

**CITY OF CLEWISTON
Regular Commission Meeting
October 21, 2013**

The City of Clewiston City Commission held its regular Commission meeting in the City Hall Commission Chambers Monday, October 21, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Phillip Roland. Pastor Chuck Pelham gave the invocation and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

Commissioners Present: Mayor Phillip Roland, Commissioner Mali Gardner, Commissioner Richard Miller, Commissioner James Pittman, and Commissioner Julio Rodriguez.

Personnel Present: City Manager Al Perry, Finance Director Ted Byrd, Police Chief Don Gutshall, City Clerk Marilyn McCorvey, Library Director Ava Barrett, Community Development Director Travis Reese, Utilities Office Manager Rhonda Davis, Utilities Director Danny Williams, City Attorney Charles Schoech, City Engineer Tommy Perry, and Karen Moore.

Visitors Present: David Abney, Tammy Bunting, Asa & Betty Godsey, John Hicks, Christine Howell, Donald Hughes, Mike Pittman, Curtiss Pullen, Laura Smith, Jonathan Strykes, and Lori Williams.

Library Director Ava Barrett gave a very informative and interesting presentation on the Clewiston Library and the Hendry County Library Cooperative.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – City Manager Perry asked that Agenda Item No. 6 be deleted from the agenda. The Commission agreed.

1. Consent Agenda

- A. *Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes – September 12, 2013*
- B. *City Commission Workshop Minutes – September 12, 2013*
- C. *City Commission Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2013*
- D. *Final Budget Hearing Minutes – September 23, 2013*
- E. *Interlocal Agreement with Hendry County regarding East Rec*
- F. *Interlocal Agreement with Hendry County regarding JAG award*
- G. *Event Application – Bond Street Bash*
- H. *Commission authorization to hire to contract golf pro at the golf course*

Commissioner Pittman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote 5 yeas, 0 nays.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2. Extension of Mowing Contract with Cross Training Ministries** – Public Works Director Scheffler has been pleased with the work of Cross Training Ministries on their mowing contract. Cross Training desires a one year extension of the contract (with 0 increase in price) under the same provisions currently provided in the contract.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to approve the extension of Cross Training Ministries' mowing contract for one year under the same provisions currently provided in the contract. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays. (Commissioner Pittman abstained)

- 3. Mosquito Control Contract Discussion** – The mosquito control contract with Fleming Pest Management will expire in December. Fleming Pest Management is requesting a one year extension on the current contract with minor changes and a 5% increase in price which will total \$193,675. The Commission asked for clarification on the bid process. City Attorney Schoech stated that the Commission cannot completely redo a contract without going out for bid, but does have the authority to renew a contract with a minimal increase, such as 5%.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to deny the 5% increase and renewal, and go out for bids for the mosquito control contract. Vote 5 yeas, 0 nays.

4. **Southwest Florida Community Foundation Grant Acceptance** - The Southwest Florida Community Foundation has awarded a grant in the amount of \$50,000 to the Hendry County Library System. The agreement requires acceptance from the Commission.

Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Miller, to accept the Southwest Florida Community Foundation Grant and authorize the City Manager to sign. Vote 5 yeas, 0 nays.

5. **Discussion on Veteran's Memorial to be Located in Civic Park** – The Criminal Justice Class at CHS, led by Kristine Petersen, presented sketches and plans for a Veterans Memorial to be located in the Civic Park at the October 17 workshop. Tammy Bunting came forward to speak and stated that her daughter was at the Thursday night workshop to participate in the presentation given to the Commission. She stated that she is very protective of her daughter and the students very were upset about the treatment they received and she is disappointed how the students were treated. Mayor Roland stated he felt he was being asked to look at this whole idea on Thursday and if he had more time, he did not feel he would have reacted in the way he did. He stated he has worked with children all his life and he commended those students as he has seen them on many occasions representing the community. He stated he felt there was a breakdown of communication in the system and he is sorry if the children thought he was speaking to them. Mrs. Bunting stated the students came in very proud of their presentation and left the meeting devastated.

Commissioner Pittman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, to give the directive that the City Manager and Recreation Director find a couple of suitable locations for the memorial in the Civic Park and bring them back to the Commission for consideration. Vote 5 yeas, 0 nays.

6. Item deleted.

7. **Departmental Monthly Reports** – Presented by information only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - At this time, any person will be allowed to speak on any matter that pertains to City business.

COMMENTS FROM FINANCE DIRECTOR – Finance Director Byrd stated that thru September 30, City-wide revenue over expense is about \$819,000.

COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER - none

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY – City Attorney Schoech stated his firm received the executed land documents from Buchanan Services, however they executed a red-lined copy and he has asked for them to sign the final version for recording.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COMMISSION – Mayor Roland welcomed Utilities Director Danny Williams and Golf Pro Robbie Rush. Commissioner Pittman gave kudos to all of the departments who helped with the new playground and the splash pad and especially the Recreation Department for their involvement. Commissioner Pittman asked if the other Commissioners had given any thought as to how they thought the Voluntary Rec Fund should be spent. Commissioner Gardner stated that the City directors are in tune as to what is going on in the community and she thinks they will make the right recommendations to the Commission. Commissioner Gardner thinks the City should do another campaign to try to get people to sign up for the donation. Mayor Roland stated he feels the fund should be kept under City control. Commissioner Pittman stated that this fund is not a tax, but a donation and the Directors should have an input, but he feels the citizens should have input also. Commissioner Gardner praised Library Director Barrett for bringing in grant funding and stated she would like to see more grant applications. The Viva 500 celebration is November 9 in LaBelle to celebrate 500 years of Florida history. Commissioner Gardner thanked Ms. Bunting for coming to the meeting and stated that after the students left, the Commission continued discussing the Veteran's Memorial and know that Ms. Petersen does a great job and the Commission is very appreciative of everything they do.

ADJOURNMENT – 5:55 p.m.

Phillip Roland, Mayor

Marilyn McCorvey, City Clerk