



CITY OF ANNA MARIA

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MINUTES CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 10, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Conduct: We may disagree, but we will be respectful of one another. We will direct all comments to the issues. We will avoid personal attacks.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Copeland called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Dan Murphy, Vice-Chair Nancy Yetter, Commissioner Dale Woodland, Commissioner Chuck Webb, Chair Doug Copeland, and Commissioner Carol Carter.

Also present: City Clerk Diane Percycoc, City Attorney Becky Vose, and Sgt. Russell Schnering.

Press: Sun and Islander.

General Public Comment regarding non-agenda items and items not scheduled for future agendas will be taken at the beginning of the meeting with a limitation of three minutes. The Commission's intent is that General Public comment is to be used for the public to inform the Commission of new issues within the City. Public Comment regarding agenda items will be taken with each agenda item with a limitation of three minutes.

1. **General Public Comment** – None.

2. **Grand Tree 215/217 Park Avenue**

Mayor Murphy informed the situation had been resolved subsequent to the publication of the Agenda.

Commissioner Webb recommended the Commission relook at the Grand Tree Ordinance. In his opinion, the current Ordinance has no appropriate enforcement ability.

3. **Discussion: Resolution Regarding Amendment to Constitution** – *Chair Copeland*

Chair Copeland stated he feels money associated with politics is a bad idea. The Supreme Court ruling, declaring corporations are people and speech is money, in Chair Copeland's opinion, is destroying democracy. He believes people are people, corporations are corporations, and money is not speech. While it may not be an issue at the local level, he stated in the last year or two, a lot of money and time has been spent having to deal with the State Legislators. Chair Copeland stated local authority has been taken away primarily due to big money interests, and he felt the rights of the community need restored. It was his hope the proposed Resolution would be approved.

Commissioner Woodland referred to the sixth "Whereas" clause in the proposed Resolution. In his opinion, the entire issue was a clear violation of the Tenth Amendment and should have never happened. If fought at all, it should have been fought at the State level versus the Federal level. He felt the Tenth Amendment should be mentioned if it's to go to the Federal level.

Public Comment

Ruth Rouck, 600A North Shore, believes action must be taken at the local level - feeling the process "has been hijacked by corporate interests." She noted a Miami Herald news article stated as Florida began its annual legislative session this election year, at least \$28.5 million had been funneled into legislative political committees. Examples followed.

Ms. Rouck provided Supreme Justice comments relating to the issue.

Ms. Rouck provided the Commission with a copy of the '*We the People Amendment*', with the wording of what they are asking.

Motion: Move to approve proposed Resolution supporting an amendment to the US Constitution.

Action: Approved. Moved by Commissioner Chuck Webb, Seconded by Vice-Chair Nancy Yetter.

Motion carried – All Aye.

City Clerk Percycoe will have the language placed into a Resolution format for Commission signatures.

4. Discussion: Ordinance 16-812 – ROR Occupancy Limit on Newly Constructed or Redeveloped Properties – Chair Copeland

Chair Copeland noted it had been brought up there was no occupancy limit on newly constructed or redeveloped properties in the ROR. He had asked City Attorney Vose to prepare an Ordinance amendment to address that issue.

Commissioner Woodland asked for clarification in the event someone had a single-family residence they wished to convert to a vacation rental. He noted the goal is to do the same thing in the ROR as in the residential district.

City Attorney Vose pointed out a vacation rental is a type of residential property. However, one thing not covered in the Ordinance would be when there is a large existing home that someone starts using as a vacation rental. She asked if there were any large houses in the ROR that could be converted to vacation rentals.

Chair Copeland believed the Commission had agreed to limit the guests in a ROR vacation rental to eight.

Commissioner Woodland informed the previous year he had proposed having the same eight occupancy limitation in the ROR - unless the property's Site Plan shows something different. It was noted ROR properties with Site Plans would include: PAR properties, Green Village, and Post Office.

Commissioner Woodland suggested starting with vacation rentals only having a maximum occupancy of eight.

Commission discussion followed relating to the PAR properties.

Commissioner Carter pointed out the Vacation Rental Ordinance limits two persons per bedroom plus two, for maximum of eight. She asked if that language should also be added to the proposed Ordinance amendment for the ROR.

Action: Consensus for City Attorney Vose to amend the proposed Ordinance to include:

- **Exempting ROR properties that have gone through the Site Plan process.**
- **Once an existing Site Plan has been amended, the property would no longer be exempt.**
- **Add requirement for two persons per bedroom plus two – for maximum of eight.**

It was agreed the ROR properties having a current Site Plan will be notified of the action to be taken by the Commission.

Public Comment – None.

5. Mayor Update

Comfort Station at City Pier Park Update

Mayor Murphy encouraged the Commission to go by and look at the new City Pier Park Comfort Station that opened on March 1. There has also been new landscaping and security cameras added at the Park.

City Planner Garrett Resignation

City Planner Garrett's last day with Anna Maria will be March 24, 2016. He will, however, be available for consultation through his contract date of July 2016. Mayor Murphy plans to ask City Planner Garrett to enter into a proposal in order to be available for consultation beyond the July timeframe.

Newly hired Planner McLaughlin has been signing off on plans.

City Finance Update

The City is in good financial shape. Reserves have increased. Mayor Murphy will ask the financial planner to make a presentation at the next Commission meeting relating to the City's finances and reserves.

Staff is in the process of consolidating all money into Hancock Bank. Hancock Bank has offered a great interest rate on a Money Market account, with the ability to easily move money online. There are also many other benefits for moving from Wells Fargo to Hancock Bank.

Additional Business

➤ **Shade Meeting**

City Attorney Vose requested a Shade Meeting be held relating to the Federal Lawsuit. She asked that the Shade Meeting be held prior to the March 24, 2016 Regular Meeting.

City Clerk Percycocoe will insure the meeting is properly noticed.

6. Commissioners Update

Commissioner Carter

Attended the ManaSota League of Cities meeting earlier that day. At upcoming meetings, they plan to begin discussing priority items for next year's legislative session. Issues for discussion will include: Use of TDC money, addressing the loss of population on the Island, and traffic issues.

A presentation was made at the ManaSota League of Cities meeting from the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT). Copies of the presentation have been forwarded to each Commissioner for their information. Premiums returned to communities by FMIT since 2007 total \$65 million – versus a commercial insurance company who does not return premiums.

Commissioner Carter announced she was encouraged by others on the importance of her attending one of the Florida League of Cities Institutes for Elected Municipal Officials. The next advanced session will be held in Tampa on April 29 and 30. Commissioner Carter informed she would be unable to attend that session but hopes to attend the next session in October. The information was provided to the Commission in the event someone else wanted to attend.

Commissioner Carter informed FMIT awards annual Safety Grants up to \$6,000 per year. She suggested a grant application could be submitted for lighting at the City Pier Park – or any other type of safety-related items.

Commissioner Woodland

Commissioner Woodland asked that his Agenda Priority List be placed on the next meeting Agenda for discussion.

Chair Copeland agreed to place the item on the next meeting Agenda. He noted no other Commissioner's had responded with suggested priorities for the list.

Adjournment

Chair Copeland adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.


Diana L. Percycocoe, CMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved: April 28, 2016