

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA
JANUARY 23, 1996**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Also attending were City Manager Donald Lusk, City Attorney Edward Simpson, Capt. Larry Walker and Deputy City Clerk Sue W. Blackwell.

2. INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Councilman Elliott.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting - January 9, 1996

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

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

6. RESOLUTION NO. 9 - APPOINTS A MEMBER TO THE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

City Attorney Simpson read:

RESOLUTION NO. 96-R-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA, APPOINTING A MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD TO THE VOLUSIA COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL,

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996**

FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Lusk informed Council the lady he had been talking to about this appointment called late today and declined the appointment.

Councilman Heyman moved to TABLE the resolution being seconded by Councilman Elliott. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on the following roll call:

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

7. RESOLUTION NO. 11 - APPOINTS FINANCE OFFICER

City Attorney Simpson read:

RESOLUTION 96-R-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA, APPOINTING COUNCILMAN JIM ELLIOTT AS FINANCE OFFICER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Mellette moved to ADOPT the Resolution being seconded by Councilman Byrnes. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on the following roll call:

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

8. DISCUSSION ON PROPOSAL FOR CITY PERSONNEL PERFORMING ANNUAL BACK-FLOW INSPECTIONS AT COMMERCIAL SITES

City Manager Lusk said he and the Mayor have talked about this a little bit and he would like to ask Council to TABLE the item because it will have a large impact. It will impact the employee doing this work, impact the budget (both revenues and expenditures), and what he would like to do is discuss the impact during the upcoming Goals Sessions.

Mr. Lusk said he would like Council to discuss this fully because it will be a policy decision for Council.

Mayor Arthur said it will either have to be dropped or just tabled to the next meeting. Mr. Simpson said Council can drop it tonight as there is no resolution prepared for adoption so technically it is just

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996**

open for discussion and there is nothing to act on and the City Manager can bring it back to Council at a later date.

Councilman Mellette said he would like to hear the pros and cons and asked to have them brought back to Council. Mr. Lusk asked if it would be okay to do this at the Goals Setting Session. Councilman Mellette responded affirmatively.

Councilman Elliott asked why this was brought up. Mr. Lusk said the Mayor requested this item be placed on the agenda. He said this was done but the more he looked into it, the more complicated it got. It seemed like a simple thing the City could be doing got complicated and that is why he is asking it to be put off.

Mayor Arthur said he is willing to talk about it later but he still thinks it would be a good idea and it doesn't sound like privatization. Mr. Lusk said this is just the opposite. It was the consensus of Council to have the City Manager bring the item back to them.

9. ORDINANCE NO. 2419 - AMENDMENT TO THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS - SIGN ORDINANCE

City Attorney Simpson read:

ORDINANCE NO. 2419

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HOLLY HILL, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2352, THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, AS AMENDED; REVISING SUBSECTION 10.1.4, TIME OF COMPLIANCE: NONCONFORMING SIGNS AND SIGNS WITHOUT PERMITS, BY DELETING CERTAIN PROVISIONS REQUIRING REMOVAL OF NON-CONFORMING SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL LAWS OR PARTS OF LAWS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT.

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996**

Councilman Heyman moved to APPROVE the ordinance on first reading being seconded by Councilman Byrnes. The motion CARRIED 4-1 on the following roll call:

Heyman, yes; Byrnes, yes; Elliott, yes; Mellette, no; Arthur, yes.

10. VARIOUS COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Councilman Elliott asked if everyone was satisfied with the appointment as they are. Council agreed they were. *Councilman Elliott moved to APPROVE the appointments being seconded by Councilman Heyman. The motion CARRIED 5-0 on roll call.*

Mr. Lusk read the appointments to the audience as follows:

BEACH TRUST COMMISSION

Councilman Arthur J. Byrnes

VOLUSIA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND MPO ALTERNATE

Councilman Shirley Heyman

HALIFAX RIVER TASK FORCE ALTERNATE

J. D. Mellette

WATER COOPERATIVE ALTERNATE

Milt Hallman

COUNCIL LIAISON OFFICER

J. D. Mellette	Chamber of Commerce
Jim Elliott	Library Board

11. DISCUSSION ON AWARD OF BID ON WATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

City Manager Lusk said this item has been postponed because it came in higher (\$140-\$150,000) than expected. He assured Council this did not mean the end of the project, but that the engineers will have to go over the project and see what can be deleted. He said this would be on the next agenda.

12. DISCUSSION ON GOALS SETTING SESSION

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996

Mr. Lusk said some members of the Council have expressed an interest in doing this again this year. He said Roy Schleicher was the facilitator last year and after talking with him, Mr. Lusk said he is willing to do the job again this year for \$800. Mr. Lusk said they have tentatively agreed on February 20th and February 22nd (a non Council meeting week) here at City Hall. The sessions will go from 6 to 10. Council agreed this was a good idea.

13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

George Zoller, Executive Director of the Holly Hill Chamber of Commerce, told Council he and Big John are working to get everyone with a boat and fishing pole to the airport on Tuesday, January 30th at 3:30 p.m. to greet the delegation from BASS. The delegation is flying in to look over the various sites in the County where they could relocate. Mr. Zoller said this could mean 750 jobs in Volusia County and we need to show them the community is backing this project. He gave a brief description of what is involved.

He suggested the City let the employees off at 3:00 p.m. so they could come and participate in the project. Councilman Byrnes said he knows several City employees like to fish and we could give them a special hour to go out there. Mr. Zoller said several businesses in the Chamber are letting their employees go at 3:00 p.m. so they can get there because they want 2,000 people there.

Mayor Arthur thanked Mr. Zoller and told him this is a good idea and that he is doing a great job for the Chamber.

Councilman Byrnes said the City does have a lot of employees who fish or have boats so he said he could see allowing an employee (who is interested) to bring their boat to work and let them leave early enough to go to the airport. He suggested letting them have the time off from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. if they intend to participate. Mayor Arthur said he thought that would be wonderful. Mr. Lusk said he would like to look into that if Council didn't mind as those things can get more complicated than just "Let's do it". Councilman Byrnes said he understood. Mr. Lusk assured him he would look into this and if it can be done he would encourage it.

14. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

None.

15. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Councilman Mellette had no comments.

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996

Councilman Heyman mentioned always getting letters commending the Police and Fire Departments and said she just wanted the citizens to know about them.

Councilman Elliott said he has a concern the City has fallen into a low morale again after two years of working to try to build it up. I don't know what the Council can do about it but being Personnel Officer the last two years he said he felt we did a good job bringing it up and now all of a sudden we are in...in deep again to where there is a lot of discontentment from the side of the employees. He said he didn't exactly know how to say anything about what has come out; what has been said; what has not been said, but he thought some things needed to be clarified for him.

Councilman Byrnes apologized for being unsociable because of his cold but he didn't want to spread his cold to anyone.

Mayor Arthur said it is up to him to clarify this and bring the morale back. He showed two newspaper articles saying one is true and one is not true. He said he never advocated privatization. He said he isn't saying he doesn't want it, rather that he has never advocated it. The way he looks at it is that privatization is real; it happens every day. What he wanted to bring to everybody's attention is that privatization is real; it is happening everywhere but he did not invent it and personally does not care for it. What he wants the employees to do is for each and every one of the employees to sit back and take a look at how we can fight privatization.

Mayor Arthur said he wants everyone to think about that (fighting privatization) as his job as Mayor is to represent the interests of the people of the City. The tools he has to work with are the employees and what he needs from the employees is for the people to demand for the employees to stay. Mr. Arthur said if the employees think the people are doing that, they are wrong. He said everywhere he goes that (privatization) is happening. He said he is not in favor of it and wants the employees to know that and he would like to have a meeting with each and every one of the employees. He told them to get with their unions and then sit down and figure a way to make this system feasible (financially) and stable. He said he is tickled to death to see everyone working together and does not know if there is a big morale problem.

Mayor Arthur said he has no intentions of laying off a single person; no vendetta against any one because he never has and did not think he ever would. He thanked everyone for listening.

Gerald Page, 15 Howard Drive, said if he understood, the Council has already studied this approach and it wasn't cost worthy.

Councilman Byrnes said his comments were that in his years on the Council they have looked at various forms of privatization as part of the budget process. A few years ago the Sanitation Dept. bid against an outside firm and the bids were fairly close.

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996

Mr. Page said the employees are wondering what the Council wants. There are two employees who pick up the whole city's garbage. Three trucks do that. He said he could cite people he works with who do as fine a job as you could want. He said as a homeowner, he does not want to see a garbage truck whose home office is in England picking up his garbage, even if it is cheaper. He said he would rather pay a little more taxes if that is necessary. Mr. Page mentioned the meter readers and the conditions they work under. He said he trusts them and that is not an easy job. He said he works in the garage and would put it against any garage in the County. He mentioned a newly hired mechanic and told what a fine young man he is and how he works to repair the garbage trucks under less than ideal conditions. Mr. Page said this is why you have a morale problem and he just wanted to know what Council wants from the employees.

Councilman Heyman said she is very proud that Holly Hill is self sufficient and hopes it can always be that way and she is not for privatization unless there is no other way. Councilman Byrnes asked what she meant and she responded she would not want to lose the City by privatization but if the City is in bad trouble, then Council would have no choice. She reiterated she would not like to see that happen.

Councilman Mellette said as a Commissioner he would have no choice but to investigate if a company came to him and said they could save the City "X" amount of dollars. He said he would not be doing his job if he didn't at least look into the matter and weigh the differences. Mr. Mellette said one of the things that matters to him, especially in sanitation, is the guys driving the trucks will go back when a citizens calls in and says you missed my garbage can and a private company will not do that. He said that amounts for a lot with him and as long as it is feasible to keep this service, it would be the last resort to privatize because he doesn't believe in it or want it.

Councilman Mellette told the audience again the Council would not be doing their job if they didn't listen to these companies and weigh what they have to say and if that made the employees nervous, he was sorry but that is the job he has to do. He said he has to do that in the company he runs because if a supplier tells him can do better than another company, he (Mellette) is obligated to listen and then make a decision. He said he isn't trying to make everyone nervous by saying we are going to fire everybody and privatize.

Mr. Page said one of the problems would be what if privatization doesn't work and the City wants to get back what they had. Could the City afford to do that again?

Councilman Mellette said that is another thing that must be considered because when we have no more manpower or equipment, the City can't go back in the business and the private companies know that and he knows that. Ten or fifteen years down the road, the City would be at their mercy.

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996

Councilman Byrnes said this last year Council talked with this company in Ormond Beach, who runs their water and sewer plant coming up and doing that for Holly Hill. Mr. Byrnes said he pushed hard to learn how they were saving money because he believed if they can save money, we should be able to do some of the same things. He said we learned some stuff from that. It is important we keep on our toes. He said he works for a division of IBM and they can come up to him tomorrow and lay him off. Everyone has that problem.

Mr. Byrnes said he didn't think as City employees there was any grave danger right at the moment as he hasn't seen any plans for privatization of anything the City has right now. Mr. Page asked the Council to come out to the City yard and see what the employees do.

Mayor Arthur said this problem stems from him and what was said in the paper. The paper said he was for privatization but he wanted to tell everyone the real facts. It is happening all over the world and he wants to do something about it. "Let's change it." The Mayor said if the employees think he came into office and invented the word privatization, they are wrong. He said he didn't know anybody, had no grudges or anything. Privatization was discussed way before he ever came in office. He said he knows of no submittal from any company or anything like that but he wanted the employees to know it is coming and we have to do something about it. If the citizens demand for the employees to be here, they will be here. The citizens are the ones the Council was elected to represent.

If a company comes out and the City can save a massive amount of money, he wants the employees to know about it so they can come back and give him a good contract. It is the employees livelihood and that is why he is bringing this up. The employees must save their jobs because these are the best jobs in the world. Mayor Arthur said he would help save these jobs but the employees must understand he wants the people to have new roads, drainage problems solved, and that he is for the businesses of the City. That is what he has to do.

Mayor Arthur said he appreciated the employees banding together and he will work with them for whatever can be done.

16. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Council so the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:01 p.m.

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 23, 1996**

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk-Manager