

**CITY OF BROOKSVILLE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
201 HOWELL AVENUE  
MINUTES**

**December 3, 2012**

**6:00 P.M.**

Brooksville City Council met in regular session with Mayor Joseph E. Johnston, III, Vice Mayor Lara Bradburn, Council Members Joe Bernardini, Frankie Burnett and Kevin Hohn present. Also present were Robert Battista, City Attorney; T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager; Janice L. Peters, City Clerk; Steve Baumgartner, Finance Director; Mike Walker, Parks and Recreation Director; Bill Geiger, Community Development Director; Richard Radacky, Director of Public Works; George Turner, Police Chief and Tim Mossgrove, Fire Chief.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Johnston, followed by an invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**OATHS OF OFFICE**

Seat No. 2 – Frankie Burnett, for a term of office through 12/05/16

Seat No. 3 – Joseph E. Johnston, III, for a term of office through 12/05/16

Seat No. 4 – Kevin Hohn, for an unexpired term of office through 12/01/14

The Honorable Donald Scaglione, County Judge, Hernando County performed the swearing in ceremony.

**SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Selection of Mayor**

**Nomination:** Nomination of Vice Mayor Bradburn for Mayor was made by Council Member Bernardini.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Burnett for closing of nominations. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Bernardini and seconded by Council Member Burnett for the appointment of Lara Bradburn for Mayor. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Bradburn called for nominations for Vice Mayor.

**Selection of Vice Mayor**

**Nomination:** Nomination of Council Member Hohn for Vice Mayor was made by Council Member Burnett.

**Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of the nomination. Motion carried 5-0.

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## PRESENTATIONS

### Kiwanis Day in Brooksville Proclamation

Presentation of a proclamation designating December 8, 2012 as Kiwanis Day in the City of Brooksville.

Mayor Bradburn read the proclamation in its entirety and presented it to members of the Brooksville Kiwanis Club.

President of the Brooksville Kiwanis Club Pat Crowley stated they will be celebrating their ninety (90) year anniversary in March 2013 and reviewed this year's Christmas Parade on Saturday.

Al Johnson, Lieutenant Governor for Division 8, reviewed the history of the Kiwanis Club.

### National Adoption Month

Proclamation in honor of National Adoption Month to be presented to Donna and Edward Parker.

Mayor Bradburn read the proclamation in its entirety and presented it to Mr. and Mrs. Parker, who introduced their children.

## CITIZEN INPUT

Mayor Bradburn asked for public input; there was none.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Dumpster Supply Purchase

Consideration of approval to purchase replacement dumpsters for commercial accounts via piggybacking on the City of Lakeland's bid award to Iron Container, LLC for an amount not-to-exceed the \$24,360 approved by Council in the FY2012/13 Budget.

### Final 2011-2012 Budget Amendments

Consideration of final budget amendments to the Fiscal Year 2011/12 budget.

### Motion:

Motion was made by Council Member Burnett and seconded by Council Member Johnston for approval of Consent Agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

### **\*\* RECESS FOR COUNCIL MEMBER RECEPTION \*\***

A break was taken for Council Member reception at 6:15 p.m.; the meeting resumed at 6:30 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Program Consultant Interviews

Presentation and selection of a consultant for the Brownfields Grant Project.

Director Geiger briefly reviewed the process of the grant program.

### CARDNO TBE, BROOKSVILLE, FL

Miles Ballogg, Project Manager for Cardno TBE introduced the project team and reviewed their experience and plans for funding.

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Council Member Johnston asked which areas are most important for their group to focus on. Mr. Ballogg replied it is most important for community engagement at the beginning. The assessments are important in terms of redevelopment money.

Council Member Bernardini asked the status of the Hernando County Department of Public Works project.

Deputy Project Manager Dave O'Connor stated there was an approved site assessment and then they put together a remedial action plan. They did a ground water sampling for a one year period and are now in the second quarter. The Department of Environmental Protection and Hernando County are satisfied with the progress so far. They are waiting for a dry period of the year in December and January for the offsite soil contamination excavation.

Rick Hagberg stated they were asked to look at a number of different redevelopment possibilities for that site and determined a couple of remedial options to integrate activities to support in-use of the property. It was a combined effort with their redevelopment and environmental staffs.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked if there have been other Brownfields projects in and around Hernando County that they have been involved with.

Mr. Ballogg stated they have been involved with the Central Florida Regional Planning Council; consultant for Pasco County, City of Clearwater, Sarasota Manatee County MPO and have extensive experience about specific Brownfields sites within the area.

Mr. Hagberg elaborated on various sites of their consultant work past the assessment process.

Council Member Burnett asked how they would engage property owners to participate in the program.

Mr. Ballogg stated the State Brownfields incentives are for redevelopment. Owners would qualify for 50% tax credits and affordable housing would qualify for material sales tax refunds. The time to engage owners would be during a property transaction.

Mr. Hagberg stated that to involve community residents with participation they work one-on-one to explain the program and its benefits.

Council Member Burnett asked if any properties have been identified that need to be tested.

Mr. Ballogg indicated the downtown area, abandoned gas stations and a former Housing Authority project.

Mayor Bradburn asked Mr. Ballogg to clarify the Pasco County assessment coalition to identify areas that could be a part of their generalized clean-up program, not necessarily the Brownfields program. Mr. Ballogg stated it is a \$1 million dollar Brownfields grant to look at area-wide clean-up of improvements to utility corridors with assessments on the road, a future community center and various other projects.

Mayor Bradburn felt the projects were speculative in choosing those sites and it was not determined that contamination was there. Mr. Ballogg explained they did an inventory and there are priorities for redevelopment. There is some property being donated to Wiregrass for green space that is part of the clean-up project.

Mayor Bradburn asked how they would make a small community such as Brooksville appealing at the Federal and State levels. Mr. Ballogg indicated the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is more

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interested in community involvement on projects, not just large ones. Mr. Hagberg further elaborated on several small projects they have been involved with.

Mayor Bradburn stated her concern that the City of Brooksville has a small pool of money and she felt it is vital to solicit outside support. Therefore it must be appealing to gain approval from the higher levels for funding past the assessment process. She felt every quadrant of the City has needs that apply to this grant.

Mr. Ballogg explained the assessment is the first step that ties into EPA funding. Then there is a clean-up grant that they have been successful in acquiring after assessment process.

Mayor Bradburn asked what percentage of \$69 million dollars went to smaller communities. Mr. Ballogg pointed out several smaller entities with Regional Planning Councils as a grantee.

Ken Pinnix stated potential Brownfields sites are impacting under-served areas and many residents want to know they are safe. He indicated every project Cardno TBE has done has ended with revenue generating opportunity for the area, residents and municipality by creating jobs and inviting new business.

Mayor Bradburn felt community development has to end in economic development and the entire community must be involved.

Mr. Pinnix indicated there is a certain area of impacted sites with a spreading effect of opportunities. For example, the City of Jacksonville acquired Brownfields and Housing and Urban Development funds. He agreed that community involvement is the most important step in the process.

### **Margaret R. Ghiotto Improvement Award - Commercial Award**

Recognition of improvements to the property of Aimee Gans dba The Tilted Teacup Tea Room & Boutique located at 200 West Fort Dade Avenue.

Beautification Board Chair Scott Renz reviewed the property improvements and along with Mayor Bradburn presented the award to Aimee and John Gans.

### **CTC PUBLIC BENEFIT CORP., COLUMBIA, SC**

President George Foster indicated Creative Environmental Solutions is a consultant firm based in Brooksville and founded in 1994 with seventeen (17) employees. He is partnered with CTC Public Benefit Corporation for this project. He introduced Project Manager Brian Kvam with offices in Largo and Jacksonville and several others in southeastern United States. He indicated they have been working for three (3) years to secure this grant working with City Staff to secure this grant for the City and wrote the successful grant application that was submitted. He reviewed his many years of experience with the firm along with his partner.

He indicated this work is important to the City of Brooksville in regards to economics, environmental and public health. One of the purposes of this work is to protect the well fields by identifying sites that pose a threat to the City's water supply. A lot of the sites are contaminated with chemicals that are volatile and seep into buildings that exposure workers and occupants to dangerous levels of solvents. An example is the Hungry Thyme Café which was a gas station many decades ago where tanks leaked into the ground toward Liberty Street. He indicated the tax roll can be affected by lowering taxes on contaminated properties per State Law.

President Joe Morici stated CTC Public Benefit Corporation is a non-profit that helps entities develop environmental or economic development programs. This company started approximately fourteen (14) years ago in Charleston, South Carolina and has managed over seventy (70) projects from Florida to Virginia. They partner with firms as the project manager to concentrate on putting

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the necessary pieces together to have a successful project from start to finish. His interest in working with Brooksville was due to Mr. Foster knowing the area as a subcontractor for environmental assessments and technical work. They will assist Mr. Foster in making sure it is done in compliance with EPA and help build up the community involvement portion with predevelopment planning.

Brian Kvam stated his role is to interact with City staff and Mr. Foster and to help with community involvement and education on the Brownfields process. One of the other goals on this project will be to inventory and prioritize sites based on Mr. Foster's experience. The next goal will be to conduct the assessments by gaining access to the sites by property owners on a voluntary basis. He noted cleanup and redevelopment of properties is not covered under this assessment grant. However, it does pay for planning of cleanup and redevelopment. His team will try to secure funding for these two (2) final goals on key properties identified where cleanup is potentially needed.

Mr. Foster stated he is personally invested in Brooksville and he wants to see the City get the most from this grant project. He pointed out his team has the most experience of any firm nationwide.

Council Member Johnston asked how the remainder of money will be prioritized among the proposed goals. Mr. Kvam stated most of the money will be spent on phases one and two environmental assessments; it is one of the major goals of EPA. He indicated 5-15% of the budget will be spent on community engagement activity with 10% of the grant being spent on redevelopment planning.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked Mr. Kvam how much involvement he will have on the project. Mr. Kvam indicated he would spend as much time as necessary but it will not be a daily project management role onsite and Mr. Foster will be able to reach him at any time. His role is to have discussions with EPA, making sure all core leader counts are done on time, yearly financial statements are done on time, and all budget information is taken care of on time. Any questions on invoices from his office will be directed to him. Mr. Foster will be involved on a daily basis.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked if EPA and DEP will continue to provide this type of grant funding into the future. Mr. Kvam stated local programs and State 128A provide funds through EPA. There are other local non-profit groups that give money for redevelopment.

Mr. Morici stated EPA's funding declines each year to the Fiscal Year 2008 level for the Brownfields program. They are up for reauthorization and the market is working hard at getting the program funded back to higher levels. The State of Florida offers some incentives and has recently increased the capital on tax incentives allowed each year.

Mr. Foster stated most of the cleanup sites will be leaking underground tanks and will be eligible for "The Innocent Victim" program. He has enrolled three (3) local facilities in the program; Department of Public Works, right-of-way in front of Patricia's Boutique and the golf course. This program is well funded. He is on the environmental committee for the Florida Groundwater Association and the Florida Petroleum Market Association. They meet regularly in Tallahassee and expect more money in that program this year. The money comes from tax on gasoline, approximately \$210 billion dollars a year goes into a trust fund and 50% goes towards cleanups and will increase in future years. That funding pays for 100% of assessment and cleanup regardless of cost of any petroleum contamination from those leaking tanks. That program is going to save the City of Brooksville \$2 million dollars on cleanup of these three (3) sites identified.

Council Member Bernardini asked how the team is at getting grants for the redevelopment phase. Mr. Morici stated it has been difficult in the private market in recent years for smaller communities. They have contact with private developers since acquiring many grants across the southeast and they are in contact when they are looking for sites. Several federal agencies have certain levels of Brownfields funding and they have been able to tap into all those sources and compile a budget to

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make the projects happen. Mr. Kvam stated a lot of the tax incentives and tax programs for the State focus on the redevelopment aspect to offsite costs.

Council Member Bernardini asked how community involvement is established on certain properties and how money is secured to support the projects. Mr. Kvam explained various phases of public and private processes.

Mr. Foster further elaborated cleanup is not always necessary by implementing engineering and institutional controls which allow leaving the contamination in place and build right over the top of it. The public can be protected from exposure by keeping it paved or put a deed restriction on installing a well and drinking groundwater from below the site.

Council Member Burnett asked how they would convince the property owners to partake in the program, have they identified any sites that might need to be tested and have they cleaned up any sites within the city limits of the City of Brooksville. Mr. Morici said convincing property owners to participate is the biggest challenge grantees have and gaining trust. Education of the benefits of the program is the key and letting them know grant funding is available for an opportunity to sell or transfer property.

Mr. Foster identified many sites in the past three (3) years; a turpentine spill on the south side of Brooksville, the orange juice plant, the old treatment plant south of Martin Luther King Boulevard and rails-to-trails project could be contaminated with arsenic, as many abandoned rail sites are. He listed several projects he has done within the City of Brooksville; Hungry Thyme Café, the old pawn shop owned by the Bell Family, Patricia's Boutique, the Methodist Church, Bill Walton's gas station, lawnmower repair shop owned by Dr. Springstead, the old bus station, etc.

Mayor Bradburn stated this is a very impressive team with many years of experience. She asked if Ms. Jeter is a part of this team. Mr. Morici indicated Ms. Jeter helps with voluntary site rehabilitation agreements in negotiating with the Department of Environmental Protection. She also has certification in organizing public involvement.

Mayor Bradburn felt all four (4) quadrants of the City have potential sites this would apply to such as the Whatley corridor down Fort Dade. This is an economic investment for the entire city-wide community to be involved.

Mr. Kvam agreed and stated their approach is based on the needs of the community. The majority of their work has been with smaller communities. Their client cities range from 200 to 200,000 residents. They have been able to secure additional funding for any smaller communities that needed it. The Columbia grant study showed \$18 to \$20 return on every dollar invested.

Mayor Bradburn asked how far a radius of protection to focus on. Mr. Foster stated it changes from year to year but extends way beyond the Lamar Avenue well field and involves approximately fifty (50) contaminated sites. Council Member Bernardini confirmed all sites were within Hernando County.

Council Member Johnston asked how much experience the company has retaining funds from the State of Florida. Mr. Morici pointed out they have more experience in other states. They are currently working on a project with the state of South Dakota 128 funds.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING & TECHNOLOGY, INC., TAMPA, FL

Senior Advisor Marc Florian introduced Project Manager Teri Hasbrouck and Project Director Mark Culbreth, reviewing their experience as outlined in their Statement of Qualifications. ECT has extensive green space redevelopment experience as it applies to the City's trail project. They also are the only state-certified petroleum contractor interviewed. The City has over twenty (20) petroleum

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sites identified in the Brownfields application. He also pointed out the company has extensive manufacturing site experience as it attests to their ability to address industrial sites targeted in the grant. They have Creosol and Chlorinated Carbon experience, which are also targeted in the application.

He stated they are the only firm that can demonstrate having already facilitated cleanup and position property in the City of Brooksville for taxable investment and job creation. Lastly, they have a proven ability to leverage incentives and obtain supplemental funding to over \$170 million dollars in the past five (5) years.

They manage dozens of EPA Brownfields assessment cleanups involving fund grants. Service is provided on a “turn-key” basis in-house not sub-contracted to a third party; from programmatic aspects, reporting, and accounting to Phase One assessment.

Teri Hasbrouck reviewed their experience helping communities redevelop properties.

Mark Culbreth reviewed components of the grant and their vision of working with the citizenry of the City of Brooksville.

Council Member Johnston asked how they would prioritize spending funds of the grant. Mr. Florian stated they would follow the budget in the application. They could change categories and add another category by an appeal to the EPA Project Manager. Most of the money will be spent on community outreach sessions. He pointed out the City's priorities have been targeted in the application.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked what projects they have worked on in this area. Mark Culbreth has studied geology in this area. There is staff in the Tampa Office that has collected groundwater samples throughout the County. Mr. Culbreth did the assessment on the Presto 17 site and his staff has done all remediation work. They have drilled between 100 and 150 wells in Pasco County. They have done research for Lowe's, Zephyr 8 Company and various sites around Pasco County for development by different companies.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked are they aware of the City's problems with the Lamar well sites. Mr. Culbreth indicated he is not familiar with it but knows the City has wellhead protection areas set up around the public supply wells.

Council Member Burnett asked how they would convince property owners to participate in the program. Mr. Florian reiterated it is an educational process and part of the overall community outreach campaign that the City will have to put together. He also felt it is important to engage the youth of the community to understand the importance of Brownfields and how they can be redeveloped.

Council Member Bernardini agreed the focus needs to be on the “end game” and confirmed the Presto 17 sites; Cortez Boulevard on the corner of the Hess station with Hardees to the east. Mr. Florian stated they drilled 117 5-foot diameter holes finding such excessive petroleum contamination in the soil there were projectiles coming out of the top.

Mayor Bradburn asked how much of the \$170 million dollars were for smaller cities like Brooksville. Mr. Florian indicated it is easier to get money for smaller communities because there is more of a need for it.

Mayor Bradburn asked were the sprouts created as part of the projects and was it difficult to get permitting. Ms. Hasbrouck confirmed the sprouts were created as part of the project as lined ponds. There was tons of contaminated soil removed from the site. Mr. Florian elaborated on the project.

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Council Member Johnston asked Mr. Florian about his community. Mr. Florian stated he is from a small community in southwest Michigan. He is a local township trustee and a Planning Commission Member.

Mayor Bradburn asked Mr. Culbreth if he is a part of the local Culbreth family. Mr. Culbreth stated he is not.

Director Geiger reviewed Council options; endorse the staff recommendation presented to Council on November 5, 2012, vote on the project with ballot forms for ranking, or a voice-vote.

Council Member Johnston asked had staff dealt with any of these firms in the past. Director Geiger stated they have worked with Cardno TBE on the wastewater treatment system improvements. They have also worked with CTC Public Benefit Corporation and Mr. Foster who has worked directly for the City and prepared the Brownfields application. There has not been any direct contact with ECT.

Mayor Bradburn felt the three (3) firms are talented, experienced and accomplished. The initial ranking by staff was not unanimous. This project could be the economic stimulus and incentive needed to lure in new businesses to provide jobs. She explained the top pick would receive three (3) points but ranking would be one (1) as the best and so forth.

*Council took a 3-minute recess to tabulate the votes.*

Mayor Bradburn thanked all three (3) firms for their presentations.

Mayor Bradburn announced the results of the vote as follows; the most points received and the firm that will be representing the City on the Brownfields project was CTC Public Benefit Corporation, second was ECT and third was Cardno TBE.

### **Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC) Board**

Consideration of Council appointment to the WRPC Board for a term beginning December 13, 2012 through December 11, 2013.

#### **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Burnett and seconded by Council Member Hohn for approval of Council Member Johnston serving as a member. Motion carried 5-0.

City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed the City of Weeki Wachee would like the City of Brooksville continue to represent them.

Mayor Bradburn asked that Council Member Johnston update Council quarterly on the goings on with the Planning Council. Council Member Johnston confirmed it has been small-scale projects lately due to lack of development in the area.

Mayor Bradburn pointed out the EPA will be enacting new rules for water flow and there is only a small percentage of water bodies that have rules approved by the State of Florida. She would like Council to be informed of anything regarding water redistribution.

Council Member Burnett suggested Council agree to continue to serve as members on outside boards as it is right now. City Manager Norman-Vacha pointed out this appointment is brought to Council ahead of the others so that it may be on the Planning Council agenda for the first week in December. The other board appointments will be on the next agenda. Council Member Johnston thought it has always been a Mayoral appointment but as Mayor he has always considered consensus from Council as a courtesy.



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## PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Entry of Proof of Publication into the Record

### Resolution No. 2012-16 – Fire Assessment

Consideration of resolution for the imposition and collection of Special Assessments to fund Fire Protection Services for 2013/14 utilizing the statutory uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments.

Mayor Bradburn called for proof of publication. City Clerk Peters advised that the notice for this item was published on four (4) Fridays in November on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> in the Hernando section of the Tampa Bay Times and there is a copy of the affidavit for the record.

Fire Chief Mossgrove reviewed the resolution for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. He pointed out Ordinance No. 830 was adopted on July 2, 2012, which levied non-ad valorem taxes for the benefit of public health, welfare and safety. Collection of the assessments will be through the Tax Collector's Office after the first year.

Council Member Burnett felt citizens should have been given more time to pay the assessment past the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. Council Member Johnston indicated this billing was late due to the implementation process this year but in the future it will go out with the tax bills and be due March 31<sup>st</sup>.

City Manager Norman-Vacha explained it was a separate bill that citizens are not used to seeing. The notices went out because implementation did not make it in time to go on the tax bills. Staff was concerned that a longer deadline would warrant a second notice. She indicated it is Council's prerogative to extend the deadline and to send second notices for those who do not pay on time.

Council Member Burnett felt an extended deadline is not necessary but just wanted to know the reason for a short due date because several people had shared their concern with him.

City Manager Norman-Vacha suggested at the first meeting in February staff could report back to Council on collections. The notice indicated there would be a late fee but it was not addressed in the Ordinance. Then Council can advise on how to proceed at that time. Mayor Bradburn felt that was a good idea.

Vice Mayor Hohn asked that staff provide cost for a second notice. City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed she will know the cost once collection is tallied at that time and she will provide that information to Council as requested.

Council Member Bernardini stated he has received the most telephone calls on this issue since he has served on Council. He was concerned to learn that mortgage companies will not escrow that part of the tax bill and this first bill has to be paid right after the holidays. Chief Mossgrove confirmed his department received approximately 100 telephone calls during the first week after the bills were mailed out. City Manager Norman-Vacha pointed out the calls were screened by the receptionist first and then filtered to the Fire Department when need be. There were some people not aware of the assessment at all.

Chief Mossgrove indicated many people indicated they would prefer notification mailing prior to billing. He explained to them mailings cost taxpayers money and legal notice advertising was met.

Council Member Johnston pointed out on the resolution at the end with tally of vote it lists "Governing Board" rather than "City Council". City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed that would be changed accordingly.

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## **Motion:**

Motion was made by Council Member Johnston and seconded by Council Member Burnett for approval of Resolution No. 2012-16.

Mayor Bradburn asked for public input; there was none.

City Clerk Peters read Resolution No. 2012-16 by title, as follows:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROOKSVILLE, DECLARING THE INTENT TO USE THE STATUTORY UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS FOR FIRE ASSESSMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014; STATING THE NEED FOR THE LEVY OF SUCH ASSESSMENTS; DESCRIBING THE AREA SUBJECT TO THE LEVY OF SUCH ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR SERVICE BY MAIL OF COPIES HEREOF TO THE HERNANDO COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER, THE HERNANDO COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR, AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Motion carried 5-0 upon roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Burnett	Aye
Council Member Bernardini	Aye
Council Member Johnston	Aye
Vice Mayor Hohn	Aye
Mayor Bradburn	Aye

## **CITIZEN INPUT**

Mayor Bradburn asked for citizen input.

Kojack Burnett congratulated Mayor Bradburn and Vice Mayor Hohn for their appointments. He agreed with the ranking of Brownfields item with CTC as top pick.

## **ITEMS BY COUNCIL**

### **T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City Manager**

#### **Council Calendar**

City Manager Norman-Vacha reviewed special events for the next two (2) weeks.

### **Council Member Bernardini**

#### **Christmas Decoration Contest**

Council Member Bernardini announced the Beautification Board will be judging Christmas lighting for residential and commercial properties on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

#### **Chinsegut Hill**

He was pleased to see the letter from Hernando County regarding saving the property.

#### **Impact Fees**

He asked for an update on Impact Fees from the County. Mayor Bradburn indicated there has been no action taken so far. Director Geiger announced the time has been extended for discussion. He reminded that Council discussed re-implementing some portion of Impact Fees.

#### **North Avenue**

He stated the west side of North Avenue has big cracks especially on the south side due to the ditch that runs along the road. He asked that the cracks are patched as soon as possible.

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## **Frankie Burnett, Council Member**

### Staff Appreciation

Council Member Burnett commended the City Manager and City Staff for their continued efforts. He thanked the Public Works staff for cleaning up Martin Luther King Boulevard through the Thanksgiving holiday on both the City and County sides.

### Kojack Burnett

He announced that Mr. Burnett received the Hernando County School employee of the year award.

## **Kevin Hohn, Vice Mayor**

### Congratulations and Commendations

Vice Mayor Hohn congratulated Mayor Bradburn on her appointment. He hopes to live up to her standards of Vice Mayor.

He thanked Mr. Radacky and his staff on the Reuse Facility project and their PowerPoint presentation to Southern Hills residents.

## **Joe Johnston, Council Member**

### Red Light Runners

Council Member Johnston advised he was stopped at the traffic light at MLK Boulevard and US41 today around 2:00 p.m. and the car next to him went through the red light.

### Commendations

He thanked City Staff and the City Manager for their help during his year as Mayor.

## **Lara Bradburn, Mayor**

### Recognitions

Mayor Bradburn recognized the Parker Family for adopting six (6) children. She encouraged all to help people in need by way of volunteering as Salvation Army bell ringers. She recognized the Burnetts for giving gifts to those who do not have any.

### Christmas on Main Street

She asked that some City Hall parking lot decorations be moved to main corridor areas. City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed that there was specialized equipment rented to put up decorations along US41 and SR50 by City Staff.

### Old #5 Bridge

She noticed markings on the bridge and asked is progress happening. City Manager Norman-Vacha confirmed it is progressing with FDOT. Director Geiger indicated there are two (2) projects; the bridge project and the US41 Broad Street project that goes from the old Publix through town up to Cloverleaf. He was not certain of the timeframe but it is moving forward. City Manager Norman-Vacha indicated when staff receives more on a timeframe they will let Council know. Mayor Bradburn reminded to inform DOT contractors of the upcoming Blueberry Festival.

### Street Sweeper

She asked what the status is of the street sweeper. City Manager Norman-Vacha stated it is working at times with temporary repairs done on it. She pointed out it is very difficult to keep up with the tree debris this time of year but assured it would be cleaned for the upcoming Christmas parade.

Mayor Bradburn reminded a new street sweeper was in the proposed staff budget but some equipment had to be cut. She wants to be sure a new sweeper is considered in future requested budgets or find alternatives with contracting companies, especially for special events.

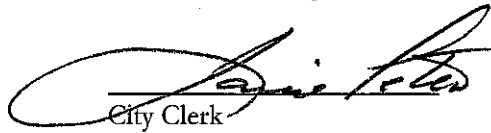
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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

