

CITY OF CLEWISTON
Regular Commission Meeting
February 4, 2019

The City of Clewiston City Commission held its regular Commission Meeting in the City Hall Commission Chambers Monday, February 4, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Mayor Gardner. The audience joined in reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Mali Gardner, Vice Mayor Michael Atkinson, Commissioner Melanie McGahee and Commissioner Julio Rodriguez. Commissioner Kristine Petersen was absent.

Personnel Present: Interim City Manager Wendell Johnson, Interim City Clerk Kathy Combass, Finance Director Shari Howell, Police Sergeant Demetrius Scruggs, Utilities Director Danny Williams, Community Development Director Travis Reese, Code Enforcement Officer Debbie McNeil, City Engineer Scott Jones and City Attorney Gary Brandenburg.

Visitors Present: R. Lance Ramer, Christine Howell, Asa and Betty Godsey, Mike Stevens, Donnie Hughes and Antonio Perez.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – none

1. Consent Agenda

- A. *Commission Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2018*
- B. *Commission Meeting Minutes – December 17, 2018*
- C. *Commission Workshop Minutes – January 7, 2019*
- D. *Commission Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2019*
- E. *Declaration of Surplus Equipment*

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

ORDINANCE

- 2. Ordinance No. 2019-01 – First Reading** – Ordinance No. 2019-01 amends Section 102-75, Construction Requirements for Curbs, Curb Cuts and Driveways, to change the date to require property owners to pave, at the property owners' expense, certain driveway aprons no later than February 1, 2020.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Ordinance No. 2019-01 by title.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Ordinance No. 2019-01 on first reading and set the public hearing for March 4, 2019. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

RESOLUTIONS

- 3. Resolution No. 2019-04** – Resolution No. 2019-04 approves the 1st Amended As-Is Contract for Sale and Purchase of Lot 6, Clewiston Commerce Park, between the City of Clewiston and Polaroma LLC.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-04 by title. Mayor Gardner noted the closing is scheduled for next week.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McGahee, to approve Resolution No. 2019-04. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

4. **Resolution No. 2019-05** – Resolution No. 2019-05 approves the 1st Amended As-Is Contract for Sale and Purchase of Lot 4, Clewiston Commerce Park, between the City of Clewiston and NQAS Corp.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-02 by title. City Attorney Gary Brandenburg stated that the amendment will allow assignment to a wholly owned subsidiary of the purchaser and designates the City Attorney as the escrow agent.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McGahee, to approve Resolution No. 2019-05. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

5. **Resolution No. 2019-06** – Resolution No. 2019-06 approves emergency repairs to City Well Pumps, Wells No. 1. & No. 4.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-06 by title.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Resolution No. 2019-06. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

6. **Resolution No. 2019-07** – Resolution No. 2019-07 approves the Amendment to Agreement between the City of Clewiston, FL and eGov Strategies LLC for professional services to redesign the City of Clewiston website to be more contemporary, better organized and better accommodating to mobile devices.

Mayor Gardner read Resolution No. 2019-07 by title.

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Atkinson, to approve Resolution No. 2019-07. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

7. **Resolution No. 2019-08** – Resolution No. 2019-08 approves CPA Andrew Jones' Letter of Engagement to perform the City's Fiscal Year 2018 Independent Audit.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-08 by title.

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Atkinson, to approve Resolution No. 2019-08. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

Before the vote, Vice Mayor Atkinson asked if the \$70,000 amount not to exceed is close to what has been paid in the past. Interim City Manager Wendell Johnson stated that the amount will most likely be a little more than the amount paid for last year's audit because it is a special audit requirement for FY 18 due to our federal funding threshold.

8. **Resolution No. 2019-09** – Resolution No. 2019-09 approves Modification #Z0012-1 to Subgrant Agreement between the Division of Emergency Management and the City of Clewiston regarding Hurricane Irma assistance. This modification is needed in order to include three (3) additional projects for which funds have been obligated.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-09 by title.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Resolution No. 2019-09. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

9. **Resolution No. 2019-10** – Resolution No. 2019-10 approves the lease of two copy machines from Xerox Corporation.

Mayor Gardner summarized and read Resolution No. 2019-10 by title.

Vice Mayor Atkinson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, to approve Resolution No. 2019-10. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER - Manager Johnson informed the Commission that he will be out of the office on Thursday and Friday but will be available by email and telephone.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY - none

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COMMISSION – Commissioner Rodriguez stated that, at today’s workshop, he recommended and prefers that the “headhunter” method be used to hire a new City Manager.

Commissioner Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McGahee, to hire a headhunter or search consultant to help find a new City Manager. Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays

Before the vote, Mayor Gardner expressed that she feels that we should also use the Senior Advisors in addition to input from the community to help us find the right candidate. Commissioner Rodriguez expressed that he feels that only one process be used. Commissioner McGahee stated that the headhunter could weigh in on what the Senior Advisor brings. Manager Johnson expressed that he feels both processes should be used; the search consultant can reach out to the Senior Advisors. The Commission discussed the salary compensation package for the new City Manager. Manager Johnson noted that the geographic, economic and cultural conditions should be considered when determining the salary. He stated that the salary range will be the Commission’s choice. Commissioner Rodriguez stated that if we want to hire the best candidate, the compensation has to be greater than before. Manager Johnson stated that the search consultant should be asked if he would be comfortable working with the Senior Advisors. Attorney Brandenburg suggested that the advertisement state that the salary is negotiable. Commissioner McGahee stated that she prefers the salary range to be shown along with language that the salary is negotiable because she worries that they may look at our prior pay history. Manager Johnson noted that the search consultant will be discussing the salary with potential applicants. Attorney Brandenburg suggested that the position be advertised without any number and ask for advice from the consultant after they have looked at the range of people available.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Mali Gardner, Mayor

Mary K. Combass, Interim City Clerk