules are not going to change in the middle of the project. It's a multi-year project. It's a big project and their dream of a campus where Holly Hill residents can live and play and work and get healthcare, could die if the city doesn't have the continuity that the city needs in its public officials. Another reason that the businesses of Holly Hill support longer terms for their elected officials is that they would like for them to be able to focus on what's best for the residents and businesses here for at least a few years before they're running for reelection again and focused on that reelection and raising money. A two year election cycle only shortens the time that they are focused on getting things done for all of the residents and businesses and she wants to add another important point. The businesses of Holly Hill are not all owned by residents of Holly Hill but the businesses of Holly Hill pay more than half the ad-valorem taxes in the budget every year. These are taxes that help to pay for city services and amenities that make Holly Hill such a wonderful place to live and to do business. More than half the taxes. The Chamber certainly hopes that the Commissioners can honor their contributions to the city's success and vote to move this proposal forward.

Mike Chuven, 407 Miriam Avenue, Holly Hill, asked, "why do we have a City Commission? I will explain why for those of you who have forgotten." Mr. Chuven stated Holly Hill's 11,000 citizens can't vote for every issue that comes before the city so, they have selected the five of you to vote for the citizens. The Commissioners are not selected to make the hard decisions, as some have so arrogantly stated in the past but to vote in accordance with the will of the people. This is why he finds it so strange that once again, after being told three times in a row by the citizens that they want to keep the term limits at two years and voted last time when it was brought up to keep the Civil Service Board, that the Commission is once again preparing to put these things back on the ballot. What is the matter that this Commission can't take no for an answer? He's heard all the arguments for going to four years and he finds none of them worthy. First one, "we need more time to get our programs done or we need more time to learn the job." In two years, the Commission has attended 48 Commission meetings, numerous workshops and countless other events. If the Commissioners can't get what they want done in that time or haven't learned their job then they aren't paying attention or not capable of doing the job. Then there's the letter from the Chamber. He wonders who put them up to write such a false narrative. Businesses don't care if the Commissioners have two or four year terms, they only care what they do in those terms. He finds it a little bad that it sounds like a little pressure that businesses pay the majority of the taxes so, obviously they have more weight, is the way he took that last comment. There are many successful cities with two year terms. What is the city's excuse for their success? The House of Representatives is a two year term. It was set up that way because they were closest to the citizens. If it's good enough for them, it's good enough for the Commission. One has to wonder who benefits the most. Sitting on top of this list would be the City Manager and City Attorney. They have a Commission that is favorable to them and by having four year terms it creates better job security with less oversite as time goes on. Citizens voted to keep the Civil Service. The Commission never sat a Civil Service Board. This is total disrespect to

the citizens. The Civil Service represents all employees and is security to those employees not considered at-will or those in a union. The Commissioners have been told that the union represents those employees that don't join but that's half-truth. They represent the employees in salary negotiation but do not provide legal assistance of the employees unfairly fired by the city or having issues with an unruly supervisor. Another issue on the last ballot that the citizens voted for was to do these changes every ten years. He knows it was worded to do this whenever the Commissioners wanted but it was presented to the citizens that it would only be a ten year cycle. This should be done every ten years not every election cycle until the Commissioners get the answer they want. Change in Commission is good. This is what government is for and by the people. It is not a private company and those in office or in management do not have a right to continue management or sitting on the Commission. For those who vote to put these issues on the ballot against the wishes of the citizens who have already told the Commissioners no three times, he is here to say that they will own it through the election cycle. Citizens will not only be campaigning against the changes but they are going to make sure that the electors know who voted against the wishes of the citizens and put it back on the ballot. Scurrying early will also give the citizens a chance to maybe find candidates who are willing to represent the people and not themselves. He thinks the Commissioners need to vote no to putting these changes on the ballot. The citizens have told the Commissioners no. They've asked the Commissioners three times, no. It does not matter what the City Manager wants or what Synergy wants, it matters what the citizens want. The citizens wanted the Civil Service Board. The citizens definitely want two year terms and they have told the Commissioners that. Please honor the citizens. Show them tonight that the Commission cares about and represents the people who voted the Commissioners into office and vote no.

Robin Hanger, 929 State Avenue and his business at 950 State Avenue, Holly Hill, stated he is a resident and a business owner. He kind of disagrees with all that but businesses…he's been in business for 29 years, been successful at it and started his business with $100. He works hard but he knows from that hard work that once you have a good team of people, why would you shake them up and why would you dismantle that? If you have a good group of people that people work and get things done, that's what the city needs. They need things to keep moving. They need things to go forward. Like he said earlier, he was born and raised in this town. He's watched this town grow. He's watched it fall. He's watched people…he listens to people down it so much and he still, like he said earlier, if you don't like it, don't come through it, don't be a part of it but get on board of positivity. Get on board with being positive behind what the city does, what others do, and look for keeping people together that work together because it's tough and the expense; they have the expense of the city to run another election every two years, there's an expense to each one of the Commissioners that is an astronomical amount. He knows that if there wasn't so many different contributions here and there, there would be more money for him to do more with the school systems and other things he wants to do things with rather than, "no, wait a minute, I have to stop every two years and try and help this person then help this person to get elected or help this person." It's an expense. He knows that he's been told that a city and a government is not like a business but it may not run like a business but it's a business and the city needs people

that are positive on it. He thinks a four year term is definitely what the city needs and not just the four year term but the ability for that person…why have, he doesn't really know what you call it but why have limits to they can only be elected for four years and then they can run again for four years but why can't they go on? They have Mr. Green in Port Orange was a mayor for 20 years or something. They have Buddy Dyer over in Orlando who's been a mayor for quite a few years. Why stop it? If something is working, stay on it and keep working, keep pushing, keep pushing. His last comment would be he has a "Meet and Greet" for Judge Feigenbaum on Thursday. Judge Feigenbaum is running for Circuit Judge. He would encourage anybody with the city, anybody that lives in the city to come by and meet him. He's a great man. It will be Thursday at The Car Shop from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. He is interested in meeting and talking to anyone. Get four years and let's get back to it and keep moving.

Jim Legary, 342 Burleigh Avenue, Holly Hill, stated it is kind of interesting that they can keep bringing this up. This is like the third time that the citizens have voted on this term. He would note that the people in public service are the ones that keep bringing this back. The people…the Commissioners, the County or the Chair, the Chamber of Commerce. He would also note that many of these people don't live in town. He wonders about that. He wonders why they have all this interest in reducing the opportunities that the people have to actually speak to candidates to get some kind of exchanges. He thinks it would be an entirely different thing if they had appointed times to speak with the Commission but the citizens don't. You will notice that the people in Ormond Beach have decided after emulating and what's going on in New Smyrna, that were going to have citizen groups, we're going to have conversations here. The only conversations that the citizens have with the Commissioners is every time they run and he would note also that probably 90 something percent of the incumbents win their office. So, if the city has a good thing, he doesn't see where the challenge is here. He doesn't know how many times he's asked that the city have some kind of streaming program. He doesn't know how many times he's asked that the city have more outreach. He was speaking with two people yesterday who are reasonably informed about what goes on in Holly Hill and they didn't know anything about the Movies in The Park. He would say that's a major failure on our part. If that sounds negative, he's very sorry but he's saying there's a lot of room to improve things here and it wouldn't seem to me to take that much. If the city had some kind of outreach person to go around like New Smyrna and Ormond Beach are talking about. There are any number of…he would like to know, the businesses contribute more than 50% of the thing. The businesses get almost 100% of the CRA grants. Is that an equitable operation you think? He means, to cry about the businesses aren't treated well here, that's ridiculous. Like he said, he would like to see a lot of things change. He's absolutely confident that the Commission can put this on the ballot and he knows he's going to work with the people that oppose it as hard as he can.

Adam Balboa, 820 State Avenue, Holly Hill, stated and he's a business owner in Holly Hill. He is all for the four year term. He thinks that it's like running a business and it takes time and once you get the ball rolling it, you have to keep it going.

Maureen France, 1144 Riverside Drive, Holly Hill, stated and she has a business in Holly

Hill. She wanted to start out by saying that she is a newly appointed Economic Development Committee Chair for the Holly Hill Chamber. She is very excited about this job that she is a volunteer working on and this idea came out of our committee. What they have started to look at is the big picture for Holly Hill and they've noticed that The Market has recently sold, they have a business that's the spark for possibly an entertainment district, which is Copper Bottom Distillery, they have the Synergy Billing Academy and a set of businesses that are going to be moving in, they have lots of pressures coming from the west, particularly on LPGA Boulevard, that the city needs to be cognisant of, and they also note that there's a large-scale project less than a mile away from our city limits in Daytona Beach. All of these things change the environment in which the city is going to do business in our city. The committee thinks that it's a very opportune time. She does respect her fellow citizens that spoke before her about the idea that they have had this issue on the ballot before. She is not a person who would want necessarily, in the past, rubber stamp longer terms but she sees an era of change coming for Holly Hill that can be very positive. She thinks that it requires that they have some stability up on their Commission, it requires that they have people here for a longer view, that can give a longer term view, a bigger picture, there is a great risk for project developers and she uses that term lightly, she is not talking about slashing and burning things but development meaning a project of some sort, there is a great risk to have a person that you start to work with or a group such as the Commission, that is going to be gone in two years and that assumes that the Commission speaks with them and talks with them and get approvals on their very first day. She guesses the other thing that really bothers her is about the way that the city has it situated is that the city doesn't have the staggered terms anymore so if there were to be a sweep for everyone where everyone was removed from office the city would have no real historical knowledge about actions that this Commission has taken on behalf of our city with all due respect to our staff. Certainly, they could offer that but she thinks it's safer and better to have a staggered term. She knows it was mentioned by one of the businesses that it's costly for the city and then the citizens to run an election so that should be considered as well. So, with that in mind, she urges the Commission to give every consideration to at least putting this on the ballot, let us duke it out in the neighborhoods and the businesses and whatever happens, happens but she thinks the city needs the opportunity to have the discussion in light of the new era of change she sees coming.

Karen Chuven, 407 Miriam Avenue, Holly Hill, stated she just wants to say, even if the Commission makes it four years staggered terms, the city is still having an election every two years so it's still the same expense every two years. Also, if someone is doing a good job, they'll get voted back in if they run so it shouldn't be an issue. Keep it at two years because that's what the citizens asked for three times already.

Mayor Penny closed public participation.

Mayor Penny asked for a motion for approval.
Commissioner Currie made a motion to ***APPROVE ORDINANCE 3002, for first reading****, seconded by Commissioner Byrnes.*

Commissioner Currie thanked everyone for their comments. Commissioner Currie stated she appreciates hearing everyone. Term limits are a problem; the *length* of term is a problem. She would have said back in 2008, 2010 even when she was elected in 2012, two year terms are fine, what's the big issue. And for most people that are opposed to it, it probably isn't a big issue because they've never been in office but being in office opens your eyes a little more when you're sitting up here, you have large projects that you're having to deal with. Commissioner Currie stated yes, it takes some time for some people to become educated up here about their position and it takes a little bit of time for smaller projects and those can be done within a two year term. However, she knows herself, she was about ten steps above the bar with being educated in government because of her job. So, she didn't have the learning curve everybody else did up here and the two year term was still binding for her and she didn't have that same learning curve. So, since her first term she has been opposed to two year terms and she has been very vocal about that. There are a lot of citizens that have agreed with her over time, she's been in office for three terms now, about the same and she does not believe it's because she's not educated enough in her position because she feels that she is very educated in her position. As a matter of fact, for the three terms, she has taken and gone to classes herself to become more educated. So, she's quite educated in her position and she feels pretty confident in saying that. There's a difference between cockiness and confidence and she's confident. Large projects that the city has, they've seen it with Synergy Billing and their Fountainhead project. There is no way that a two year limit they could get a large project like that even off the ground because it hasn't happened. They're just now beginning on that property over there. To have four year terms gives the Commission the ability to have stability up here, to know the Commission that "we're" working with not just the Commission that you as business owners and citizens have but who "we're" working with and what "we're" looking for as our goals for the future of this city as well because we're all citizens too. It's not like they were hired by somebody to come in here as strangers and not living here. We live here. We care about this city and we certainly aren't getting rich sitting here. Commissioner Currie stated she takes a lot of grief for $8,000 a year. Grant it, she didn't get rich in her previous public service job and she took a lot of grief there. She has thick skin and can take it, not a big deal but she certainly wouldn't be sitting here for $8,000 a year if she just wanted to cause everybody heartache. She could go do that elsewhere. She does it because she loves her city, she loves working for the people, she loves working for the businesses, and she tries to do the right thing all the time. There's not a soul that could come to that podium right there and tell her that any of her votes have ever been, either for or against something that was not for the people of this city because she has never done that. There's not a soul here in this audience or a soul in this city that can come here and stand and tell her that because that has never happened. She has always done what is in the best interest of the city. As far as the Civil Service Board is concerned, the Commission did try to seat a Board. They can't go drag people in here. She means, if people don't want to serve, they don't want to serve. She's sorry. It's sort of cumbersome if they don't have people that want to serve. They can't get people to do some volunteering anywhere within our city. So, they're certainly not going to sit on a Civil Service Board. As they have been told by the City Manager, he explained the reasons why. The city covered it under the city's Charter Review. She believes, wholeheartedly, with every sense of her being, that people did not

understand the issue. That's what she believes. She believes if the citizens are educated and understand what the issue with the Civil Service Board is, it's going to pass without a problem. She also doesn't believe that the citizens understood the term issue. She believes the main thing there was because the city was saying that there was no reason that the Mayor's position shouldn't be the same as the Commission up here and people had a problem with that and she still doesn't understand that but apparently she's not allowed to have that put on the ballot either because she thinks that's a crazy hot mess. Why would you have two 2 year term limits for the Mayor and the rest of the Commission can run ramped. It doesn't make sense to her. As far as this being put back on the ballot again and people indicating that they were told ten years. You were told ten years for a Charter Review. That's what you were told not that this wouldn't be put back on the ballot. You were told ten years for another Charter Review. It's exactly what you were told. Go back and read the minutes, they're available. She would look forward to anybody that wants to run against her in an election. She did it for two years. She looks forward to the challenge. If they want to find someone to run against her because you don't like the way she's going to vote tonight, she looks forward to it. Please do.

Commissioner Byrnes stated Mr. Forte, if an employee is not a member of a union and they believe that they have been unfairly treated, fired, had action taken against them, what is their direction?

Mr. Forte stated they can still use the union grievance procedures. They just won't be represented by the union's legal counsel.

Attorney Simpson stated he would add to that. That they do not have a choice of using the Civil Service.

Mr. Forte stated they have to use the union.

Attorney Simpson stated the Civil Service Act says that if you're in a bargaining unit position not whether you are a member or not, the union contract covers all bargaining positions, the union contract can select its own grievance process or it can select the Civil Service. The contract can identify it not both. So, if you are in a bargaining unit…it doesn't use the word bargaining unit position, it says if your salary and benefits and personnel policies are governed by the union contract, well, that's a bargaining unit position, technically. Your grievance process is set forth in the union contract. All of the city's union contracts use binding arbitration. None of them utilize and nor have they ever utilized Civil Service. The only people who can go to the Civil Service Board regarding grievances are those whose positions are not bargaining unit positions. Those are known as managerial positions, right?

Mr. Forte stated you have middle managers and upper managers, yes.

Attorney Simpson stated and the issue there is, the review standard at the Civil Service Board is abuse of discretion. That's the most lenient standard review that any board can have. Did the person issuing the discipline or making the decision abuse their discretion? I'll ask you, if somebody serves at the will of the City Manager, at their absolute sole discretion, how can you abuse it? I don't have to give you a reason to fire you. You serve at my pleasure. How can I abuse that? You can't. The people who think they have some protection under Civil Service, don't. They really don't. There's nothing there. They do have a detriment though. As they talked, because there is this Civil Service name in the city's Charter, they are not entitled to the same retirement benefits as other employees,

managerial employees in other cities. They can't qualify for senior management benefits.
Commissioner Byrnes stated it's tough to fight ignorance. He attempted to do this the last time this was brought out and some ignorant citizens decided that they were going to fight the Civil Service change because they didn't understand all of this stuff that really does nothing for the employees at all but because some of these ignorant folks are more noisy than some other folks, the truth doesn't get out there. He is hoping that there is going to be somebody out there that is going to be out there helping to support getting the truth out there because to have the city burn with the Civil Service…this is not the 1800's where a new administration comes in and everybody's fired and all their friends are hired. We're in a different place in the world now and Civil Service, at least the way it is in our Charter, in our city, it's time to end because it does not help the employees. It merely has the city in a constant state of not following what their Charter says they have to do because the city doesn't have people that want to serve on a board that does nothing. He's hoping that it will be easier to fight that ignorance. He wants to go back in time to 1997, which is when they had the four year terms put on the ballot and they were passed overwhelmingly by the people because they trusted the Commission that was in office at that time. At that time, the people that were pushing for the four year terms went and talked to all the former Mayors and looked at the records. In the entire history that they could find because as you go back it's harder to find history of the city, there was not a mayor who served more than eight years in a row and so, that's why there's a two term limit because it was two (2) four year terms for the mayor. Now again, in their ignorance, the people who decided that came in with pitch forks and torches that said, "we got to get rid of these four year terms", the same people that gave the city two city managers in a row that he would have never had hired and he thinks did very poor things for our city. When they went back to the two year terms, they didn't take the term limit out. Now they have a situation that the city has one of the best teams that this city has had in the entire thirty something years that he has been in public service but because of the ignorance of the term limit, they now have a mayor who is termed out who lives in his district and who has already announced he is going to run for this seat. Commissioner Byrnes stated he is spending from now until the actual qualifying period deciding, "Am I going to run against one of the most popular and best Mayors we've ever had?" Or, "Am I going to run because I believe I've done a great job and I think a majority of the citizens think I've done a great job, as showing I've beat the same opponent in three elections." Elections are there for them to find out the true will of the people and he doesn't care if it had been on the ballot ten times before. He's actually questioning in his own mind, the three that several people had brought up because he remembers it was in 2012…
Mayor Penny stated it was 2010, 2011 and 2015.
Commissioner Byrnes stated yes and during the administration that was in office during the 2010 period, that was placed there through a lot of ignorance, who had members who didn't even live in the city, he wouldn't have voted for longer terms. So, that was a reactionary vote against the people that were in there. He is hoping that ignorance doesn't rule in this. That they get a city that is solid because not having staggered terms means this next election everybody could be out and they could have people that are reactionary, just like they had before, that have no interest or knowledge of government who sit there and make ignorant decisions because they have not studied the issues. He is hoping that the majority of the citizens and he believes they will, will support bringing back the four

year terms, which may or may not affect him, depending on whether or not he decides to run or not run. He really likes this team and he believes that John Penny has been the linchpin in this team. The saddest part of this is the two term limit on the Mayor and he wishes that was in this also but he can see that's not where they want to be tonight. Let's hope that ignorance does not rule. That the city does not have to have concerns about violating the Charter because no one wants to serve on a board that does nothing.

Commissioner Via stated he too, appreciates all the comments they've had from the audience tonight and from their business community. It's obviously an issue that brings out a lot of emotion from both sides and you definitely have both sides of the coin. He will tell them he's out right now walking and talking because as most of them know, he's already campaigning. They might have seen him in some of their neighborhoods. He has been talking to a lot of people lately and he brings this up, he's gotten positive responses back from his members of the community and from the business people he's spoken to. When they talk about what has happened with previous elections, for instance, in 2015 they had a very low voter turnout and it failed by thirteen votes. He doesn't think that's an overwhelming reason to say, "You know what? We shouldn't put that back on this ballot." And the reason is, is because as they talked about, there were many other things on that ballot that failed. For instance, the term limits on the Mayor. It failed overwhelmingly. The Commission is not putting that back on because he doesn't believe that's what this Commission wants to do but at the same time, every day of the week that he is up on the dais, he will always vote to allow the citizens to voice their voice through their vote. He did it with the sales tax issue that they had a few weeks ago and tonight he will be doing it the same. He believes in the election. He believes in the will of the voters and he believes, if this comes back and 60% or 70% of the people say they don't want this, so be it. They will have two year terms. What he is looking at, they will have an election every two years. They will and every two years the voters will be able to have their say. They will be able to go to the polls and if they don't like what's going on, at least they will be able to take out two of the Commissioners and maybe even three and if it's on the election year that they get three then they can do whatever they want to the city's staff, they can change anything around that they want to do. What he is trying to say is, there is positives and negatives to both sides of the issue but when they look at it, he thinks that the positives outweigh the negatives. As he said before he will always vote to allow the voters to speak and have their say. Now, when the Commission talks about the Civil Service Board, he was that Commissioner that was conflicted that the city wasn't following its Charter. He thinks the citizens didn't really understand that the Civil Service Board is really not in effect anymore and that it's actually hurting the employees more than it's doing any good. That, for him, was a no-brainer to put back on the ballot. He thinks that once the people are educated about that, they will vote for that. With all this being said, as he's said, he trusts in the will of the voter and he will not be out campaigning for this one way or the other. He's out doing his own thing. He's running for a two year term but he would like the voters to be able to have their say and he will trust in their will. So, he will be voting yes tonight.

Commissioner Danio stated obviously, there's a lot of controversy but it looks like this is going down. Like Commissioner Via said, he thinks the Commissioners said it best,

having stability and continuity. Commissioner Danio stated he believes there is a time and season for things and this is probably that time and season to get some of that stability. Let the voters vote and see what happens. That's all he has to say.

Mayor Penny stated this seems like such a simple question and it's been one of the most difficult issues of his elected career. He has sleepless nights over this issue because he struggles with his personal feelings. He truly believes that four year terms with staggered terms is the best for this city. However, it has been asked and answered three times and then you study the data, who was asked and who answered. Attorney Simpson, who do elected officials represent? The citizens, the voters, the tax payers or the businesses?

Attorney Simpson stated, everyone.

Mayor Penny stated and that's his conflict. They have business owners here that say this is the best thing since sliced bread, they want to move forward, they want to have continuity in their community and in their leadership then they have citizens that are voters. That have been asked the question and answered the question. Light voter turnout Commissioner Via alluded to in 2015 was 10%, in 2011 in was 7%. Mayor Penny stated when he's struggling with an issue he tries to look at the data and look for clear answers but he doesn't see any answers from the business community. They have a handful in this audience today, five, maybe six, of business owners that own and live in the city. If you are one, you have yet to be applauded and he thanks them. They are an endangered species because most of the people who have businesses in the community sleep somewhere else. It was brought to his attention, reminded him, he knew it but businesses pay more than 50% of the ad valorem taxes but yet, many of the business owners don't get a vote. Is that taxation without representation? Didn't they have a big riot over that a couple of hundred years ago? He's been truly conflicted. If his kid keeps asking him the same question, he tries to wear him down so he'll give him a different answer and then he thinks, what is the harm? This isn't our decision. Our only decision tonight is to let the voters decide and it's a difficult decision. He was here when all three of these votes were cast. He was an elected official at that time, the other Commissioners weren't. So, he thinks he's in a unique predicament here. "They've asked Penny three times and he's been told three times but he's not listening." That's the difficult thing. The Civil Service is clear cut to him. It's an education thing but the length of terms is a more difficult decision for him. Attorney Simpson, do they need to talk about language now before they vote on this? Do they vote on this and then address the language? How does that work?

Commissioner Via stated, if he could Mayor. He was with Mr. Forte in his office and there was some language that he thinks the City Commission should look at tonight. Just little revisions. He asked Mr. Forte to prepare that for the Commission.
Attorney Simpson stated to sort of answer the Mayor's question, there's probably no reason to consider language unless there's a consensus, at least, that there's a majority of the Commission that they want to put the question in some form or fashion out and then, he doesn't know that they need to vote on that but he thinks the Commission can tell from the comments that were made, that there seems to be…
Mayor Penny stated seems like there is consensus to him.

Attorney Simpson stated so that it goes forward. So, before they vote on the actual Ordinance, that would be approving the language. Grant it, it comes back for second reading, it can be modified between first and second reading, but it would probably be appropriate to modify the language and then vote on it for first reading. It appears that there is consensus that both questions will be presented to the voters.

Commissioner Via stated in particular, Mayor, if you take a look at the Civil Service Act…

Attorney Simpson stated and just know that, the only limitations they get is 75 words in their ballot summary and what the law says is the purpose of the ballot summary is to basically describe the primary purpose of the ballot issue, the ballot intent, the chief purpose is what's stated in the Florida Statutes. In the ballot summary they give the "chief purpose" of the measure and then they also have the ballot title, which is limited to 15 words.

Commissioner Via stated in particular Mayor, if you look at the Civil Service Act, I believe it explains it more clearly and gets to the point, as well as, the revised for the term lengths. In particular, I found it to be confusing when it said, "two (2) years" and then "four (4) year" staggered terms. It sounds like it's four year staggered terms. That may be a question for Attorney Simpson.

Mayor Penny asked Attorney Simpson if he has reviewed the revised language for each question.

Attorney Simpson stated he is right now.

Commissioner Byrnes stated the wording, Mr. Forte, the better benefits that would be received, would be at no extra cost to the city?

Mayor Penny stated oh, no.

Mr. Forte stated, no. That's not true. There is a cost to the city.

Commissioner Byrnes stated okay, that's what he wanted to find out.

Mr. Forte stated he doesn't know specifically the difference in the contribution rate but there is an additional cost.

Commissioner Byrnes stated they questions don't have to be permanent tonight, right? They can pass this and say these are the ones they are looking at but if they go home and say they want to change it, they can do it at the next reading.

Commissioner Via stated at second reading.

*Commissioner Currie made a motion to **AMEND** the original motion to the **REVISED** version of the Civil Service Act to read, "The Civil Service Act is no longer being used for the hiring, oversight or termination of any of the City's employees. The City has a Human Resources Manager who handles much of the responsibilities and most employees are now covered by union contracts"; and then to accept the **REVISED** version of the term of office to read, "The Charter limits the term of office of the Mayor and Commissioners to two years. This amendment proposes four year staggered terms for elected offices. If approved, the Mayor and two Commissioners will be elected during one election cycle and the other two Commissioners will be elected in the next election cycle two years later, maintaining an election every two years", seconded by Commissioner Byrnes.*

Mayor Penny asked if there were any more comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Currie stated she can't tell them how proud of the fact that since they had a new City Manager, after her first few years, she can't tell them how refreshing it's

been, because she feels as though they are serving the people better. They have more transparency because her first three years in office, definitely none of that existed and she had to fight tooth and nail for everything and still didn't get the truth most times. She just wants to say, she can't be more pleased with the current situation of this city.
Commissioner Via stated he agrees. He thinks the previous votes came at a turbulent time for the city and he thinks they are moving in the right direction. He thinks the citizens feel that way from the people that he's spoken with.
Mayor Penny stated he doesn't recall who said it but he wrote down a note to himself, "accessibility with a ?" There was a comment made that the only time this Commission is accessible is during election time and he thinks nothing can be further from the truth. If someone sends him an email or a text or stops by his house or stops him in Publix, comes to his office, this Commission, he believes, bends over backwards to meet with anyone, any time that is reasonable.
PASSED, 4-1. (Mayor Penny voted, no.)

RESULT:	**APPROVED AT 1ST READING [4 TO 1]**	**Next: 4/10/2018 7:00 PM**
MOVER:	Penny Currie, District 2 - Commissioner	
SECONDER:	Arthur J. Byrnes, District 1 - Commissioner	
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via	
NAYS:	Penny	

ORDINANCE

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

3. Resolution

Resolution 2018-R-21 A Resolution of the City of Holly Hill, Florida, Authorizing a Piggyback Contract for Foreclosure Registrations with ProChamps, 2725 Center Place, Melbourne, FL 32940; Providing for Implementing Administrative Actions; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for a Savings Provision; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date.

(Requested by Joseph Forte, City Manager)
PROCHAMPS item has been moved to the end of the meeting under Public Hearing, per Mr. Forte. Mr. Forte stated they are piggybacking off the pricing of the Jacksonville contract but the terms of the city's Ordinance are more stringent than Jacksonville's contract so the city will still follow the timeline. In the Jacksonville contract it expires September 30, 2018 but it has two (2) one year renewals allowable on it. The city will have two years and six months under this contract.

Mayor Penny opened public participation. No one spoke.

Commissioner Byrnes stated he just wants to remind people how this is important because one of the things he does is real estate photography and he deals with a lot of

foreclosed and abandoned properties and he was under the impression that with the economy getting better that, that was going away. There's still a lot of foreclosures happening. There's still a lot of vacant and often abandoned properties. There's still times when he goes to a property that's supposed to be abandoned and no one's living there, that someone comes out and ask what is he doing there, you can't take pictures of my house and he has to tell them that yes, he can take pictures of the property because the bank owns it and not him/her. It still going on out there. A lot of the properties end up in very bad shape because the squatters have no interest in fixing them and mowing the lawns and when they're abandoned there's nobody there to do it either. He is glad the city is taking this step. As someone mentioned earlier, this is one of those ways it's going to help clean up some of the neighborhoods.

Commissioner Currie stated as she stated when they saw this at the last meeting, she believes this is the first step in many to help in cleaning up their city. She is glad they are moving forward with this.

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Penny Currie, District 2 - Commissioner
SECONDER:	Arthur J. Byrnes, District 1 - Commissioner
AYES:	Byrnes, Currie, Danio, Via, Penny

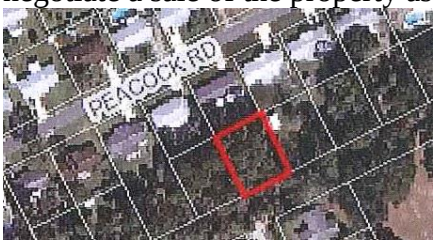
RESOLUTION

Enacted and approved this 27th day of March, 2018, in Holly Hill

9. COMMUNICATIONS

A. City Manager & Staff Comments

Mr. Forte showed an aerial picture to the Mayor and City Commissioners asking for direction and support to authorize a negotiation for sale of property received by the County. The property is located by Peacock Road and it's a very wooded area with adjoining parcels that nothing can be done to them and the County can't do nothing with them. There was ***CONSENSUS*** from the Mayor and Commissioners for Mr. Forte to negotiate a sale of the property as outlined in red on the map.



Mr. Forte reminded them that the city still owns 647 Ridgewood Avenue, where the Brassworks building is and also the property that is across from Marina Grande that was acquired. It was a small trailer park and they're just sitting there off the tax rolls. He has Nick Conte putting together a solicitation package to go ahead and advertise those for

proposals of which they have to do because they are in the CRA. He wants to get direction from the Commissioners to go ahead and proceed forward with that. They mentioned several times tonight, there were comments about the conditions of peoples property in this city and they have the Brassworks property which looks horrible and the city is just as guilty. The city needs to clean it up and frankly, he would like to tear the building down because he doesn't think it has any purpose. They can probably spend $4,000 or $5,000 to raise that building and remove that nuisance.

Mayor Penny stated he wholeheartedly agrees. Bill Arthur gave him a great lesson one time. Bill Arthur said, "the definition of blight is if the property is worth more without the building on it", and that couldn't be a truer statement for this property.

Mr. Forte stated if there's no opposition, he would like to go ahead and get pricing to get that building torn down.

Mayor Penny stated he thinks they should go even farther and research any surplus property that the city has. He knows that they went down Riverside Drive, they're not going down that rabbit trail again.

Mr. Forte stated that's all they have right now. Anything else that the city has is park related properties. To his knowledge, he doesn't know if they have any others. Staff will try and do another search but the city has the deeds of all the properties marked out on a map in the City Clerk's office and he can't identify any other properties that the city owns.

Mr. Forte stated the last thing that he has is that he talked with them a little about scheduling workshop sessions during the day. He has a list of items that really need to be workshopped with the Commission, everything from SHADE meetings to Union contracts to a number of items dealing with land use, development, future land use maps, concurrency issues, there's a lot of issues in the Finance Department, HTE, computer upgrades, various policies, terminating grandfather clauses throughout the city for different things, a couple of other projects and in order to get some direction from the Commission, he would like to go ahead and hold some workshops. It seems the evenings are not a good time, prior to the meetings are not a good time and he thinks for the most part, most of the Commissioners can get here around 3:30 PM on Wednesdays. If that's okay with them, he will start to schedule them and they will probably be out by 5:00 PM. He would anticipate four or five work sessions coming up over the next couple of months.

a.

Request Authorization to Negotiate Sale of Property Received from Volusia County on a Tax Sale

(Requested by Joseph Forte, City Manager)

<< This document is too large to display in this window. You must open this document in Word to see its contents. >>

B. City Attorney Comments
None.

C. City Commission Comments
Commissioner Via thanked everyone for coming out; sometimes a little disagreement is a good thing. They're not always going to agree on everything, that's the purpose of having this board, that's the purpose of having elections and that's the purpose of their democracy here, their republic. At the end of the day he knows that he did what's best for the city in his heart.

Commissioner Danio stated tough meeting. Like Commissioner Via said sometimes they have to agree to disagree and tonight was one of those nights. Unfortunately, when they have ten people looking at a certain issue, five are going to see it one way and five are going to see it the other but he does believe that its time just because in terms of losing Mayor Penny because of a term issue, he thinks that is a detriment and he thinks that if the city had this in place last time, they wouldn't have this problem and secure a better and stable environment for businesses and citizens as the city moves forward. Like he said before, there's a time and season. He appreciates everybody coming out.

Commissioner Currie thanked everybody for coming out and always appreciates what everyone has to say and as she stated in her comments so passionately, she always tries to do her work for the best of the citizens and the business community and her employees. She thinks all three matter. She thanked the Easter Bunny for helping out at the event and thanked city staff that worked the Easter Egg event.

Commissioner Byrnes thanked all the employees that were involved with the Easter Egg event. Thanked everyone that came forward to speak tonight, especially the new faces. He used the word "ignorance" in his comments and ignorance is not a bad word because ignorance is curable. Stupid is not but ignorance is curable. So, hopefully, people will look at the actual issue and their ignorance will be cured.

Commissioner Via thanked staff for the Easter Egg event; thanked Chief Aldrich for the officers that were at the event for the kids. Every day on Facebook he's seeing all the good the officers are doing at the schools and in the community, hearing from the neighbors that the officers are driving through the neighborhoods so he just wanted to commend the Police Department.

D. Mayor's Comments
Mayor Penny thanked staff for the Easter Egg event and will be doing a workshop to make it even better next year; passion and anger when viewed from the outside, many people can't tell the difference, especially if you were watching them and couldn't hear them. So, whatever side you're on, it's the community and he hopes that they can be civil, that it can be informative, they can be passionate about informing people about whatever side of the issue they want to fall on but he hopes the challenge is it's not going to become personal and it doesn't become nasty and it doesn't tear the city apart because his mission, being their Mayor for the last, almost four years, was to try and bring positivity and he witnessed negativity here tonight. It's okay to disagree but he doesn't think they need to fight over it. At United Brethren in Christ church on Flomich, they talked about the Easter Egg hunt, UBIC is doing a play and there's two more

opportunities to see it if they would like to on the 29th and 30th evening at 7:30 PM, no cost. He went Sunday and it's the Gospel of Mark told from beginning to end by five people. Five very talented people. It's free; just show up.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM.

Valerie Manning, City Clerk CMC 3/27/2018

John Penny, Mayor 3/27/2018