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**CITY OF TAVARES
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 4, 2010
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

ABSENT

Robert Wolfe, Mayor
Lori Pfister, Vice Mayor
Bob Grenier, Councilmember
Sandy Gamble, Councilmember
Kirby Smith, Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT

John Drury, City Administrator
Bob Williams, City Attorney
Nancy Barnett, City Clerk
Bill Neron, Economic Development Director
Chief Lubins, Police Department
Jacques Skutt, Director of Community Development
Chief Richard Keith, Fire Department
Chris Thompson, Interim Public Works Director
Tamera Rogers, Director of Community Services
Brad Hayes, Director of Utilities

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wolfe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Doug Dykstra, Mid Lakes Christian Church, gave the invocation and those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Wolfe noted the hearing impaired devices are temporarily out of service and asked that anyone speaking into the microphones to speak as loud and clear as possible to assist those who are hearing impaired.

1 **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2
3 Attorney Williams noted Resolution # 2010-08 has been redrafted with slight changes.
4 He said he would hand out the new version when the item is discussed.

5
6 **MOTION**

7
8 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the agenda with the said changes, seconded by**
9 **Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

10
11 **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

12
13 Deferred to the next City Council Meeting.

14
15 **V. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

16
17 None.

18
19 **VI) SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE**
20 **CONTACTS**

21
22 Attorney Williams said Resolution 2010-05 (Tab 9) Vacation of Kriz Subdivision Plat)
23 and Resolution 2010-06 (Tab 10) Vacation of Tract F in Fox Run Subdivision) are quasi
24 judicial. He swore in those who would be providing testimony on either of the
25 resolutions.

26
27 Mayor Wolfe noted the ordinances before Council for first reading will be read into the
28 record only and come before Council for full discussion at the next meeting.

29
30 **VII) READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD**

31
32 Ms. Barnett clarified with the City Attorney that the title has not changed for Resolution
33 2010-08. Attorney Williams confirmed.

34
35 Ms. Barnett read the following ordinances by title only:

36
37 **ORDINANCE 2010-18**

38
39 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA AMENDING**
40 **THE CITY OF TAVARES CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 13-63;**

1
2 **MOTION**
3

4 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the Consent Agenda Tab 4 (Agreement to Accept**
5 **Sewer Line Serving Comfort Inn & Massey Service Corporation), seconded by**
6 **Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.**
7

8 **Tab 2) Request to Renew Contract for Concession Services at Fred Stover Ball**
9 **Complex**
10

11 Ms. Rogers said Liberty Christian Academy has provided concession services at Fred
12 Stover Ball Complex for the past two years. The agreement expired July 31, 2010 and
13 staff is requesting approval to renew for an additional two years with the following
14 amendments;
15

- 16 • A change to the annual lease from \$1,200 to \$1,800 to help subsidize electric
17 and water expenses.
- 18 • Provide the city with a percentage of sales during tournaments which will go back
19 to the Babe Ruth Program.
20

21 The stipend/percentage has not been determined to date but is currently in discussions.
22 There will be no activity at the concession stand for the next few months.
23

24 Councilmember Gamble said he would like to see the figure for the percentage before it
25 is approved. He said he would consider approving it contingent on the fee being
26 agreeable to both parties and being brought back to Council. Mr. Drury suggested
27 Council consider a percentage they would be comfortable with.
28

29 Vice Mayor Pfister asked if the new fee will cover the city's increased costs for utilities.
30 Ms. Rogers said the additional monies will come close to covering the cost for
31 electricity. Ms. Pfister asked if the percentage is needed. Councilmember Smith stated
32 his support for a percentage stipend in order to help the Babe Ruth program.
33 Councilmember Pfister suggested 10%. Councilmember Gamble provided a
34 background of the original agreement between the Boosters during his tenure as
35 Booster President and said that at that time the \$100.00 per month fee did not cover
36 utilities. He said that he concurs with the increased fee and suggested staff negotiate a
37 5-10% stipend. Ms. Rogers said this would only be applicable during tournaments.
38

39 **MOTION**
40

1 **Sandy Gamble moved to approve the agreement presented where it speaks to the**
2 **percentage to be given back during tournament time for the Boosters to get**
3 **between 5-10%, seconded by Lori Pfister. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**
4

5 **Tab 3) Proposal from DMC for the Relocation of Gopher Tortoises at Woodlea**
6 **Sports Complex**
7

8 Councilmember Smith inquired about the recipient site for the tortoises. Mr. Patel,
9 DMC, said the recipient site is in Pasco County, Florida, and is a permitted site by the
10 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Service. He said the location is also a research facility
11 of the University of South Florida and is the closest site that is permitted. He confirmed
12 that there is not another permitted site in Lake County or Tavares. Mr. Patel provided
13 information on the gopher tortoise relocation process and site permitting requirements.
14 Mr. Smith noted his preference for a local site.
15

16 **MOTION**
17

18 **Kirby Smith moved to approve Tab 3) Proposal for DMC to relocate gopher**
19 **tortoises at Woodlea Sports Complex, seconded by Sandy Gamble. The motion**
20 **carried unanimously, 5-0.**
21

22 **Tab 5) Request for a Fee Waiver of the Civic Center**
23

24 Councilmember Smith asked Attorney Williams if he would have a voting conflict as he
25 is a close friend of the applicant. Attorney Williams said no.
26

27 **MOTION**
28

29 **Kirby Smith moved to approve the fee waiver of the Civic Center, seconded by**
30 **Bob Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**
31

32 **IX. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS – PUBLIC HEARING**
33

34 **Ordinances**
35

36 **Tab 6) Ordinance 2010-18 – First Reading – Read by title only.**
37

38 **Tab 7) Ordinance 2010-16 – First Reading – Read by title only.**
39

40 **Tab 8) Ordinance 2010-17 – First Reading – Read by title only.**

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Resolutions

Tab 9) Resolution 2010-05 – Vacation of Kriz Subdivision Plan (Fern Avenue)

Mr. Skutt said Kriz Plaza is an undeveloped Subdivision on the north side of Dead River Road at Fern Avenue. The vacate will serve two purposes; allow the property owner to re-plot the land to construct a small townhouse project and the re-plot will depict Fern Avenue in its correct location. Presently, Fern Avenue, which is a dirt road, is 30 feet offset from the dedicated right-of-way for Fern Avenue on the Kriz Plaza plat. The Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval on July 15, 2010 and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from Council

MOTION

Robert Grenier moved for approval of Resolution 2010-05, seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Tab 10) Resolution 2010-06 – Vacation of Tract F for Access to Boat Ramp in Fox Run Subdivision

Mr. Skutt said Tract F is located in the Fox Run subdivision and is a strip of land on the south side of Myakka River Road. The Fox Run Homeowners Association owns the property and the city has a lift station in the center of the parcel. The entire parcel was dedicated for public use on the original plat for the subdivision. The Fox Run HOA has a driveway that connects to the boat ramp on the west 30 feet of Tract F and they would like to have unrestricted ownership of that 30 feet. The city Utility Department has determined that the west 30 feet is not needed to access or to maintain the lift station. The Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously for approval and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from Council.

MOTION

1
2 **Robert Grenier moved to approve Resolution 2010-06, seconded by Lori Pfister.**
3 **The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.**
4

5 **Tab 11) Resolution 2010-08 – Bond Referendum for Expansion of Wooton Park**
6 **and Amphitheater**
7

8 Mr. Neron said that during the July 20, 2010 Special City Council Meeting discussion
9 was held regarding a proposed expansion to Wooton Park by purchasing and
10 developing 3.71 acres. The recommendation approved by Council was to move ahead
11 with the project which would require a bond referendum election on November 2, 2010.
12

13 Attorney Williams said he has provided a revised resolution where the only change is
14 within the ballot language in section 7. He read the proposed ballot language for the
15 audience as follows:
16

17 **“To protect water quality, preserve scenic view of Lake Dora, restore the natural**
18 **shoreline and wetlands, improve public access to Lake Dora, acquire an addition**
19 **to Wooton Park and construct waterfront improvements, shall the City issue**
20 **bonds not exceeding \$8,500,000 at an interest rate not exceeding the legal**
21 **maximum and maturing in 30 years or less by levying ad valorem taxes in an**
22 **amount sufficient to repay such bonds with zero money spent on administration**
23 **For Bonds _____ and Against Bonds _____”**
24

25 Attorney Williams said the bond language has to have certain statutory requirements
26 and he had conferred with the City’s bond counsel.
27

28 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from Council.
29

30 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.
31

32 **Bill Powell, Resident**
33

34 Mr. Powell asked Mr. Neron if an amphitheater would have to be built on the site.
35

36 Attorney Williams said the ballot language calls for waterfront improvements but the
37 plan in the resolution is to include an amphitheater. He said the ballot language is fairly
38 broad but he believed that is the intent of the Council to construct an outdoor assembly
39 public place. Mr. Powell stated his support for the project and said he would like to see
40 some leeway on the size of the venue as well as have an opportunity for the citizens to

1 use at no cost and without gate fees during events as the property was originally given
2 to the residents.

3
4 **Jerry Wosica, Resident**

5
6 Mr. Wosica said he is not in support of an amphitheater being located next to an airport.
7 He said he is not against purchasing the land.

8
9 Mr. Drury noted that seaplanes fly during the day and concert performances are
10 generally held in the evening. He said the seaplane landing area is located
11 approximately a half mile in the center of the lake with boating activity closer to the
12 shore. The decibel level of seaplanes is quieter than boats on landing but about the
13 same as a boat on takeoff. Mr. Drury said he does not see a major conflict between
14 seaplanes, boats and the music noting that the city has held several concerns in the last
15 few years and not heard any complaints.

16
17 Councilmember Smith said the referendum states “to construct waterfront
18 improvements’ and asked if the Resolution bonds or binds the city to an amphitheater.
19 Attorney Williams confirmed that it does not. He said the money can only be spent on
20 waterfront improvements at Wooton Park but the broad terms are used as the City does
21 not have a design or specific size yet.

22
23 Councilmember Pfister noted her support to acquire the lakefront property. She said an
24 amphitheater is a venue that can be built that is fairly inexpensive and ‘green.’ The
25 steps will be porous pavers and the seating will be grass. She said it will be a green
26 structure that can generate revenue from people who will travel to utilize the city’s
27 facilities.

28
29 Councilmember Grenier asked Attorney Williams to define the monies for
30 administration. Attorney Williams said it is a confirmation to the public that the bond
31 monies is not going to be spent on overhead and salaries.

32
33 **MOTION**

34
35 **Lori Pfister moved to approve Resolution 2010-08, seconded by Kirby Smith.**

36
37 Councilmember Smith said Resolution 2010-08 includes “an amphitheater” in the title.
38 Attorney Williams said the language is in the resolution title but the ballot language will
39 state “waterfront improvements.”
40

1 **The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.**

2
3 **X – GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

4
5 **Tab 12) City Administrator Employment Compensation**

6
7 Mayor Wolfe said that Council directed the Mayor to negotiate a contract with Mr. Drury.
8 He provided a brief history and review of the negotiation process. Mayor Wolfe read the
9 proposed changes to the compensation adjustment package. He said he wished to
10 draw up a five year program in order to retain Mr. Drury He noted all the changes and
11 accomplishments in the city and downtown.

12
13 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

14
15 Delores Russ, 1613 Orange Avenue, asked for clarification that the contract is for the
16 upcoming fiscal year 2011. Mayor Wolfe confirmed.

17
18 **Norman Hope, Fox Run**

19
20 Mr. Hope said he believes Mr. Drury deserves a raise but the issue is how much the city
21 can afford to pay. He asked Council to make its decision at this meeting.

22
23 **Bill Powell,**

24
25 Mr. Powell stated Mr. Drury has done an excellent job but that he thought the amount
26 was too high for Tavares.

27
28 **Denise Laratta, Fox Run**

29
30 Mr. Laratta commended Mr. Drury and the staff. She said she did not think the City
31 could afford the proposal presented.

32
33 **Trueman Hurley, Tavares resident**

34
35 Mr. Hurley commended Mr. Drury. He said the proposal is wrong at this time and asked
36 how it compared to that proposed for the employees.

37
38 Mr. Drury discussed the recommendation for employees (elimination of furlough
39 October 1st and 2% COLA on April 1) and noted the budget does not include more
40 staff.)

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Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from Council.

Vice Mayor Pfister

Vice Mayor Pfister said Mr. Drury’s motivational leadership ability has proven to be a positive influence in regard to the Vision Statement that was created by the residents of Tavares. She said the majority of the residents, staff, Council and outsiders looking in are astonished by the forward progression Tavares has made in the four years under Mr. Drury’s direction. She had spent a lot of time in discussion with the residents and she hoped that what Council determines will be acceptable to Mr. Drury and that he will continue to lead his “village.” She suggested that his benefit package remain the same but his salary be increased \$10,000 for the fiscal year of 2011 to be renegotiated next year after the growth comes to pass.

Councilmember Gamble said he has received many phone calls and email that echo what has been said. He is in favor of the same compensation that the employees are proposed to receive. He said his concern is what the city can afford.

Councilmember Grenier said he is in favor of a one year contract with a salary increase only to \$140,000 and then renegotiate next year. He said he also would like more information on what the employees would receive in the budget.

Councilmember Smith thanked the citizens who called Council over this issue. He said there continues to be a lot of uncertainty in the economy. He said with the evaluation that has been given he is in support of a \$10,000 raise to be renegotiated in on year. He commended Mr. Drury for his integrity and leadership.

MOTION

Lori Pfister moved for the Fiscal Year 2011 to increase Mr. Drury’s base salary by \$10,000, with all other benefits to remain the same in his current contract, to be renegotiated next Fiscal Year and with no merit or COLA increases. The motion was seconded by Kirby Smith.

There was discussion on Mr. Drury’s vacation and sick time reimbursement.

Councilmember Grenier noted his support for the motion but that he would agree to \$142,500.

1 **The motion carried 3-2 as follows:**

2

3 **Robert Wolfe: No**

4 **Lori Pfister: Yes**

5 **Sandy Gamble: No**

6 **Bob Grenier: Yes**

7 **Kirby Smith: Yes**

8

9 Mr. Drury said this process of negotiating with the City Manager is government at its best
10 and complete and total transparency. He said that he is honored to go through the
11 process with the Council and public and proud to be in Tavares. He said that he will
12 work very hard for all the issues that come before him and plans to be with the
13 community for a long time. He commended staff's hard work and long hours and said
14 Tavares will be positioned to get out of the economic downturn because of the forward
15 thinking of City Council.

16

17 **Tab 13) Creating an Official Name for the City's Retail Store at Wooton Park &**
18 **Choosing Type of Sign**

19

20 Ms. Rogers said the retail store at Wooton Park (replicated Woodlea House) has not
21 officially been named and staff has provided name and sign options for Council's
22 consideration.

23

24 Vice Mayor Pfister stated her preference to use an identifying name other than the
25 Woodlea. Councilmember Smith said he surveyed fifty citizens who indicated that they
26 prefer the Prop Shop and that is his preference. Councilmember Pfister said she prefers
27 "Prop Shop" as it incorporates both airplanes and boats. Mr. Drury noted these options
28 were provided by staff, and invited Council to make their suggestions.

29

30 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

31

32 **Charlotte Hope, Fox Run**

33

34 Ms. Hope said that lived in the historic Commonwealth of Virginia where it was common
35 to give a home an informal name such as the "Prop Shop" and then follow it up
36 with its more formal name to cover the historic aspect as well as the contemporary.

37

38 Discussion followed on the use of the term "sundries."

39

40 **MOTION**

1
2 **Sandy Gamble moved to name the shop the “Prop Shop at the Woodlea” and**
3 **leave “Snack, Sundries and Apparel” in the signage. The motion was seconded**
4 **by Lori Pfister. The motion carried 4-1 as follows;**
5

6 **Robert Wolfe: Yes**
7 **Lori Pfister: Yes**
8 **Sandy Gamble: Yes**
9 **Bob Grenier: No**
10 **Kirby Smith: Yes**
11

12 **Tab 14) Appointment to Lake Community Action Agency**
13

14 Mayor Wolfe noted that Councilmember Grenier served as a councilmember
15 representative to the Lake Community Action Agency for the past few years.
16 Councilmember Gamble volunteered to serve for the upcoming year.
17

18 **Consensus that Sandy Gamble serve as the Council Representative to the Lake**
19 **Community Action Agency.**
20

21 **Tab 15) Request for Funds for Marketing Plan for Wooton Park Bond Referendum**
22

23 Ms. Ross said Council moved forward with placing the Wooton Park land acquisition on
24 the November ballot as well as a Charter Amendment. She said Council approved a
25 communication plan for the Charter Amendment in the amount of \$5,000, however
26 adding the land acquisition will require more resources. She described the additional
27 marketing efforts and communications that will be needed and requested an additional
28 \$2,000.
29

30 **MOTION**
31

32 **Kirby Smith moved to authorize staff to expand the Communication Plan to**
33 **include the two referendum issues and approve the \$2,000 increase, seconded by**
34 **Lori Pfister.**
35

36 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.
37

38 Denise Laratta asked Council to consider expanding the Communication Plan to include
39 two referendum issues and not increase funding.
40

1 **The motion carried 3-2 as follows;**

2
3 **Robert Wolfe: Yes**
4 **Lori Pfister: Yes**
5 **Sandy Gamble: No**
6 **Bob Grenier: No**
7 **Kirby Smith: No**
8

9 **Tab 16) Economic Development Horizon Project Team**

10
11 Mr. Drury asked the Mayor to appoint a representative to the Economic Development
12 Horizon Team. The team currently includes John Drury, Bill Neron and Cecilia Smith.
13 Mayor Wolfe said he would like to appoint Councilmember Smith to the Horizon Team.
14

15 **Consensus that Kirby Smith act as the Council representative to the Economic**
16 **Development Horizon Team.**

17
18 **Mayor Wolfe called for a recess at 5:27 p.m.**

19
20 **Mayor Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 5:41 p.m.**

21
22 **XI. BUDGET WORKSHOP**

23
24 **Tab 17) Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget Workshop**

25
26 Mr. Drury provided the following summary;

27
28 Previously the City Council discussed the proposed FY 11 Budget at its
29 March 2, March 17th, and July 28th meetings. At the July 28th meeting the
30 Council set the tentative maximum millage rate at 6.95 mills which
31 resulted in a balanced General Fund budget of \$11,266,112. This equates
32 to a \$695 tax payment for a homesteaded home valued at \$150,000
33 (\$150,000-\$50,000/1000X6.95).
34

35 The General fund included those salient items identified on Exhibit A. The
36 other enterprise fund budgets were presented as follows:
37

- 38 1. Water/Wastewater/Reclaim \$6,697,149
39 2. Sanitation/Garbage \$2,350,825
40 3. Stormwater \$673,810

1
2 The Council indicated a desire to first spend time on the General Fund
3 and its relation to the millage rate with a desire to lower the millage rate by
4 making further cuts than that already made by the City Administrator (See
5 exhibit B). The City Administrator recommended that the Council identify
6 those services and service levels that Council would like to reduce or
7 eliminate and upon a consensus the reduced amount would then be
8 correlated to a reduced millage rate.
9

10 Mr. Drury said \$2.9 million dollars was cut from the budget as depicted in Exhibit B
11 resulting in a balanced budget of revenues and expenses that provides a similar level of
12 service. He noted that the General Fund is supported by fees, revenues and ad
13 valorem tax (50%). He said the Enterprise Fund (Water/Wastewater/Reclaimed) is
14 supported by fees.
15

16 Detailed budgets for departments within the General Fund have been
17 provided and include the following:
18

19 Police, 911 Communications Center, Code Enforcement, Fire, Parks,
20 Recreation, Library, Planning, Zoning, Permitting, GIS mapping, Economic
21 Development , Grant Writing, Human Resource, Finance, Budgeting,
22 Procurement, Clerk, Public Works, Building Maintenance, Street
23 Maintenance, Fleet Maintenance, Information Technology, Public
24 Relations/Web Page/News Letter, Cultural Affairs, Legal Services, Liability
25 Insurance, Property Insurance, Utilities, Street Lighting Administration and
26 City Council.
27

28 It is recommended that if Council desires to reduce or eliminate a service
29 provided to the citizens that Council discuss which one and to what level
30 and if a consensus is achieved that staff provide the correlated amount of
31 the budget decrease and its affect on the millage rate.
32

33 General Fund 34

35 Mayor Wolfe said that during the previous budget workshop staff was directed to 'look
36 into' other options to try to cut an additional \$504,000 from the General Fund. He said
37 that would mean that either service levels or employees would need to be cut. He
38 asked Council to identify cost savings for which they would like staff to provide
39 additional information.
40

1 Mayor Wolfe asked staff to identify cost savings with the Lake County Sheriff's Office
2 regarding dispatch services.

3
4 Councilmember Smith inquired about the possibility of the Fire Department running
5 medical calls with another vehicle other than a Fire Engine, the Fire Department
6 eliminating some non emergency calls, and the possibility of the city providing transport
7 services. Chief Keith said the Eustis, Mt. Dora and Tavares Fire Departments have
8 been in discussion regarding providing transport services. He said he would provide the
9 information requested at the next meeting.

10
11 Councilmember Grenier asked if each department incurs the insurance costs for each
12 vehicle used within that department. Mr. Drury confirmed.

13
14 Councilmember Smith asked how much monies have been spent on the communication
15 department which is relatively new and if it could be sold.

16
17 Mr. Drury said staff will provide a full report on dispatch and the cost benefit analysis will
18 be provided.

19
20 Vice Mayor Pfister asked Chief Lubins what the effects on staffing would be in the
21 Police Department should the Communications Center be eliminated. Chief Lubins
22 responded that the Police Department would lose eight employees.

23
24 Vice Mayor Pfister inquired about park maintenance positions. Mr. Neron said the
25 grounds maintenance is contracted out and the Splash Park employees are seasonal
26 part time positions. He said the department has the same number of employees as
27 originally approved in the business plan. He said Council approved the grounds
28 maintenance to be contracted in order to keep the park in pristine condition.

29
30 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

31
32 Charlotte Hope

33
34 Ms. Hope asked about the IT budget. Mr. Drury responded that staffing had been
35 reduced from 2 to 1 and a portion of the work will be contracted out.

36
37 Ms. Hope questioned the statement earlier that the budget was balanced when Mr.
38 Drury's compensation had just been approved. Mr. Drury confirmed that was correct
39 and a new balanced budget will be brought forward at the next meeting.

40

1 Ms. Hope said there were areas in the General Fund where other cuts could come from
2 other than Fire and Police.

3
4 Norb Thomas, Tavares

5
6 Mr. Thomas spoke against eliminating dispatch and noted cuts could be done in Parks
7 and Recreation and library services. He said is in support of a 6.95 millage if reasonable
8 and quality services are continued to be provided.

9
10 Councilmember Gamble and Councilmember Grenier said they are not in support of
11 cuts in the Police/Communication Department. Discussion was held regarding services
12 vs. millage.

13
14 **Consensus for staff to provide more information on how dispatch services with
15 the Lake County Sheriff Office would affect the budget and utilizing smaller
16 vehicles for the Fire Department medical emergency response.**

17
18 Sanitation

19
20 Ms. Houghton said that she had met with Sanitation staff and reviewed this budget line
21 item by line item. She said that residential pick-up includes twice a week pick-up. She
22 said two positions have already been lost in the department from FY2009. The transfer
23 to the General Fund is based on the actual revenues that the Sanitation Department
24 produces and is in lieu of taxes; property taxes, business taxes or any kind to the City.
25 It can be viewed as a return on investment from the ratepayers to the taxpayers. Ms.
26 Houghton said at the end of their review they realized a possible savings in the amount
27 of \$30,811.00 which could be broken down to \$5.51 savings per year for each resident.

28
29 Councilmember Gamble asked for the cost to contract for the smaller mobile home
30 parks. Ms. Houghton said the city pays \$126,500 annually to Waste Management. She
31 said it is not included in the residential component as it is part of the commercial side.
32 Councilmember Gamble said it was his understanding that the City has a small truck
33 that is capable of going into the small parks. Mr. Drury said staff can bring back the
34 cost associated with the City providing service to the small mobile home parks in lieu of
35 the contracted service.

36
37 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

38
39 Water/Wastewater/Reclaimed

1 Mr. Drury said fees were discussed at several previous meetings and a full rate study
2 was provided. He said Council had made a determination on what the rates should be
3 for water, sewer and reclaimed water based on the study. It also identified a cost
4 adjustment of 1% plus the CPI increase.

5
6 Ms. Houghton said the City only imposed the 1% in the current year. Mr. Drury said he
7 had asked Ms. Houghton to review the base costs and whether there was room to
8 adjust the fee. Mr. Drury said staff provided the rate study that depicts what went into
9 setting up the fee and was giving Council an opportunity to review the rate study again
10 and discuss the fees. He reviewed the background of the rate study and the work that
11 went into the fees in order to create a water/sewer fund that could sustain itself over the
12 next five years. He noted every fourth year the City will go out for RFP to get an
13 independent firm to come in and review the fees. He said in previous discussions the
14 biggest issue was vacation holds. He said the issue had been that when people go on
15 vacation, should the other people who didn't go on vacation subsidize their base fee
16 while they are gone. That discussion was held and the recommendation from the
17 independent rate study was this is not an equitable situation. The decision that was
18 made after that discussion was everybody pay the same base fee regardless of whether
19 they had gone on vacation and the base rate would be \$16.

20
21 Vice Mayor Pfister said she is getting complaints from landlords. Mr. Drury said he
22 would like to return to Council and discuss the difference between Eustis and Tavares
23 and what each city does when it comes to the business community and its rental
24 properties. He said an analysis and recommendations can be provided at the next
25 budget workshop that support the business community's investment and to alleviate any
26 disparities.

27
28 Discussion followed on the issue of vacant lots.

29
30 Ms. Houghton said that when this issue was reviewed it was noted that there were
31 some lots that were vacant with meters in the ground that the city did not know were
32 vacant until the City received a notice on the meter readers reading upload. She said
33 some customers have called the City and they have tried to remedy quickly.
34 Councilmember asked that staff provide the fee to remove the meter and how much to
35 re install the meter.

36
37 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

38
39 Norman Hope asked Mr. Drury if the balanced budget was based on the vacation hold.
40 Mr. Drury confirmed. Mr. Drury said revenues would need to be increased from

1 somewhere else to make it balanced. Mr. Hope said you can't discriminate between
2 two categories. Mr. Drury said everyone has the right to remove a meter. Mr. Hope
3 suggested that perhaps if the installation/removal charge is reduced that may resolve
4 any issues the snowbirds express. Mr. Drury said the goal is equity among everyone
5 where one group is not subsidizing another group. He said staff will make every effort
6 to put forward an equitable presentation and if Council wishes to make changes staff
7 will provide the effects on the rates.

8
9 Stormwater

10
11 Mr. Drury said there was no fee increase proposed and is still \$4.50 per resident. He
12 said this service is \$2.00 less than Eustis for stormwater. Ms. Houghton said if you are
13 a business it is based in the impervious area at \$4.50 per equivalent ERU (3,500 square
14 feet is one ERU). Mr. Drury said staff is available for questions.

15
16 Councilmember Gamble noted over \$400,000 for the Sinclair Avenue drainage was cut
17 out of the budget.

18
19 Mayor Wolfe asked for comments from the audience.

20
21 Capital Budget

22
23 Mr. Drury said the Capital Budget includes the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan.
24 Mr. Drury reviewed the 2010-2011 by line item. He said any projects that cannot be
25 budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year will be pushed out a year. Mr. Drury said in the
26 future staff will provide a capital infrastructure tab vs. capital operational. Mr. Drury
27 provided a brief orientation of the Five Year Capital Plan. He said staff will bring back to
28 the next meeting to discuss in further detail.

29
30 Denise Laratta asked that the capital budget be included on the online agenda.

31
32 Health Clinic

33
34 Mr. Drury said that staff is going to provide a review of the health clinic and its status
35 and that this is not currently in the budget.

36
37 Ms. Tucker said she wished to provide the answers to the remaining questions related
38 to the shared employee health clinic presented during the July 21, 2010 meeting. She
39 said the total annual cost for health insurance premiums is currently \$1.6 million. She
40 discussed the per member per month cost comparison projected over four years. In

1 addition she noted that the spread sheet demonstrates in year one that if all of the
2 assumptions and the cost factors are used to compute rate increases, with the health
3 center in place those premiums are projected to produce a 4% premium increase as
4 opposed to a 12% increase in year one without the health center. She pointed out that
5 the potential renewal savings with the health center are 4% in year one with renewal
6 savings in the amount of \$128,000, year two \$276,480, year three \$456,755 and year
7 four \$663,812.

8
9 Ms. Tucker said in terms of health reform that there are diverse opinions: there may be
10 savings as uninsured people become insured; others say there will be no savings until
11 small business plans can be shifted to the healthcare exchange.

12
13 Mr. Drury summarized that it will cost \$300,000 to buy into a clinic. If Council sets up a
14 healthcare clinic and makes the investment, the city's premium for healthcare, instead
15 of being an average of 10 to 12% increasing every year, will be about 4% increase
16 every year. During these hard economic times even though in the long run it is a wise
17 investment, he said this city probably does not have the money to invest at this time. He
18 said he believed Council should continue to review the concept every year and it should
19 be considered, but not this year.

20
21 Councilmember Gamble suggested that some of the doctors in the surrounding facilities
22 might be able to provide a rate for employees who would go to them to seek services.

23
24 Ms. Tucker said when clinic staffing recruitment is going on the agency would go to the
25 local providers first.

26
27 Mayor Wolfe asked for audience comment.

28
29 Mayor Wolfe said that will conclude the items for discussion. Mr. Drury said further
30 information will be provided sooner before the next meeting.

31
32 **XII. OLD BUSINESS**

33
34 None.

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36 **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

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38 None.

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40 **XIV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

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Rick Gonzales, Property Owner in Tavares

Mr. Gonzales discussed his property (a vacant lot at the corner of Caroline and New Hampshire) He said he had received notification of a code enforcement action against the property and discussed his concerns over communications issues. He requested that the city establish a protocol to require the officer to first try to contact the property owner either by phone call or personal visit; establish a protocol where the officer must make a diligent review of state, county, and local records to find out the status of the property; establish a protocol whereby the special master shall formally allow testimony from whoever wants to speak; and requested that Council eliminate the \$86.00 fine.

Mayor Wolfe said the City Council does not have the legal authority to eliminate the fine. Mr. Drury noted Mr. Gonzales had brought up some good points and that if Council agreed he would place this on the next agenda. He said staff will research the procedures and requirements with a goal of reaching a good balance of communication procedures that will be upheld by law.

XV. REPORTS

Tab 18) City Administrator

Mr. Drury stated a management report on the Seaplane Base and Marina will be sent to Council tomorrow. He said it is positive news and that expectations have been exceeded of visiting seaplanes, people coming to the Splash Park, fuel sales, sales of goods at the Prop Shop, etc..

City Clerk

Ms. Barnett said she would out of town at the next meeting because she was taking her son [Frank Barnett] to college.

Director of Community Services

Ms. Rogers said she was pleased to announce that the city’s new dog park has just been finalized although it is not officially opened. She gave thanks to Brad Hayes and his wife Val who have painted the fire hydrants for the park. She noted the infrastructure is in and staff is ordering furniture.

Tab 19) City Council

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Vice Mayor Pfister

Vice Mayor Pfister admitted that her dog had used the dog park.

Councilmember Gamble

Councilmember Gamble said the state tournament that the city had hosted had come in 4th place in the state tournament for their division. He said Ocala is hosting a regional tournament this weekend and two weekends from now they are hosting a World Series for Babe Ruth.

He said August 10, Williamsport Little League World Series starts.

Councilmember Grenier

Councilmember Grenier thanked Mr. Drury for his attitude and strength of character during the discussion on his compensation.

Councilmember Grenier noted that he had seen Betty Coven who has donated a high quality marker to her brother to put on the lake side. He thanked staff on behalf of Mrs. Coven. He said today is her 85th birthday and he wished to say “Happy Birthday.”

Councilmember Smith

Councilmember Smith thanked the citizens who had emailed and called him and that he appreciated their input.

Councilmember Smith asked Ms. Rogers if there is other interest in the dugout advertising. Ms. Rogers said she has continued to work on soliciting interest in the business community.

Mayor Wolfe

Mayor Wolfe commended that the coaches and the players who the city had supported have expressed appreciation to the city for their support.

Adjournment

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

1
2 Respectfully submitted,

3
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5 _____
6 Nancy A. Barnett, C.M.C.
7 City Clerk