

**CITY OF CLEWISTON**  
**Regular Commission Meeting**  
**July 18, 2016**

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The City of Clewiston City Commission held its regular Commission Meeting in the City Hall Commission Chambers Monday, July 18, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Mayor Phillip Roland.

Pastor Gatlin Burton gave the invocation and the audience joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Commissioners Present:** Mayor Phillip Roland, Commissioner Mali Gardner and Commissioner Sherida Ridgdill. Vice Mayor Kristine Petersen attended via telephone. Commissioner Julio Rodriguez was absent.

**Personnel Present:** City Manager Al Perry, Interim City Clerk Kathy Combass, Finance Director Shari Howell, Police Chief Don Gutshall, Community Development Director Travis Reese, Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil, Recreation Director Lance Ramer, Director of Golf Robbie Rush, Utilities Director Danny Williams, Public Works Director Sean Scheffler, City Engineer Scott Jones and Attorney Charles Schoech

**Visitors Present:** Jerry Cochrane, Gaile Carter, Electa Waddell, Tabatha Ralston, Hilary Hyslope, Ernesto Cordova, Mike Martin, Haitham Kaki, Laura Smith, Attorney Antonio Perez, Terry Gardner, Ramon Iglesias, Mickey McGahee, Scott Martin, Pedro Diaz, Margaret Wuerstle, Crystal Sands, Moyne Perkins and Juan Cardenas

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

City Manager Perry pulled the Consent Agenda, Items A. B. and C. Minutes in draft form were presented to the Commission and will be completed later.

City Manager Perry requested Agenda Item No. 2 be tabled to the September 19, 2016 Commission Meeting at the request of Zahra Khan. There was a general discussion regarding the procedure since this item was previously tabled. Attorney Schoech explained the City's options to the Commission.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Petersen, to table Agenda Item No. 2 time certain to the August 15, 2016 meeting with everyone being re-noticed. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- A. *Commission Workshop Minutes – June 16, 2016*
- B. *Commission Budget Workshop Minutes – June 16, 2016*
- C. *Commission Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2016*

**The Consent Agenda was pulled as previously noted.**

**PRESENTATION - MAINSTREET REVITALIZATION UPDATE – Margaret Wuerstle, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council**

Margaret Wuerstle addressed the Commission stating the revitalization plan was complete, has been submitted to the State and has been approved. She stated the City did not get the DEO grant for the façade. She stated even though the plan is done, the project is not. Commissioner Gardner stated she believes the comp plan revised the main street corridor to go from Olympia to San Diego and asked Ms. Wuerstle to confirm so those blocks will be included in the revitalization plan. Ms. Wuerstle stated it is very important to be aggressive in moving forward and being confident of what the City wants in the plan. She gave several examples of projects that could be part of the revitalization.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

2. **Special Exception for Clewiston Commons, LLC (This agenda item was tabled from the May 16, 2016 City Commission Meeting at the request of Zahra Khan)** – Pursuant to Chapter 110-395 of the City Code, Clewiston Commons, LLC is requesting a special exception to the permitted use standards for the properties located at 810 and 831 East Sagamore Avenue in order to use a Mobile Home/RV Park. The subject property is zoned Commercial.

**This item was tabled to the August 15, 2016 Commission Meeting as previously noted.**

3. **Special Exception request from B.A. Hospitality, LLC** – The applicant, B.A. Hospitality, LLC, is requesting a special exception to the height requirements for construction of a four story hotel on property described as Lots 1-10, the East ½ of Lot 31, and all of Lots 32-36 of Block 201 of the General Plan of Clewiston, which property is located on West Sugarland Highway and West Pasadena Avenue.

Mayor Roland opened the public hearing by stating the purpose of this hearing was to discuss and accept input from all interested parties relative to a Special Exception Request from B.A. Hospitality, LLC. He asked that all citizens desiring to speak on this matter identify themselves by name and address. All public comments would be incorporated into the official minutes of this meeting. City Manager Perry summarized the request and stated the public hearing was advertised in the Clewiston News on June 16, 2016. Attorney Schoech swore in all those giving testimony.

Crystal Sands from McGahee & Perez addressed the Commission. She stated B. A. Hospitality, LLC is requesting an increase in the height of the Hampton Inn to be constructed on Highway 27 to 55 ft., 9 inches. Mayor Roland stated his concern was the residents would not be happy with the traffic from Pasadena Avenue. Commissioners Gardner stated the residents wanted some type of buffering between the hotel and Pasadena Avenue. Commissioner Ridgill stated her concerns included a number of items; a 55 ft. building, a wall or fence, vehicular traffic, shadows, egress issues for fires, parking concerns, the concern of the look of the other two hotels next to this property and mattresses etc. being dumped and left in the area for a time. Attorney Antonio Perez addressed Commissioner Ridgill's concerns stating the architectural design and the mechanical equipment on the roof are the reasons for the special exception. The overall building size was not increased. He stated any shadow would be east-west. City Engineer Scott Jones agreed any shadows would mostly be east-west. Attorney Perez stated all property where residential meets commercial, there will be issues regarding vehicular and pedestrian traffic to Pasadena Avenue. He feels the proposed landscaping will look better than a wall or other barrier and the neighboring hotels have been taken into consideration. He stated the owner has future plans for a restaurant on the property of the other two hotels. Attorney Perez also explained regarding the previous issue of mattresses, etc. being dumped and left in the area for a time, there were not enough dumpsters to handle the mattresses that were discarded. He stated Hampton is a national chain and they are held to a higher standard, so this should not be an issue for the new hotel. Commissioner Ridgill questioned Community Development Director Reese regarding a fire safety egress issue. Director Reese said a wall could be a problem; a gate would not. The greater concern is the occupants leaving the building during an emergency.

Mayor Roland asked for questions or comments from the audience. Jerry Cochrane addressed the Commission and stated his concern was the location of this building. He feels the neighborhood will be destroyed. He feels a building this tall is out of character with the neighborhood and the capacity of the hotel will not be much during the week. He said if the Commission grants this request, he feels there should be a timetable for the project. Commissioner Ridgill questioned if the City could request a time certain for the special exception and if there is a special exception or variance on the current lots. Attorney Schoech stated the City could request a time certain for the special exception and it was his understanding there is a variance on the current lots. Attorney Perez responded to Mr. Cochrane's comments, stating the area in question is where the commercial zone is located in Clewiston and this project is an opportunity for development in Clewiston. He stated if this doesn't get off the ground in September 2016, it will not happen until September 2017. Commissioner Ridgill asked if Attorney Perez' client had any vacant property on Highway

27 and if his client had an interest in the Clewiston Hotel Group. Attorney Perez stated Clewiston Hotel Group is his client's brother-in-law. He explained his client's brother-in-law was trying to block the Hampton Inn in an effort to maintain his monopoly. That monopoly is the reason Clewiston hotels are expensive. Mayor Roland stated he would like to see the Commission approve this request. Commissioner Gardner stated she voted for the hotel because it is a franchise and there are standards and requirements by Hampton and Hilton. She asked if the technical review committee could look at landscaping transition from residential to commercial and the four parking spaces on the side for employees. Commissioner Ridgill stated she recognizes the need for the additional hotel. Vice Mayor Petersen stated she does not have a concern with the height. She would like to see a time certain for the beginning date. Jerry Cochrane stated he is not against the project; he is just concerned with the location. He urged the Commission to set a time certain for the start date. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the start date requirement.

Mayor Roland closed the public hearing as there were no other comments or questions proposed.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill to recommend the special exception be approved and the Planning & Zoning Board's recommendation along with a time certain date of construction beginning no later than September 2017 by this applicant or the special exception is null and void and to make sure the Technical Review Committee addresses concerns of the residents and incorporates recommendations to address those concerns.**

**Commissioner Gardner amended her motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill, with a time certain date of construction beginning no later than October 31, 2017. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

- 4. Variance request from Moyne Perkins** – The applicant, Moyne Perkins, is requesting a variance to the lot width requirements for replacement of his older, dilapidated home located at 431 East Ventura Avenue.

Mayor Roland opened the Public Hearing stating the purpose of this public hearing is to discuss and accept input from all interested parties relative to a Variance Request from Moyne Perkins. He asked that all citizens desiring to speak on this matter identify themselves by name and address. All public comments would be incorporated into the official minutes of this meeting. City Manager Perry stated the purpose of the public hearing was to consider a Variance Request to the zoning standards for the property located at 431 East Ventura Avenue. The property is zoned R-2 and the applicant has decided to demolish the residence and would like to rebuild on the lot. R-2 Zoning Section 110-287 for a single family home requires a lot width of 75 feet. This lot measures 62.5 feet and requires a variance of 12.5 feet in lot width. He stated official notice of this hearing was published in the Clewiston News on June 16, 2016. Attorney Schoech swore in everyone giving testimony.

Moyne Perkins addressed the Commission and described the condition of his home. He said the home contained mold and termites and was in bad condition. He also stated First Bank had agreed to help him build a new home at this location. Commissioner Ridgill stated the only problem with the request to build on this lot is the lot is 62.5 feet and this lot does not conform to the required width of 75 feet. Community Development Director Reese replied that is correct. Attorney Schoech stated for the record Commissioner Gardner is employed at First Bank but this decision will not affect her personal or private gain, so she does not need to abstain from voting on this matter.

Mayor Roland declared the public hearing closed as there were no comments or questions proposed.

**Vice Mayor Petersen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill, to grant the Variance Request to the lot width requirements for replacement of Moyne Perkins' home located at 431 East Ventura Avenue. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

**ORDINANCE**

5. **Ordinance No. 2016-03 - First Reading** – Ordinance 2016-03 amends division 10. C General Commercial District, Chapter 110 Zoning by adopting a new Section 110-401 “Special Exception to Height Regulations; Special Exception Structures” authorizing the City Commission to increase the maximum building height in the C General Commercial District by special exception upon application review and public hearing; provides authority to codify, a conflicts cause, a severability clause; provides an effective date; and provides for other purposes.

City Manager Perry read Ordinance No. 2016-03 by title. Mayor Roland asked for any comments, oral or written, from those in attendance relative to this Ordinance and asked for questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Gardner stated she had a concern in adopting this ordinance and did not feel this ordinance is necessary at this time. She feels exceptions can be dealt with on a case by case basis. Commissioner Ridgill questioned why this ordinance was included today. Community Development Director Reese replied the City’s ordinance for special exceptions is generic and does not give guidance at this time. Attorney Schoech stated it is helpful to state a height limit that is acceptable. Commissioner Gardner asked what height we are capable of handling from a fire perspective with the equipment we now have. Community Development Director Reese replied anything above 75 feet would require the developer to pay development fees and additional equipment would have to be purchased. Vice Mayor Petersen asked what the recommendation was from the P & Z Board regarding height. Community Development Director Reese replied the P & Z Board felt 70 feet was acceptable for industrial and commercial. This ordinance sets an upper limit. Commissioner Gardner stated she would like more time to look at this item.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill, to table this item to a time certain of August 15, 2016. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

**RESOLUTION**

6. **Resolution No. 2016-04** – Resolution No. 2016-04 creates a budget amendment for four (4) Department of Justice Grants for the Police Dept., the state funding received through the Dept. of Economic Opportunity for the Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant regarding “Main Street Revitalization” and funding received from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation 2015/16 Community Impact Grant for IHELP (Hendry Educational Library Project).

**Commissioner Ridgill made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, to approve Resolution No. 2016-14 creating a budget amendment for four (4) Department of Justice Grants for the Police Department, the state funding received through the Department of Economic Opportunity for the Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant regarding “Main Street Revitalization” and funding received from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation 2015/16 Community Impact Grant for IHELP (Hendry Educational Library Project). Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

**MISCELLANEOUS ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

7. **Award of 2016 Mechanical Integrity Test for the City of Clewiston Deep Injection Well System Bid** – The City advertised for bids for the Mechanical Integrity Testing on June 16, 2016. The bids were opened on June 30, 2016 and ranged from \$24,700 to \$29,500. The City’s Consultant for this project, David McNabb, McNabb Hydrogeologic Consulting, Inc., recommends award of the project to All Webb’s Enterprises, Inc.

**Commissioner Ridgill made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, to accept the bid for the 2016 Mechanical Integrity Test for the City of**

**Clewiston Deep Injection Well System and award to All Webb's Enterprises, Inc. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

8. **Award of Battery Bank Removal, Supply, and Installation Service Bid** – FMPA issued an RFP the City's behalf for the Battery Bank Removal, Supply, and Installation Service at the substation. Utilities Director Williams has reviewed the bids and recommends awarding the bid to Powercare and Service Solutions, Inc. The City of Clewiston will be asking USSC for reimbursement of 50% of the project cost, pursuant to the City's Interconnection Agreement.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Petersen, to award the bid of the Battery Bank Removal, Supply and Installation Service to Powercare and Service Solutions, Inc. in the amount of half of the financial impact of \$33,492.25. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

9. **Approval of Department of the Army License No. DACW17-3-16-0005** – This license provides for the use of the communications tower and equipment building identified as SF18 in Hendry County for the purpose of installing and maintaining antennas and repeaters. The communications tower is used by the police and fire departments and local government. This license is for a term of five (5) years commencing May 1, 2016 and ending on April 30, 2021. It succeeds License No. DACW17-3-11-0005, which expired on April 30, 2016.

**Vice Mayor Petersen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgdill, for approval of the Department of Army License No. DACW17-3-16-005 and to authorize Mayor Roland to sign the license. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

10. **Consideration and approval of funding method for the Golf Course Greens Replacement Project (This agenda item was tabled from the June 20, 2016 City Commission Meeting)** – The Commission approved the Capital Improvement Project of replacing the Golf Course greens at the May 23, 2016 Commission Meeting. The Commission will consider and approve a funding method.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Petersen, to approve an inter-fund loan from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund for the 2016 Golf Course Greens Replacement Project not to exceed \$150,000 and for staff to review if the gift amount in hand can be used to reduce the loan. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

11. **Discussion regarding Residential Rental and Inspection Program** – At the June 20, 2016 City Commission Meeting, the Commission requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Vice Mayor Petersen stated she has taken under advisement comments from Attorney Schoech regarding the court case in Ohio and feels Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil has worked very hard to bring together a rental agreement that will satisfy landlords and the City. She would like to see the City move forward with this Residential Rental and Inspection Program for a trial and evaluate after one year. Commissioner Ridgdill said because of the questions and the pending court cases, she would like to make a motion that we put a moratorium on the rental program. Attorney Schoech stated that with his additional language the policy would be legally defensible. Commissioner Gardner stated there is a self-certification in the program that is less onerous than what we are currently doing. Code Enforcement Officer McNeil explained the self-certification process and agreed it is less onerous.

Mike Martin addressed the Commission stating his concerns with this matter. He said when this began the City was addressing safety issues. He feels the inspection process has now gone too far and questioned Attorney Schoech if it is legal for the inspector to come on private property to do the inspection. Attorney Schoech explained the process of the inspection or the need to obtain a warrant. Mr. Martin agreed with Commissioner Ridgdill that there should be a moratorium for one year. Commissioner Gardner said she has a concern because the reason she wanted to see this program in place was for self-certification for those who are doing what they should be doing and we have had no issues with this. She

stated we have many properties within the City that do not meet any of the minimal requirements that we have under Chapter 18. We need compliance for all to self-certify for those in compliance and to catch or find those who are skirting this entire process. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the inspection program and business tax receipts. Commissioner Ridgill asked for clarification that the City can have the business tax receipt in place along with this inspection program. Attorney Schoech answered that is correct.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Petersen, to table this item to the August 15, 2016 meeting and make sure with the attorney the City has a legally sound document and the City understands clearly exactly what the responsibilities are for all parties of what can and cannot be done under this program with self-certification for those who do not have issues and that the City is going to be able to stop the abuse by those who do not know any better. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

12. **Discussion regarding Vacant Property Ordinance** – At the June 20, 2016 City Commission Meeting, the Commission requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Attorney Schoech stated he had received a draft from the SW Regional Planning Council which looks to be a simpler program and he feels there should be time spent with staff to compare the plan received at the last meeting and the SW Regional Planning Council draft.

**Commissioner Ridgill made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, to table the Discussion regarding Vacant Property Ordinance time certain to the August 15, 2016 meeting. 4 yeas, 0 nays**

13. **Discussion regarding update on Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Clewiston and Hendry County Concerning Recreational Facilities, Programs and Services** – City Manager Al Perry

City Manager Perry stated there is a first draft of a letter that was prepared to Hendry County requesting additional funds. Commissioner Ridgill stated she feels the letter is well written but details should be clarified.

**Commissioner Ridgill made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gardner, to finalize the draft letter and the Mayor should sign and proceed to send to the Hendry County Administrator. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

Commissioner Gardner noted this letter is addressed to the Hendry County Commission and not the School Board.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill, to send a letter to the Hendry County School Board requesting the School Board begin maintaining the three fields at the Sugarland Sports Complex on October 1, 2016 and requesting funds for the capital improvement project on the tennis courts.**

Vice Mayor Petersen stated she would like to know if the School Board preferred to maintain the three fields or if they would prefer to pay the City to continue to maintain them. Commissioner Gardner stated she feels the School Board should begin maintaining the fields October 1, 2016. Commissioner Ridgill asked Recreation Director Ramer what payment amount he felt the City should request from the School Board if the City were to continue maintaining the fields. Recreation Director Ramer explained \$48,000 would only cover the home games. It would not include the use of the field for the entire year or the fencing and resurfacing of the tennis courts which totals approximately \$50,000. Mayor Roland feels the City is going to force the County to build fields. He suggested the City request the School Board agree in writing to begin maintaining the three fields October 1, 2016 or pay the City \$60,000 per year. He also stated the School Board should fund the capital improvement project of fencing and resurfacing the tennis courts.

**Commissioner Gardner restated her previous motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill, to send a letter to the Hendry County School Board requesting the Hendry County School Board fund the capital improvements agreed to for the tennis courts which includes resurfacing and the fencing and beginning October 1, 2016 take over the maintenance of the three fields at Sugarland Park or pay the City \$60,000 per year. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

- 14. Discussion regarding hiring a Project Manager for the construction of the new Clewiston Police Department** - At the June 20, 2016 City Commission Meeting, the Commission requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

**Commissioner Ridgill made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Petersen, the City not hire a project manager, but have an owner's representative oversee the construction of the new Clewiston Police Department due to cost considerations as well as time constraints and Chief Gutshall must stay on that team until the building is complete. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

- 15. Scott Martin Challenge Funding** – Scott Martin will address the Commission regarding funding the Scott Martin Challenge for the 2016 season. Last year, the City of Clewiston funded the Scott Martin Challenge in the amount of \$20,000. The other funding participant was Hendry County in the amount of \$10,000.

Mayor Roland clarified the funding for this item is for FY 2016. City Manager Perry stated this item was budgeted and the Commission requested a vote on the funding. Scott Martin addressed the Commission stating everything is going well with the television show, he has had a good season on the tour and social media has grown. He said numbers are up on all sites. Mayor Roland stated Mr. Martin was Angler of the Year in the FLW and is number 1 in the world. Commissioner Ridgill questioned who was monitoring the Fish Clewiston site. City Manager Perry replied that Mr. Martin was still monitoring the site and it was growing rapidly. Commissioner Ridgill stated there was a period when there were no postings. Mr. Martin explained when the City has someone to handle the secondary posts, there should not be any gaps. Commissioner Ridgill stated she would like the City logo to be replaced with the Fish Clewiston logo on Mr. Martin's sponsorships list. Commissioner Ridgill questioned what Vice Mayor Petersen's concern was that was raised during the Workshop. Vice Mayor Petersen stated she would be more comfortable funding this matter at the \$10,000 level because it is taxpayer's money and she does not feel the City is getting the exposure expected. Commissioner Ridgill stated she feels the word "Clewiston" should appear in the viewing list of the television shows. Mr. Martin explained the titles are restricted but the word "Clewiston" could be used in the descriptions. He said he had increased social media for more exposure but had not increased the amount he requested from the City. Commissioner Gardner stated she feels Mr. Martin has fulfilled his advertising partnership commitment.

**Commissioner Gardner made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ridgill for discussion, to fund the \$20,000 as budgeted using the 2015 proposal and advertising partnership agreement to Scott Martin Challenge for FY 2016. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays**

Vice Mayor Peterson stated she agreed with Commissioner Gardner and wanted to make sure Clewiston, Florida is promoted. Mr. Martin said he will make some corrections and make sure the concerns are taken care of. Commissioner Gardner said she had researched one commercial per week for a year and the cost was \$22,000 and she believes we are receiving value for this funding.

- 16. Departmental Monthly Activity Reports** - Presented for information only.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Ramon Iglesias addressed the Commission and stated he had attended the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) meeting last week and their focus is the dike repair and then after that repair, is to store more water in the Lake. Mr. Iglesias said keeping the locks open until the water reaches 16 ft. is what is needed. City Manager Perry stated he will talk to Lobbyist Screvin to see if he could help relay that

message. Mayor Roland said he and City Engineer Tommy Perry had met with SFWMD and the people who were to help in this matter, but nothing had been done. Mr. Iglesias said he was under the impression the City Engineer was to give elevations for allowance for a 16' level and get back with SFWMD to attempt to keep the locks open to that point. Commissioner Gardner asked for clarification of the request to the Commission. Mr. Iglesias stated he was under the impression the City Engineer was to give elevation on the canal to SFWMD as to the conditions of that canal and the effect on property owners near the canal in the event the canal is maintained with the locks open until the canal reaches 16'. City Engineer Scott Jones stated a letter will be written and there will be an update at the August 15, 2016 Commission Meeting. At this point, there was a lengthy discussion regarding the 16' depth of the Canal and Lake Okeechobee and who actually owned the Canal from the bridge to the hurricane gates.

Ernesto Cordero addressed the Commission questioning why he had not received a response to his letter. Commissioner Gardner stated the letter was received and given to staff. Commissioner Ridgdill requested the response to Mr. Cordero be included in the next workshop. Community Development Director Reese stated staff had met with Mr. Cordero and Mr. Cordero was given a handwritten letter of agreements made at that meeting. Commissioner Gardner explained to Mr. Cordero why requirements must be met by all businesses.

Jerry Cochrane discussed the progress of the Veterans Memorial in the Civic Park. He stated nothing had been done and requested the project get started. Vice Mayor Petersen responded stating the project had started. She mentioned all items that had been completed. Mr. Cochrane said he did not realize that much progress had been made.

Vice Mayor Petersen stated she appreciated the letter Chief Gutshall wrote to the community and departed the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Pedro Diaz stated he was concerned because his variance request for a rear yard setback was denied. Commissioner Gardner stated by law the variance has to meet hardship and that was the reason it was denied.

Mickey McGahee addressed the Commission and expressed his appreciation to the Volunteer Fire Department for their quick response to the fire at his home.

**COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER - none**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY - none**

**COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COMMISSION** – Commissioner Gardner announced there will be a SFWMD meeting in Okeechobee on July 26, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. regarding the Lake Okeechobee assessment. She encouraged attendance at that meeting. Mayor Roland suggested the City call the SFWMD to request a meeting in Clewiston.

Commissioner Ridgdill questioned if anything had happened since the City made the decision regarding not accepting the surety bond as a utility deposit for the nursing home located at 301 South Gloria Street. She asked for a follow up on this issue. Mayor Roland asked if the nursing home had been contacted after the decision was made. Commissioner Ridgdill said the City should send them a certified letter regarding the decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

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Phillip Roland, Mayor

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Kathy Combass, Interim City Clerk