

1 TAVARES CITY COUNCIL  
2 MINUTES

3  
4 October 19, 2016

5 4:00 P.M.

6 TAVARES CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7  
8 **COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

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10 Lori Pfister, Mayor  
11 Kirby Smith, Vice Mayor  
12 Bob Grenier, Councilmember  
13 Lisa Johnson, Councilmember  
14 Troy Singer, Councilmember

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16 **STAFF PRESENT**

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18 John Drury, City Administrator  
19 Robert Q. Williams, City Attorney  
20 Nancy A. Barnett, City Clerk  
21 Lori Houghton, Finance Director  
22 Lori Tucker, Human Resources Director  
23 Richard Keith, Fire Department  
24 Jacques Skutt, Director of Community Development  
25 Stoney Lubins, Police Chief  
26 Brad Hayes, Director of Utilities  
27 Chris Thompson, Director of Public Works

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29 **I. CALL TO ORDER**

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31 Mayor Pfister called the meeting to order.

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33 **II. INVOCATION**

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35 Pastor Eric Filkin, Bridges Covenant Church, gave the invocation and led those present in the  
36 Pledge of Allegiance.

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38 Mayor Pfister reminded the audience of the Audience to Speak forms and hearing devices.

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40 **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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42 **MOTION**

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44 **Bob Grenier moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Kirby Smith.**

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46 Mr. Drury said there were no changes from staff.

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48 **The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.**

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**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Tab 1) Approval of Minutes - Deferred**

**V. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**Tab 2) Presentation by Alexander Netwal Eagle Scout – Clean Up of Aesop’s Park**

Mr. Netwal stated there were 13 people that participated (seven scouts and six adults). He said they took away a trailer full of debris to the landfill. He said the project went smoothly. Mr. Drury said Mr. Netwal’s photographs will be put on the city’s web site and he thanked him for seeing this project through to completion.

Mayor Pfister read a proclamation for Alexander Netwal:

**WHEREAS**, Eagle Scout Candidate Alexander Netwal is a member of Troop 233, sponsored by the Fraternal Order of the Eagles in Leesburg, Florida;

**WHEREAS**, Alexander Netwal came to the City of Tavares offering to provide a community service for his Eagle Scout project by cleaning the shoreline of Aesop Park Pond in Tavares, and;

**WHEREAS**, Alexander Netwal and Troop 233 worked diligently with the City of Tavares to complete this important project which is very beneficial to the quality of life for the Citizens of Tavares, and;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Tavares commends Mr. Netwal’s initiative for taking on this project and seeing it to completion.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Tavares, Florida expresses its appreciation for the Aesop’s Park Pond project completed by Alexander Netwal and Troop 233 and extends best wishes to Mr. Netwal on his journey to becoming an Eagle Scout.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** in regular session this 19th day of October 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Lori Pfister  
City of Tavares

**Tab 3) Rifles, Rails and History**

Mayor Pfister invited Don Campbell to speak. Mr. Campbell reviewed the history of the Rifles, Rails and History project which began to be formulated five years ago. Mr. Campbell said he worked with Councilmember Grenier, and Ms. Heather Graham to develop their shared vision of

100 this event. The various re-enactment events had typically been held in parks and fields far from  
101 the public and they wanted this event to be different—to take place in a downtown setting where  
102 people could come and learn and enjoy the event but also the town itself. There was a desire to  
103 showcase Tavares (they did not have their own food vendors to encourage patronage of the  
104 local restaurants) He said Tavares is unique in the way it celebrates history of all types. He  
105 thanked the local businesses, the staff, and the City Council for their support. Next year will be  
106 the 5<sup>th</sup> year.

107  
108 **VI. SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EX-PARTE CONTACTS**

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110 Attorney Williams stated there are several quasi-judicial hearings: Tab 6 – Annexation and  
111 Rezoning; Tab 7 – Future Land Use Amendment; and Tab 8 – Rezoning (PUD). He gave the  
112 oath to those who wished to give testimony. He then asked each Councilmember to declare any  
113 ex-parte communications. Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Singer stated they had  
114 spoken to the developer of the Lake Hermosa project. Vice Mayor Smith said he had spoken to  
115 Ben Johnson about the deannexation of the Peninsula and the applicant for the annexation and  
116 rezoning of the Nazarene church Tab 6. Mayor Pfister said she had also spoken to Mr. Johnson.  
117 (Attorney Williams noted the Peninsula was not on the agenda as a quasi-judicial issue.)  
118

119 **VII. READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD**

120  
121 Ms. Barnett noted that Ordinance #2016-32 was being re-read for first reading and would be  
122 read and discussed at second reading at the next Council Meeting.  
123

124  
125 **ORDINANCE 2016-27**

126  
127 **A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA,**  
128 **REVOKING AND REPLACING PORTIONS OF EXPIRED PLANNED DEVELOPMENT**  
129 **ORDINANCES 94-20 AND 2006-05 AS THEY PERTAIN TO APPROXIMATELY 155**  
130 **ACRES OF UNDEVELOPED LANDS GENERALLY LOCATED WEST OF MOUNT**  
131 **HOMER DRIVE, WESTERLY TO AND PARTIALLY SURROUNDING LAKE**  
132 **HERMOSA, ADOPTING A NEW PLANNED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE THAT**  
133 **WOULD ALLOW AND PROVIDE GOVERNING REGULATIONS FOR THE**  
134 **DEVELOPMENT OF A MIXED-USE URBAN VILLAGE, PROVIDING THE BOUNDARY**  
135 **AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION TO WHICH THIS PLANNED DEVELOPMENT IS**  
136 **APPLICABLE; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS**  
137 **ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE**  
138 **DATE.**  
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141 **ORDINANCE 2016-28**

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143 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF**  
144 **THE CITY BY ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES OF LAND LOCATED ON THE**  
145 **NORTHWEST INTERSECTION OF DAVID WALKER DRIVE AND DORA AVENUE;**  
146 **REZONING SAID PROPERTY FROM LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY FACILITY**  
147 **DISTRICT (CFD) TO CITY OF TAVARES GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-1); SUBJECT**  
148 **TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF**  
149 **TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN**  
150 **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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**ORDINANCE 2016-29**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TAVARES COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP 2020, PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE OF FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION ON APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST INTERSECTION OF DAVID WALKER DRIVE AND DORA AVENUE; FROM LAKE COUNTY OFFICE TO CITY OF TAVARES COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2016-32**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES AMENDING CHAPTER 15, PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT, ARTICLE IV, POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION TRUST FUND, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TAVARES; AMENDING SECTION 15-97, PRIOR POLICE SERVICE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pfister asked if anyone in the audience objected to the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Singer requested to pull Tab 4 – SRF amendment.

Councilmember Singer asked for clarification as it was a project voted on in 2014. He said he understood that when it was approved originally, Council was under the assumption of getting funding and grants. It now appears that the City was able to obtain the grants and even more assistance than was expected. In addition when it was approved there was reserve money that was frozen. Ms. Houghton acknowledged in March 2016 the Council awarded the contract for \$5,328,306 which came in slightly above the original estimates and at that time there was preliminary approval from SRF so reserve funds were frozen until the final approval was received. With the final approval the reserves can be released. The SRF loan is based on 0% interest rate.

**MOTION**

**Troy Singer moved to approve Amendment No. 3 to the FDEP SRF Stormwater Phase 1 Project Loan No. SW350940 which increased the disbursable loan amount by \$2,107,035 and reflects an increased awarded stormwater grants offset. The motion was seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

**IX. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

**Tab 5) Ordinance #2016-32 – Read for First Reading**

**SECOND READINGS**

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**Tab 6) Ordinance #2016-28 – Tavares 1<sup>st</sup> Church of the Nazarene – 32151 David Walker Road – 3 Acres**

Mr. Skutt said this annexation and rezoning application has been received due to a wish of the church to add some Sunday school classrooms to the church. Connection to the city’s wastewater utilities is required for this expansion. The property already receives city water. It is contiguous to the city boundary. The property is zoned Community Facility in the County and the applicant has requested a city General Commercial C-1 zoning which allows a church use. The Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval and staff recommends approval.

**MOTION**

**Kirby Smith moved to approve Ordinance #2016-28, seconded by Bob Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

**Tab 7) Ordinance #2016-29 – Tavares Church of the Nazarene 32151 David Walker Road – 3 Acres – Small Scale Future Land Use Amendment to City Commercial**

Mr. Skutt said this will change the designation from Lake County Office to City Commercial. The land is adjacent to the city boundary and the vicinity of the property is commercial. The Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval and staff recommends approval.

**MOTION**

**Bob Grenier moved to approve Ordinance #2016-29, seconded by Lisa Johnson. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

**Tab 8) Ordinance #2016-27 – Planned Development – 155 Acres – Lake Hermosa Village – South of Clay Blvd. between Mt. Homer Drive and Lake Hermosa**

Mr. Skutt said this ordinance will rescind previous undeveloped and expired ordinances passed in 1994 and in 2006 that applied to the subject property. This will be a new Planned Development ordinance that will govern the development regulations for a proposed new Mixed Use Village. Waterman Center LLC and Lake Hermosa Village LLC have combined properties in the previous expired ordinances and they desire to develop the property as a Mixed Use Village regulated by a new development ordinance that specifically addresses their town village concept. The applicant is also the developer of Avalon Park in East Orlando which will serve as a business and planning model for this development. It envisions a fairly dense self-contained connected living environment consisting of varying homestyles with supporting offices, commercial uses, educational and recreational services. The conceptual plan attached to the ordinance allows a maximum of 1088 dwelling units of varying types. Of these 788 units are either attached or multi-family in nature with minimal setbacks. He reviewed the various uses proposed.

Mr. Skutt said at the Planning & Zoning meeting in September residents abutting the northern boundary of Clay Blvd. commented on access points and abutting building height. The

249 developer has made modifications to the ordinance which have been highlighted in yellow to  
250 address these concerns. One of the modifications is that in no event shall automobile access be  
251 granted adjacent to 1400, 1420, 1472, 1550 Clay Blvd. and also 1002 Lake Hermosa Road.  
252

253 Staff believe that the approval and development of this planned Mixed Use Village will ultimately  
254 be viewed as a key advancement in the economic growth of the city. The Planning & Zoning  
255 Board voted unanimously to recommend approval and staff recommends approval.  
256

257 Mayor Pfister asked if a representative from the developer wished to speak.  
258

259 Beat Kahli of Winter Park, Florida  
260

261 Mr. Kahli stated that he is the President of the Avalon Group which is passionate about the  
262 village style concept. He said they have owned the parcel for more than a decade and  
263 envisioned building a community modeled after Celebration, Baldwin Park, and Avalon Park. He  
264 said they have learned over the years that single use is not the way to go as it requires more  
265 automobile use to get to services. He said these planned community concept creates an  
266 environment where people know each other and have more investment in the neighborhood.  
267 Mr. Kahli thanked the staff and City Councilmembers for their support. He acknowledged his  
268 team members in attendance: Ross Halle, planner and their architect from Switzerland.  
269

270 Vice Mayor Smith asked when the groundbreaking will occur. Mr. Kahli said it will take about 9  
271 months to do the planning and the plan is to begin construction in about a year.  
272

273 Audience Members  
274

275 Sue Boehm of 1002 Hermosa Road, Eustis, stated their house is the only one on the street that  
276 abuts the property. She said they generally support a mixed use, however in addition to the  
277 changes already agreed on they had additional requests:  
278

- 279 1) Modify the setback provision to require 25 ft. landscape buffer from an existing homeowner  
280 on Clay Blvd. or Hermosa Road abutting the Planned Development
- 281 2) Construction located adjacent to the Planned Development should be limited to a two story  
282 construction in order to maintain scale of existing neighborhood.
- 283 3) They object to the proposed location of the senior facility as identified on the concept plan  
284 and requested that the concept plan and ordinance be amended to require any senior facility be  
285 built adjacent to Mt. Homer Road in order to facilitate more direct and shorter transport to the  
286 Florida Hospital Waterman facility.
- 287 4) She requested that the area depicted in the current concept plan as a senior facility be  
288 identified instead as Single Family Residential to be more in keeping with the existing residential  
289 development. She said the proposed location of the senior facility is very close to their house  
290 which is built only 5 feet from their property line.  
291

292 Mr. Skutt said currently the governing setback is that they are required a minimum of a 10 ft.  
293 landscape buffer from multi-family residential to a single family residential. That buffer would  
294 have to be a continuous hedge with canopy trees - one every 40 feet. In addition when they  
295 develop their plan for that particular use it will have to go through site plan review. Staff will  
296 review the setback again at that time which would not allow a three story building to be built

297 within five feet of a single family residence.

298

299 Nicole Jenney – 1550 Clay Blvd.

300

301 Ms. Jenney requested that single family homes be put where the current senior living center will  
302 be located. She said the density of a commercial building behind the homes both on the north  
303 and the south side of Clay Blvd. would not help the residential community along or the value of  
304 the homes. She said three quarter of the homes in this plan are multi-family homes which she  
305 believed are too contrasting to the current community. She asked about the dwelling units  
306 allowed. Mr. Skutt said the maximum is seven dwelling units per acre. Ms. Jenney said the letter  
307 she received said in no event would automobile access be granted adjacent to 1400 Clay, 1420  
308 Clay, 1472 and 1550 Clay. She asked if that would include EMS vehicles. Mr. Skutt said if there  
309 is not a road there he doubted whether an EMS vehicle would be able to have access. Ms.  
310 Jenney asked to have that in writing stating that there will be no EMS or commercial access at  
311 that location if they are going to build a senior living facility. She asked for a setback provision of  
312 at least 25 feet and a two story construction height.

313

314 Vernon Bond – 9 Hermosa Drive

315

316 Mr. Bond complimented Avalon's latest revision as "Plan B" but asked them to go to "Plan C"  
317 next. He said on the map it shows an arrow pointing in the back of Etowah. He asked the  
318 developer if they had a contract on that access. Mr. Halley said they did not. Mr. Bond asked  
319 about access roads on the north side and the east side of Elizabeth Circle. He expressed  
320 concern about a proposed pier based on a similar pier and causeway he had observed in  
321 Clermont.

322

323 Lori Barnes, City of Eustis Development Services

324

325 Ms. Barnes stated that the City of Eustis is in support of the project. She expressed appreciation  
326 to the developer for being willing to make some modifications to minimize the impacts to the  
327 Eustis residents. She asked for clarification as the last version of the Development Order had  
328 referenced the height limitations adjacent to properties on Clay Blvd. It did not include the  
329 properties adjacent on Lake Hermosa Road. Mr. Skutt said that was an omission on the part of  
330 the developer and he had met with the developer who stated they had made a mistake. He said  
331 he has made an amendments to the ordinance which is included in the Council's packet.

332

333 Ms. Barnes stated they have been working with staff regarding some concerns about the future  
334 maintenance of Clay Blvd. and they looked forward to working the staff. Mr. Drury thanked Ms.  
335 Barnes and the City Manager of Eustis for their cooperation.

336

337 Derrick Zappitello stood to speak. Attorney Williams gave him the oath.

338

339 Mr. Zappitello, 2919 Etowah Park Blvd. asked if the builder has a wildlife replacement program  
340 for the wildlife that live on the current property. He said if there is no relocation plan the wildlife  
341 will go to the adjacent properties which will be a safety issue for people with pets. In addition he  
342 said he was not aware of the cut through to Etowah. He said they have one way and one way  
343 out of Etowah currently. He said he was concerned about another 1000 people cutting in and  
344 out of Etowah.

345  
346 Councilmember Smith asked Mr. Skutt to speak on his work with the contractor. Mr. Skutt said  
347 on this project staff has been working the developer for close to a year with several meetings  
348 and revisions.

349  
350 Councilmember Singer asked why the Avalon Group chose Tavares. Mr. Kahli said he is a  
351 member of the Florida Hospital Board and they believe in the future of Tavares. He said  
352 Tavares is about the size of Avalon Park with about 15,000 residents. He said it has taken  
353 awhile for the economy to improve to begin work on the project. Councilmember Singer spoke in  
354 support of the project. He said he wanted to ensure that the company would be staying in  
355 Tavares.

356  
357 Councilmember Johnson said she had met with the developer and believed their concept is in  
358 step with the City of Tavares with its small town feel. She said she hoped they would continue to  
359 work the neighbors as much as possible. She agreed with the concern expressed about the  
360 wildlife.

361  
362 Vice Mayor Grenier spoke in support of the project, noting the Avalon Group has a track record  
363 in this area and he believed they will address the concerns of the residents.

364  
365 Mr. Kahli said this is a master plan and in order to implement it they will go through many  
366 permitting steps and continued dialogue with the community.

367  
368 Mayor Pfister said she had conducted her own research and was satisfied with the project as  
369 proposed.

370  
371 **MOTION**

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373 **Bob Grenier moved to approve Ordinance #2016-27, seconded by Lisa Johnson. The**  
374 **motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

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376 **IX. GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

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378 **Tab 9) Deannaxation Study of Peninsula Subdivision**

379  
380 Mr. Drury stated the city has received a letter from the attorney that represents the Peninsula  
381 which he read as follows:

382  
383 *Please consider this a withdrawal of the petition to be excluded from the municipal boundaries pursuant*  
384 *to Section 171.051 F.S. previously filed on behalf of the residents of Peninsula Drive. My clients are in the*  
385 *process of re-evaluating their situation and we will be in touch with the City of Tavares soon regarding our*  
386 *future intentions. Thank you for your assistance and please contact our office if you have any questions*  
387 *or if we can be of any further assistance at this time.*

388  
389 *Attorney Jimmy Crawford*

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391 Attorney Williams said Mr. Crawford is a land use attorney in Clermont. He signed the petition  
392 initially on behalf of his clients and he has the authority to withdraw it. There is no action  
393 required by Council.

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**Tab 10) Approve to Apply for Grants for the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program for Enhancements to the Stormwater Treatment Pond Area**

Mr. Hayes stated

**OBJECTIVE:** To approve the submittal of 2 grant application in the amount of \$50,000 each to the FRDAP to help offset costs for the on-going Ruby St. Stormwater Project.

**SUMMARY:**

*The City of Tavares may prepare and submit applications to the Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) for grant funds to assist in further development of downtown recreation facilities. Staff suggests two FRDAP applications totaling \$50,000 each be submitted during the open cycle. Each application would assist in creating amenities around the new storm water holding area within the existing park development area.*

*The first application would include lighting, benches, trash receptacles, dog waste receptacles, biking station, and walking trail. The second application would include aeration fountain and youth fishing pier. The total requested for park improvements is \$100,000.00 with no required match funding from the City.*

*There are a few requirements of the FDEP when using FRDAP funding: 1) Notice of commencement of project before expending funds; 2) area is dedicated as an outdoor recreation site for a minimum of 25 years; 3) project site is open at reasonable times and managed in a safe and attractive manner; 4) signage designating the use of FRDAP grant funds placed where visible to the public.*

**OPTIONS:**

1. **Move to approve** submittal of two FRDAP grant applications during the 2016-2017 open cycle. Each application should be budgeted for \$50,000 in park improvements to be used within the downtown park area.
2. **Move to not approve** submittal of two FRDAP grant applications during the 2016-2017 open cycle. Each application should be budgeted for \$50,000 in park improvements to be used within the downtown park area.

**MOTION**

**Bob Grenier moved to approve Agenda Tab #10 (submittal of two FRDAP grant applications during the 2016-2017 open cycle. Each application should be budgeted for \$50,000 in park improvements to be used within the downtown park area). The motion was seconded by Lisa Johnson. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

**Tab 11) Interlocal Agreement with the City of Eustis for Automatic Aid for Fire Reponse**

Chief Keith noted this is a companion agreement presented two meetings ago which was an agreement for automatic agreement with the City of Leesburg. This agreement has similar language however he wanted to be sure that Council had the correct version.

Attorney Williams stated he has reviewed the complete agreement. He said the important issues that Chef Keith wanted Council to be aware of was that either party can terminate this contract

445 at any time upon sixty days written notice of intent to terminate. He said he has discussed this  
446 issue with Chief Keith in terms of the proximity to Eustis and any potential concern about having  
447 the city's level of service. He reviewed all the provisions of the contract noting Paragraph 13  
448 states a joint venture of Eustis is not being created by this contract. The agreement will roll over  
449 every five years. He recommended Council approve the agreement.

450

451 **MOTION**

452

453 **Bob Grenier moved to approve Agenda Tab 11 – Interlocal Agreement with the City of**  
454 **Eustis for automatic Aid for Fire Response, seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried**  
455 **unanimously 5-0.**

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457 **Tab 12) Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Police Benevolent**  
458 **Association**

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460 Mr. Drury said the city's bargaining team of the City Administrator, the Police Chief, and  
461 Councilmember Singer have come to terms with the Police Union Labor negotiations team  
462 including Officer Baugh, the chief negotiator.

463

464 He reviewed the points of the agreement as follows:

465

- 466 1. *Raise to be the same as general employees at 4% beginning October 1 2016.*
- 467 2. *Healthcare coverage and cost to be the same as general city employees beginning*  
468 *October 1.*
- 469 3. *Approval to have Florida Retirement System (FRS) hold a vote of the Police Department*  
470 *employees to close the local pension plan to new employees (those hired after October*  
471 *1, 2016) and offer the Florida Retirement System plan to said new employees. If said*  
472 *FRS administered vote passes 50% plus 1, then the following shall occur:*
  - 473 a. *All new Police Department employees shall be obligated to join the FRS program.*
  - 474 b. *A \$0.50 (50 cent) shift differential incentive pay shall apply for Police Department*  
475 *Employees who work the night shift (This equals an additional \$6 for working a 12 hour*  
476 *nightshift)*
  - 477 c. *The employee contribution rate to the local pension plan shall be lowered by 1.5% and*  
478 *the employer contribution rate shall be raised by a correlating 1.5% resulting in*  
479 *employee contributing 11.3% of their pay and City contributing 20.02% of their pay to the*  
480 *local pension plan.*

481

482

483 Vance Joachim – 12619 Milwaukee Avenue

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485 Mr. Joachim said he has attended the Pension Boards for the Police and Fire Department. He  
486 commended the city for being better funded in their local plans than some other cities. He said  
487 he had verified that information with the pension consultant. He said he agreed with moving to  
488 FRS as it provides stability. He asked about the rationale for the taxpayer paying a higher  
489 percentage for those that are in the current plans. He also asked about health insurance.

490

491 Mr. Drury said the city believes that the movement to the FRS provides a long term cost savings  
492 to the citizens of Tavares and therefore an increase in the short term for the current local plan

493 will be offset by the long term savings in the FRS which was part of the bargaining process. He  
494 said the plan does not pay for retiree healthcare.

495  
496 Councilmember Singer said negotiations went well.

497  
498 **MOTION**

499  
500 **Troy Singer moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement, seconded by Bob**  
501 **Grenier.**

502  
503 Councilmember Smith said he had been given information on the FRS compared to the current  
504 city plan. He said there are concerned citizens that question the assumptions given by the  
505 consultant group to the city as it appeared that by year 2020 the city will be paying 1.8% higher  
506 than the current plan and then by the year 2027 the city will be paying about 4.8% higher than  
507 the current plan.

508  
509 Mr. Drury said when the actuarial firms were asked to look at the difference between the cost of  
510 a local plan and the cost of a FRS it was a snapshot of today based on the investment portfolio  
511 of each pension plan. In the snapshot the current contribution from the city to FRS for a high risk  
512 category (which law enforcement falls into), is higher than the current contribution to the local  
513 plan. Next year there will be new numbers which will change based on the investments of the  
514 two plans.

515  
516 The city's Actuarial agreed that the snapshot today showed a higher cost however in the future  
517 the local plan costs could go up and the FRS could go down.

518  
519 Councilmember Smith stated the city pays a firm to manage the city's current plans and will  
520 those costs go down. Mr. Drury said over a period of time as the Local plans close out through  
521 attrition, the city will see significant cost savings. The city pays a local firm to review the plan,  
522 there is a team of staff that helps to assist in managing the local plan, and the city attorney  
523 spends time in reviewing pension ordinances and those costs will go away over time.

524  
525 Councilmember Smith asked if the current officers will be able to move to the FRS. Mr. Drury  
526 said current employees will be able to move if it passes, with a onetime option. There is a cost  
527 to that and the employee would have to pay that cost. Councilmember Smith asked when the  
528 vote will occur. Mr. Drury said the FRS will provide a 90 day notice about the referendum. After  
529 that a workshop will be held to provide further information to the officers.

530  
531 Attorney Williams said this issue was negotiated with the union but the vote Mr. Drury is  
532 referring to will involve all the members of the Police Department—all sworn members.

533  
534 Councilmember Johnson said she had received the similar concern but she asked for  
535 clarification on the vote. Mr. Drury said after this vote on the union contract is done it will be in  
536 the hands of the Police Department to decide whether they want to move to the FRS.

537  
538 **The motion passed unanimously 5-0.**

539  
540 **XII. OLD BUSINESS**

541  
542 None.

543  
544 **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

545  
546 **XIV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

547  
548 Betty Burleigh

549  
550 Ms. Burleigh spoke on the “Nuclear Football” which is the President’s emergency satchel to  
551 have in the event of a need for a retaliatory action and is guarded 24 hours by the US Army or  
552 Coastguard. She said based on research by the Limestone Ridge Historical Society from New  
553 York, it was not until John F. Kennedy was president that the “Nuclear Football” as it is known  
554 today originated. She said President Kennedy had been concerned during the Cuban Missile  
555 Crisis that a retaliatory order could be done without his consent therefore the briefcase was  
556 developed to allow him to command orders almost immediately no matter his location.

557  
558 Brenda Smith – Nazarene Church of Tavares

559  
560 Ms. Smith stated the church has been at the corner for 25 years. She said today with the  
561 assistance of the Council and the staff the church truly belongs to the City of Tavares and they  
562 would like to thank the Council.

563  
564 **XV. REPORTS**

565  
566 **Tab 8) City Administrator**

567  
568 Mr. Drury said the first four events in his report are before the next meeting—the Red Carpet  
569 Gala, the Boo Festival, the Monster Splash Fly In, and the Cornerstone Laying Ceremony.

570  
571 **Tab 9) Council Reports**

572  
573 Councilmember Grenier

- 574  
575
- Thanked Don Campbell for being the blood sweat and tears of Rifles, Rails and History.
  - Tomorrow at 5:30 pm at the lake County Historical Museum there will be a guest speaker named Daniel Keel who was a member of the Tuskegee airman during World War II.
- 576  
577  
578  
579

580  
581 Councilmember Johnson

582  
583 Councilmember Johnson thanked Chief Keith for inviting the Council to the “Push In” Ceremony  
584 for the new fire truck.

585  
586 Councilmember Singer

587  
588 Councilmember Singer thanked Chief Keith for the “Push In” ceremony. He noted that October

589 is Breast Cancer Awareness month. He said he wanted to point out that one in 8 women are  
590 diagnosed with breast cancer and that in addition the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in October is also male breast  
591 cancer awareness. He said it is a rare cancer but men should be aware of this as well. In  
592 addition he became aware that October is also National Bullying prevention month which was  
593 started in 2006. He recommended that people should discuss this with their children and  
594 grandchildren and in addition there should be awareness that bullying can also happen with  
595 adults and we should be good to one another.

596  
597 Vice Mayor Smith

- 598
- 599 • Advised those present to attend Rifles, Rails, and History as it is a fantastic event (next  
600 year it will be September 29, 30 and October 1<sup>st</sup>).
- 601
- 602 • Boo Festival – The Halloween “Boo Festival” will be occurring October 28<sup>th</sup> and he  
603 welcomed everyone to attend.
- 604
- 605 • Said the cornerstone laying ceremony will be old tradition through the masonic lodge. It  
606 will be November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the location of the new public safety complex.
- 607
- 608 • On this day in 1914 the U.S. Post office first deleted mail in an automobile. Today is  
609 national Seafood Bisque Day.

610  
611 Mayor Pfister

612  
613 Mayor Pfister thanked those present for attending meeting and noted the next meeting will be in  
614 two weeks.

615  
616 **ADJOURNMENT**

617  
618 There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:41 p.m. by Mayor Pfister.

619  
620 Respectfully submitted,

621  
622  
623  
624 \_\_\_\_\_  
625 Nancy A. Barnett, MMC  
City Clerk