M I N U T E S
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 11, 1994

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Virginia Wine called the meeting to order in Council Chambers in City Hall, 1065 Ridgewood Avenue at 7:30 p.m.

Answering roll call were Mayor Wine, Councilman Arthur Byrnes, Councilman J. D. Mellette, Councilman Shirley Heyman and Councilman Jim Elliott.

Also attending were City Manager Ralph Hester, City Attorney Edward Simpson, Chief of Police Pat Finn and Deputy City Clerk Sue W. Blackwell.

2. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Councilman Byrnes.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mr. Richard Dubey, 1509 Center Street explained how his property is being flooded. He said he could fill his backyard like some of his neighbors had done but it would only cause more flooding. He asked Council to look into the matter. Mr. Hester said the matter is being looked at and that he would have a report for the next agenda. Mayor Wine invited Mr. Dubey to come to the next meeting on October 25, 1994.

Mrs. Ruth Starr, 346 Clifton Avenue addressed Council regarding the fact that Mr. Chattin would be receiving approximately six months pay after he was let go at the last meeting. Mr. Hester explained Council voted 5-0 to authorize him to offer the same early retirement package the City has offered other employees.

Ms. Wendy Clifton, 1620-D Espanola Avenue, complained about the chemicals and noise being generated from Diversified Technology, 1625 State Avenue. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Harbuck said this is not a new problem and cited a lawsuit which was filed several years ago. The City Manager said he is trying to work something out with the City of South Daytona where both cities could share the use of a certified decibel meter operator. They have a noise ordinance very similar to ours. Mr. Hester told Council he would have a report for the next meeting. Mayor Wine said laws have changed in the past ten years and citizens should not have to live under these conditions.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes - September 27, 1994, Regular Meeting
B. Bills and Accounts

Councilman Elliott moved to APPROVE the Consent Agenda being seconded by Councilman Heyman. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on roll call.

6. REQUEST FROM CHAMBER FOR BUDGET ALLOCATION

Council discussed the request briefly and then Councilman Heyman moved to APPROVE the request for the $3,500 budgeted for 1994-95 bring seconded by Councilman Byrnes. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on roll call.

7. PROPOSAL FROM AO SERVICES TO EVALUATE THE WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATIONS

Mr. Stuart Davis gave a brief presentation (outline attached) and then answered questions from Council. He did assure Council of the potential savings to be had as had been outlined by a company wanting to take over the operation for the City. Mr. Davis said his company would point out areas of savings to the City and changes which could be made in the operation of both facilities which would result in those savings. He said his company will point out what is wrong and also what is right about the City operation.

Mr. Hester asked Council about having a workshop meeting to consider or to ponder the advantage of both sides on the issue - the privatization side and the value added engineering side that would allow the operation to stay within the control of the City. If Council elects to go forward in either direction, we need to look over the purchasing procedures in as much as neither firm would be considered as a sole source . We would probably have to do an RFP and take proposals. The Council could not act on this proposal without declaring it a sole source. Mr. Hester said in view of that fact, he is asking Council to consider a workshop on the matter or to put it on the next agenda. He said he is concerned about the CCNA process called for in the Florida Statutes.

Councilman Byrnes said this almost seems like good data to have in hand even if Council decided to privatize the plants. It would enable the City to have a starting point if we had to write a contract with a private firm. Mayor Wine asked Mr. Hester if he would have some of these people present at the workshop or was he just going to discuss this with Council. Mr. Hester said he envisioned an informal discussion.

Councilman Byrnes said this was good information and if the City can save money without giving the contract to somebody out of town , seems like a good idea. Mayor Wine agreed the City has someone that says, "Yes, you will do this".

Mr. Simpson clarified the issue on RFP vs. Negotiated Purchase. He said we do not know tonight that this is the only firm who can provide this service. He said Council would have to make a finding this is a sole source or that the solicitation of bids would be inappropriate. Based on what has been said tonight, Council cannot make that determination. Administratively, more information must be gathered before a contract can be awarded. Mr. Simpson said that is the reason for holding a workshop.

Councilman Mellette asked how long it would take to compile that information. Mr. Hester said he thought he could have something in a couple of weeks. Mr. Mellette said he didn't mind having a workshop to help keep the plant in the City's control.

Mayor Wine said Mr. Elliott couldn't make a workshop on the 20th. Mr. Byrnes said he had a conflict on that evening too. Mayor Wine asked about having it before the next meeting. Mr. Hester said the City Attorney said this probably can be done at a Regular Meeting. It was decided to put this item on the next agenda to authorize staff to either proceed with RFPs or the negotiation with a firm that we determine is a single source or that bids would be inappropriate. Council agreed.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 45 APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Mayor Wine said she would like to appoint Mike Myer to this Committee. His name was inserted in the resolution and then City Attorney Simpson read:

RESOLUTION NO. 94-R-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA, APPOINTING A MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE MPO, FOR THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA, FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF TONY LASORSA; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS
Councilman Mellette moved to ADOPT the resolution being seconded by Councilman Elliott. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on the following roll call:

Mellette, yes; Elliott, yes; Heyman, yes; Byrnes, yes; Wine, yes.

9. RESOLUTION NO. 46 APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE BEAUTIFICATION BOARD

Councilman Heyman said she didn't have a name at this time and asked if anyone knew of anyone willing to serve on this committee to have them contact her.

10. DECLARE SURPLUS EQUIPMENT /BICYCLES FOR AUCTION

City Manager Hester told Council that staff is working to arrange a professional auctioneer but has encountered some difficulty because the person we have been using is saying we do not have enough items to hold an auction. After some consideration for using a businessman or a City employee, it was decided a professional would bring in more money.

Council discussed uses for the money earned at the auction. It was the consensus of Council to split the money earned on the bicycles between the Youth Center and the Chamber of Commerce and put the remaining money in the General Fund.

Councilman Mellette moved to declare the list of bicycles and miscellaneous equipment as surplus property/equipment being seconded by Councilman Elliott. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on roll call.

11. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

Mr. Hester said he will be writing some memos on drainage as soon as his secretary returns and then he asked Council to meet briefly in Executive Session following the Regular Meeting. Council agreed.

12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

None.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Wine said she would like to have a Special Meeting to determine if Council is going to restructure the Public Works Department. She said some consultants have said there is no need for a Public Services Director and the City should restructure the Department and have a Public Services Manager or Public Utilities Manager. Mrs. Wine said Council needs to decide what is best for the City of Holly Hill and the taxpayers.

Mr. Hester said he has ads going in the paper this week for a Public Service Director based on that job description. He said it is his intent to start someone at the entry level of that position. Should Council wish to restructure that salary will also fall within the Pay Grade 25 which is also a Public Works Manager. He said the ad has been placed in national publications as well as newspapers in Orlando, Tampa, Jacksonville and Daytona Beach.

In addition, Mr. Hester said he is putting someone on staff in a part-time capacity for a limited amount of time to go through the transition. He said Mr. Alan Gilbert, P.E. retired from the City of Ormond Beach to help us get through some of the major projects such as re-use water and other ongoing projects.

He said he would welcome a Special Meeting to discuss the restructuring. Councilman Byrnes said it seems that with Mr. Gilbert's experience that after a month or two working in this position, he could give Council a much better idea as to what restructuring needs to be done than the out of town consultant did.

Mayor Wine said we hire these consultants at a hefty amount of money and then nobody wants to take the lead. She said in her position, if consultants are hired, it does pay to listen sometimes and with what is facing the City in the water, the deficits in the General Fund and the Water Revenue Fund, she did not see how the City could continue to operate with 70% personal services.

She said we can have an engineer as the Public Works Manager and when Paul Schulz retires, then the City can have an engineer in the Water and Sewer Utilities. She said we do not need someone over both of them.

Councilman Byrnes said his concern is that the consultant hired by the City did a poor job and the report he presented to the Council was poorly prepared and the Council has not yet received a final report from that Consultant. Mr. Hester said the City should receive that report within the next week as he finally got the data from the County.

More discussion ensued and Mayor Wine agreed the presentation from the consultant was poorly done in her opinion but the report did contain all the necessary information. Mr. Byrnes said he thought the information was poor and you do not have to do something just because someone says you have to do it.

Mayor Wine then asked that the meeting be set when the entire Council could be in town.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Council so the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk/Manager