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**CITY OF TAVARES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 2, 2009  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

John Drury, City Administrator  
Bob Williams, City Attorney  
Nancy Barnett, City Clerk  
Lori Tucker, Director of Human Resources  
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

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Bernice Odums, St. Johns Free Methodist Church, gave the invocation and those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION**

**Robert Grenier moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Wolfe noted the approval of minutes would be deferred to the next meeting.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

None

**SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE CONTACTS**

Attorney Williams sworn in those who were present to give testimony on either the Massey annexation, Comprehensive Plan Amendment or the variance resolution for 4571 Abaco Drive. He then asked Council if anyone wished to declare an ex parte contact.

**READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS INTO THE RECORD**

Mayor Wolfe noted that the policy of Council is not to discuss ordinances at first reading. They will be read by title only and full discussion held at second reading.

Ms. Barnett read the following ordinances/resolutions into the record by title only:

**ORDINANCE 2009-32**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF TAVARES BY ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 2 ACRES OF LAND GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF U.S. 441, EAST OF MOUNT HOMER ROAD; REZONING THE PROPERTY FROM COUNTY PLANNED COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT TO CITY PLANNED COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**ORDINANCE 2009-33**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TAVARES COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP 2010, PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE OF FUTURE LAND USE**



1 **Tab 4) Resolution #2009-18 – Variance to Rear Yard Setback – 4571 Abaco Drive**

2  
3 Mr. Skutt reported that the applicant is proposing to construct an attached covered  
4 screened porch and pool enclosure with solid roof panels. The house presently is set  
5 back 23.5 feet from the rear property line. The minimum rear yard setback under the  
6 Planned Development zoning is 20 feet. Construction of the proposed structure will  
7 result in a rear yard setback of 8.5 feet. The applicant is therefore requesting an 11.5  
8 foot rear yard variance. He said the owner is requesting the solid roof panel in order to  
9 avoid sun exposure for medical reasons. The owner has obtained written approval from  
10 both abutting neighbors in support of his variance. This property backs onto common  
11 ground and the golf course so there will be no impacts indwelling to the rear. The  
12 variance is minor in nature and will not negatively impact surrounding properties. He  
13 noted the Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval.

14  
15 Mayor Wolfe asked if Council had comments. Councilmember Gamble noted there had  
16 been a similar request two years ago that had been approved.

17  
18 **MOTION**

19  
20 **Lori Pfister moved to approve Resolution #2009-18, seconded by Robert Grenier.**  
21 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

22  
23 **Tab 5) Resolution #2009-20 – Metropolitan Planning Organization – Restructuring**  
24 **Plan to Include Sumter County**

25  
26 Mr. Skutt advised that this resolution has been suggested by the Metropolitan Planning  
27 Organization supporting the redesignation and reapportionment plan for the MPO. The  
28 Lake-Sumter MPO is the regional planning agency for transportation related matters.  
29 On October 28, 2009, the MPO Board, of which Tavares is a member, approved a  
30 Reapportionment Plan that would enlarge the MPO area to include all of Sumter  
31 County. Presently, the MPO represents Lake County and only a portion of Sumter  
32 County. Under the new plan, the City of Tavares will retain its voting status on the MPO  
33 Governing Board. If approved, the plan would increase the voting membership of the  
34 MPO to 16 by adding one (1) additional voting seat for the Sumter County Commission  
35 and one (1) additional voting seat that would rotate annually between the Sumter  
36 County municipal members. The reappointment process requires supporting  
37 resolutions from affected local governments and must further be approved by FDOT  
38 and the State Governor. To be effective, transportation planning must be done on a  
39 regional basis and the MPO has collaborated with Tavares on numerous projects. Staff  
40 recommends the resolution.

1 Mayor Wolfe asked if Council had comments and if anyone in the audience wished to  
2 speak on this issue.

3

4 **MOTION**

5

6 **Lori Pfister moved to approve Resolution #2009-20, seconded by Sandy Gamble.**  
7 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

8

9 **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

10

11 **Tab 6) Council Goals for Fiscal Year 2010**

12

13 Mr. Drury stated that it is appropriate to establish annual Council goals for the City  
14 Administrator to achieve during the Fiscal Year. Below is a list of Goals developed by  
15 individual Councilmembers. An opportunity is presented for Council to review and vote  
16 on each goal. Mr. Drury suggested that councilmembers identify any goals that they  
17 would like to discuss before voting and then ask if the public has any feedback. Those  
18 goals would be identified and Council would then vote on all the other goals for  
19 implementation in one vote. The goals that are identified for discussion would be taken  
20 one by one and voted on individually.

21

- 22 1. Replace School Bus Barn with Public Safety Facility
- 23 2. Develop plan for replacement of Public Works Complex
- 24 3. Continue to redevelop the down town
- 25 4. Complete Seaplane Marina Project
- 26 5. Maintain Fiscal Efficiencies
- 27 6. Implement green initiatives
- 28 7. Obtain grants for city projects
- 29 8. Increase Tax base
- 30 9. Purchase the Major Alexander St. Clair Abrams House and turn into a tourist  
31 attraction
- 32 10. Relieve traffic congestion on Alfred Street
- 33 11. Develop a Water Reclamation Facility
- 34 12. Implement the Tavares brand
- 35 13. Develop a partnership with Lake County on Parks and recreation programs
- 36 14. Work towards all departments being self supporting
- 37 15. Develop a Freight Village.
- 38 16. Extend the nature observation walking board walk at Squib Park
- 39 17. Develop the Woodlea Community Sports Park.

40

1 Council Discussion

2  
3 Councilmember Smith said he would like to discuss #5, #8, #9, and #12.

4  
5 Councilmember Grenier said there are two unattractive gateways to the City—one  
6 entering Alfred Street from Mt. Dora and the other at SR 19 at the Dora Canal and Main  
7 Street. Mr. Drury said “gateway beautification” would be added as item #18.

8  
9 Vice Mayor Pfister said she thought “gateway beautification” was already in effect. Mr.  
10 Drury said that is correct but that since Councilmember Grenier had identified it, he  
11 would include it.

12  
13 Mayor Wolfe noted there are certain goals that have already been started, such as  
14 “relieving traffic on Alfred Street” that would be continued. He noted that #5 and #7  
15 should be given considered activities not goals.

16  
17 Mr. Drury said that he wanted to make sure the goals he is working on are the ones  
18 Council collectively wishes him to accomplish. He said at this point, Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6,  
19 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 could be voted on as a whole and the remainder could be  
20 discussed and voted on individually.

21  
22 Mayor Wolfe asked if there was comment from the public.

23  
24 Norm Hope, Fox Run resident

25  
26 Mr. Hope asked about #14 (all departments becoming self supporting). He asked how  
27 the Police Department could fund itself without relying on traffic tickets. Councilmember  
28 Smith commented that the Police Department is just one department of many in the city  
29 that is currently not self supporting.

30  
31 Mr. Hope said he could not see how the Police Department could be self supporting  
32 without additional assessment fees.

33  
34 Councilmember Gamble noted there is a fire and police impact fee when a new house is  
35 built.

36  
37 Denise Laratta, Royal Harbor

38  
39 Mr. Laratta said she agreed with Mr. Hope’s comments. She said she wished to  
40 reiterate from her comments at the last meeting, that goals are long term and objectives

1 should be annual and be measureable. She said a number of things that will be  
2 discussed are actually activities (i.e. obtain grants for city projects). She said #14 would  
3 be a desire but she did not see how that would be measureable.

4  
5 **MOTION**

6  
7 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the remaining items that were not pulled, to be**  
8 **goals for the City Administrator and leave the others identified for discussion,**  
9 **seconded by Kirby Smith.**

10  
11 Councilmember Gamble said that #14 would not be fair to expect from the City  
12 Administrator unless the city decided to raises taxes. He said if one of the  
13 councilmembers wished to work on this individually and bring back suggestions, he  
14 would support that but he did not wish to add it as goal for the City Administrator.

15  
16 Vice Mayor Pfister said she left it in the motion because she felt it kept the departments  
17 working within budget although not necessarily self supporting.

18  
19 **Mr. Drury said that item could be pulled from the motion and added to the list for**  
20 **discussion.**

21  
22 **Lori Pfister said she wished to amend the motion to remove #14 for discussion**  
23 **and add #18 (gateway beautification), seconded by Kirby Smith. The amended**  
24 **motion carried unanimously, 5-0.**

25  
26 Mr. Drury stated that items 1, 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 have been included  
27 as goals for the City Administrator to implement over the next fiscal year.

28  
29 The following Items were pulled for discussion:

30  
31 **Item #5 – Maintain Fiscal Efficiencies**

32  
33 Councilmember Smith said he thought this was Mr. Drury's job duties, not a goal.  
34 Mayor Wolfe said he agreed as Mr. Drury was doing a good job with this along with the  
35 department heads.

36  
37 **MOTION**

38  
39 **Lori Pfister moved to remove #5 because it is within Mr. Drury's job description,**  
40 **seconded by Sandy Gamble. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

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Item #7, Obtain Grants for City Projects

Mayor Wolfe said that every department has done a great job and believed this is already being done.

**MOTION**

**Lori Pfister moved to remove #7 as a goal, seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

Item #8 – Increase the Tax Base

Councilmember Smith said a city dies if it is not growing and he believed it is the City Administrator’s job to make sure the city continues to grow which will increase the tax base.

**MOTION**

**Lori Pfister moved to remove #8 (Increase Tax Base), seconded by Robert Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

Item #9 – Purchase of Major St. Clair Abrams House

Councilmember Smith said that he thought the city had been through a difficult time over the last three months and has had to make some difficult choices and he did not see the economy improving dramatically within the next year in order for the city to handle purchasing anything that would not be vitally important to the city.

Councilmember Pfister said although she is not particularly “historical” she held the opposite viewpoint on this purchase. She said she would like to continue to find grant money or some sort of endowment that would allow the city to purchase the property as she believed this property is the only residence with historical value. She said this property owned by Major S. Clair Abrams [city founder] was significant to the city because of how much he had done for Tavares.

Councilmember Gamble noted he did not think Council would expect Mr. Drury to achieve this necessarily this fiscal year and that it could be carried into the next fiscal year if funding was not available. He agreed it would be good for the city if it could be acquired.

1  
2 Councilmember Grenier noted there are citizens also involved in this project.

3  
4 Mayor Wolfe suggested the wording of the goal should be changed to “pursue” the  
5 application for grants.

6  
7 **MOTION**

8  
9 **Lori Pfister moved to change the wording of goal #9 to say “pursue the financing  
10 to purchase the St. Clair Abrams house”, seconded by Sandy Gamble. The  
11 motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

12  
13 Councilmember Smith said he questioned whether this had been included as a goal.  
14 **Consensus that #9 is included as a goal with the new wording.**

15  
16 **Item #12 – Implementation of the Tavares Brand**

17  
18 Councilmember Smith said the implementation of the Tavares brand is a huge project  
19 however Council has just approved the hiring of someone to accomplish that goal. He  
20 said if they do not implement the brand they will not be doing their job.

21  
22 Mr. Drury said if he is asked next year by Council what he has done to implement the  
23 brand, he would respond that he had hired a public relations coordinator to assist in the  
24 implementation of the brand and that a consultant had identified the brand, public  
25 meetings were held, a design manual was developed, etc. He noted there are tasks he  
26 is doing and will be doing over the next year to implement this broad goal.

27  
28 Councilmember Grenier said he agreed and felt it should remain as a goal.

29  
30 **MOTION**

31  
32 **Lori Pfister moved to leave #12, Implement the Tavares Brand, under Mr. Drury’s  
33 goals, seconded by Robert Grenier.**

34  
35 Councilmember Gamble asked if this included the signage and that budget wise he did  
36 not think this was completely covered. Mr. Drury said that the wayfinding is included in  
37 the budget and there are a lot of activities going on to make sure it is implemented.

38  
39 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

40

1 **Item #14 – Work Toward All Departments Being Self Supporting**

2  
3 Mayor Wolfe noted a fire assessment fee had been attempted which had to be done  
4 based on property. Attorney Williams noted that even with the fire assessment fee it  
5 would only cover about 50% of the costs of the Fire Department.

6  
7 Councilmember Gamble said he had pulled it as a goal because he did not want to see  
8 the Police Department overticketing and he questioned how the Fire Department would  
9 make more money unless they asked for donations. He said he understood the concept  
10 but that most of the departments' funding is coming from taxes so how would they  
11 become self sufficient unless they had a way to charge for services other than whatever  
12 is received from taxes.

13  
14 Councilmember Smith said there are departments other than the Police and Fire that  
15 could be self supporting. He said there are different ways to think about this and that he  
16 believed it was important to look into.

17  
18 Councilmember Gamble said he agreed and that it related to the goal of maintaining  
19 efficiencies but to try to expect Mr. Drury or any department head to become self  
20 sufficient would be difficult.

21  
22 Discussion followed on the example of the funding and services provided by the Parks  
23 Department.

24  
25 **MOTION**

26  
27 **Lori Pfister moved to remove #14 from the City Administrator's goals, seconded**  
28 **by Robert Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

29  
30 **Tab 7) Discussion of Email Options**

31  
32 Ms. Barnett noted that Attorney Williams had discussed the options for email at the  
33 previous meeting. She noted the two options are to continue to maintain a private email  
34 or to set up a city account.

35  
36 Mr. Drury stated this is before Council to see if they have questions or wish to discuss  
37 but that the decision did not need to be made today.

38  
39 Councilmember Pfister said she had spoken with Ms. Barnett and she wished Council to  
40 consider this as she wished to switch over to a city account. She said she did not want to

1 be responsible for getting her emails sent to the Clerk. She said this would protect the  
2 city from a law suit if someone forgets to forward an email pertaining to city business.  
3 She said she would prefer that all the councilmembers did this.

4  
5 Mayor Wolfe said he could understand her concern but that he felt that there had not  
6 been any problems to date.

7  
8 Councilmember Gamble said he has established his previous email account as a  
9 councilmember and would forward his emails to Ms. Barnett.

10  
11 **Tab 8) Board Appointments**

12  
13 Mayor Wolfe said he would be making the following appointments:

14  
15 Florida League of Cities Legislative – (Environmental and Energy Council) Committee –  
16 Mayor Wolfe with Mr. Hayes as an alternate and/or attend the meetings with him

17  
18 Lake County league of cities – Mayor Wolfe (alternate Robert Grenier)

19  
20 Lake County Library Advisory Board – Reappoint Tamera Rogers and Beth Sindler

21  
22 Metropolitan Planning Organization – Kirby Smith

23  
24 Metropolitan Planning Organization – Bicycle Pedestrian Committee – Alisha Sullivan  
25 (Lori Pfister Alternate)

26  
27 Metropolitan Planning Organization - Citizens Advisory Committee – Reappoint David  
28 Clutts

29  
30 MyRegion.Org – Mayor Wolfe or John Drury

31  
32 Congress of Mayors – Mayor Wolfe or John Drury

33  
34 Police Pension Board – Reappoint Norman Hope

35  
36 **MOTION**

37  
38 **Lori Pfister moved to ratify the board appointments of Mayor Wolfe, seconded by**  
39 **Sandy Gamble. The motion carried 5-0.**

40

1 **Tab 9) Hickory Point Park Annexation**

2  
3 Previously Council asked that staff look at the history of the Hickory Point annexation  
4 and bring back to Council for further discussion for either action or no action.

5  
6 By way of background Royal Harbor (across the street from Hickory Point) requested  
7 water and sewer to their development. Royal Harbor was not contiguous to the city  
8 (State Law does not permit a city to annex property unless it is contiguous to the city),  
9 so the city entered into a “Pioneer Agreement” whereby water and sewer was extended  
10 to Royal Harbor. As part of the Pioneer Agreement Royal Harbor would pay the higher  
11 “out of City” water and sewer rate and would agree to annex in at such time as their  
12 property became contiguous to the city; they also paid to extend the City’s water and  
13 sewer lines to their site.

14  
15 The Water Authority asked for the same agreement as Royal Harbor; they paid to  
16 extend water and sewer across the street to the Water Authority’s Hickory Point  
17 property and they agreed to pay the higher out of city water and sewer rates and to  
18 annex in at such time as they became contiguous. Time passed and eventually Royal  
19 Harbor became contiguous, annexed into the city, paid the lower water/sewer city rates,  
20 paid city property taxes and the city took on the responsibilities and costs of city  
21 services (Garbage, collections, Police protection, Fire protection, creating voting  
22 precincts, etc). Once Royal Harbor annexed in, Hickory Point became contiguous.  
23 Several years ago the city asked the Water Authority to execute the covenant to annex  
24 into the city and the Water Authority declined. The issue lay dormant until this year  
25 when the City Council requested that staff look into this issue again.

26  
27 The Water Authority was advised and was provided an opportunity to discuss it at their  
28 Board meeting, which they did [minutes attached to agenda packet for Council] and was  
29 invited to meet with the City Council at this meeting. Mr. Drury noted their Executive  
30 Director Mike Perry was present.

31  
32 An analysis of the pros/cons of annexation is as follows:

- 33  
34 A. If the Water Authority **does not** annex in then:  
35 B. They pay the higher water and sewer rates (\$2,204.72 vs. \$1,763.78 for Base  
36 Charges and \$3.53 per 1000 gallons vs. \$2.83 for sewer consumption charges  
37 and \$1.28 to \$4.08 per 1000 gallons vs. \$1.03 to \$3.27 for water consumption  
38 charges. Average consumption per year is 1,394 gallons for water & sewer at an  
39 estimated cost of \$3,542.62 vs. \$2,842.67 for water & sewer charges.

1 C. The County provides Sheriff and Fire protection so no cost to city to respond to  
2 police and fire related issues.

3  
4 D. If the Water Authority **does** annex in then:

- 5  
6 1. They pay a lower rate for water and sewer  
7 2. The City provides municipal Police and Fire protection services and takes on  
8 those additional costs. (Note: Where Royal Harbor pays city property taxes, the  
9 Water Authority is exempt from paying city taxes- so they get city services for  
10 free).

11  
12 E. Other issues include things as: The city Fire Station is closer to the property then  
13 the County Fire Station, City Police is patrolling the area in front of the property  
14 as they regularly provide that service to Royal Harbor but they have no  
15 jurisdiction within the Water Authority property, The Renaissance Fair is held  
16 there and is touted as being in Tavares, Soccer Games are held there and are  
17 touted as being in Tavares. There is property behind the property that is privately  
18 owned on Lake Harris with a limited ingress/egress easement across the water  
19 Authority's property that is currently an orange grove.

20  
21 Mayor Wolfe asked Council if they had questions. He asked for comment from Mr.  
22 Perry.

23  
24 Mike Perry, Executive Director, Lake County Water Authority

25 Mr. Perry said he was available to answer questions He said the minutes from his Board  
26 indicated there was not a lot of interest in annexing in and the Water Authority felt they  
27 were operating satisfactorily in the current status. He said they felt the only advantage  
28 to annexing was to have a lower water and sewer rate.

29  
30 Mayor Wolfe asked for comment from the audience.

31  
32 Norb Thomas, 1601 N. New Hampshire Avenue

33 Mr. Thomas said he felt that Hickory Point should comply with the agreement that they  
34 made in 1991 when they received water and sewer which was to become annexed  
35 when they were contiguous with the City of Tavares. He said that was the intent and the  
36 rule. He said if he were injured there he would want a nearby fire station responding. He  
37 said he noticed the police officers at the Renaissance Faire in uniform and felt this  
38 would might be a liability since they were not within their jurisdiction. He said he also  
39 noticed City of Tavares being paid to provide services and said perhaps the source of

1 support should be limited to some monetary amount in the future and eliminate the soft  
2 costs.

3  
4 Denise Laratta

5 Ms. Laratta added that they have had three instances in Royal Harbor where they had  
6 to have residents air lifted out for emergency medical conditions and the helicopters  
7 land on the Hickory Point Property and the City's firefighters and police officers are  
8 there as well assisting in those situations. She said she believed they should have to  
9 abide by their agreement.

10  
11 Council Discussion

12  
13 Councilmember Smith asked if the City has other agreements where water and sewer is  
14 provided and the party receiving services has agreed to come into the city once they  
15 become contiguous. Attorney Williams answered in the affirmative. Mr. Drury stated the  
16 Water Authority is the only non-taxing entity that has a pioneer agreement.

17  
18 Councilmember Smith asked if this would set a precedent. Attorney Williams and Mr.  
19 Drury responded that they did not think it would. Councilmember Smith said the Water  
20 Authority had made an agreement and he believed the agreement should be honored.

21  
22 Councilmember Gamble noted that on page 2 of their Board meeting minutes there was  
23 a comment made by their attorney that referred to the statutes of limitations as having  
24 run out on the agreement. He said he understood there is no statute of limitations on  
25 this agreement. Attorney Williams said he did not agree with the opinion stated by their  
26 attorney and that he believed that the city had the right to annex them if they wished to.  
27 Mr. Drury said he did not agree that there was a great degree of liability because of the  
28 various Interlocal agreements that exist between entities. Attorney Williams said from a  
29 fiscal point of view it probably did not make sense to annex them. He said he agreed  
30 with Mr. Smith on the issue of honoring the agreement. He said the only real issue has  
31 to do with police coverage.

32  
33 Councilmember Grenier asked about the Hochberg property and was it kept from being  
34 contiguous by its location. Mr. Drury discussed some of the issues to do with this  
35 property. Mr. Perry said there was some concern about the possibility of having a road  
36 come through the Hickory Point property.

37  
38 Attorney Williams said about two years ago the legislature did an amendment to  
39 Chapter 171 and now contiguity is not necessarily a requirement under an Interlocal

1 annexation agreement with the County. He said the legislature has recognized that  
2 cities and counties may now agree on annexations even if not contiguous.

3  
4 **MOTION**

5  
6 **Lori Pfister moved to approve Option #2, to not ask that Hickory Point annex into**  
7 **the city at this time, seconded by Kirby Smith.**

8  
9 Councilmember Smith asked if this would make their contract void. Attorney Williams  
10 said it would not void the contract and it would continue to be the City's option to annex  
11 them in the future.

12  
13 Councilmember Smith said currently Hickory Point is considered to be in Tavares. He  
14 said his main concern is if there is a need for the police to respond and there was an  
15 issue with this would that give the city a bad image.

16  
17 Councilmember Gamble clarified that the motion states "at this time."

18  
19 **The motion carried 4-1 as follows:**

20		
21	<b>Robert Wolfe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
22	<b>Lori Pfister</b>	<b>Yes</b>
23	<b>Robert Grenier</b>	<b>Yes</b>
24	<b>Kirby Smith</b>	<b>No</b>
25	<b>Sandy Gamble</b>	<b>Yes</b>
26		

27 **Tab 10) Approval of Intergovernmental Relations Agreement with National**  
28 **Strategies, LLC**

29  
30 Mr. Drury said that as part of the agreement that council awarded a year and a half ago  
31 for the marina seaplane base project there was a subcontract with National Strategies  
32 Inc. to provide lobbying services in Tallahassee to help with permitting for the project  
33 pavilion and provide assistance in other grant opportunities. That contract has expired  
34 and has been renegotiated with the firm. He said NSI has been instrumental in assisting  
35 the city to obtain the DEP permit for the main project, has been assisting the city in the  
36 ongoing negotiations with DEP on the pavilion, and most importantly, has been  
37 instrumental in working FDOT in identifying a 1.3 million grant opportunity for funding to  
38 replace the Dora Canal bridge which is part of the rail initiative. The city has been  
39 approved tentatively for the 1.3 million contract subsequent to finding a local match of  
40 about \$300,000 which the city is currently working on with a variety of sources, including

1 the railroad. He said the staff has renegotiated the fee from \$6500 a month to \$2500 a  
2 month and have identified sufficient funding within the project budget to continue this  
3 contract for a nine month period. As part of the budget discussions this summer,  
4 Council will either identify another funding source or the contract can be terminated on a  
5 30 day notice.

6  
7 Mayor Wolfe asked Council if they had questions or if anyone in the audience had  
8 comments.

9  
10 Crystal Strickel, Governmental Relations Director, NSI

11  
12 Ms. Strickel said it had been a pleasure to work with the city and work on the initiatives.

13  
14 **MOTION**

15  
16 **Lori Pfister moved to approve extending the contract with National Strategies**  
17 **Inc., seconded by Robert Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

18  
19 **Tab 11) Time of Council Meetings**

20  
21 Mayor Wolfe noted that Councilmember Gamble had requested that this be discussed.  
22 Councilmember Gamble said he had been asked by some business owners who stated  
23 it would be easier to be here for a 5:00 meeting. He said he works until 3:30 p.m. and  
24 although he was elected knowing the time, it would be more feasible for the community  
25 to be here at 5:00 versus 4:00. Councilmember Pfister noted that most of the time if  
26 there is something that interests the community the meeting agenda has been adjusted.  
27 She said moving the time does not work with her scheduled but it should be what is best  
28 for the public. Mayor Wolfe said he has heard comment from the working community so  
29 he would be fine with either time. Councilmember Grenier said he had no problem with  
30 at least changing it to 4:30 p.m. Councilmember Smith said would agree to a half hour  
31 change but that the staff have to be considered as well.

32  
33 Mr. Drury noted that if this is changed that it would be preferable to make the starting  
34 time change after January 1<sup>st</sup> which would not affect any current advertising.

35  
36 **MOTION**

37  
38 **Lori Pfister moved to keep the meetings at 4 p.m., seconded by Kirby Smith.**

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40 **The motion failed 3-2 as follows:**

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<b>Robert Wolfe</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Sandy Gamble</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Robert Grenier</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Kirby Smith</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>Lori Pfister</b>	<b>yes</b>

**Sandy Gamble moved to move the meetings to 4:30 p.m. effective January 1, 2010, seconded by Robert Grenier. The motion carried 3-2 as follows:**

<b>Robert Wolfe</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sandy Gamble</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Robert Grenier</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kirby Smith</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Lori Pfister</b>	<b>No</b>

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

Denise Laratta, Royal Harbor

Ms. Laratta stated she felt there were people in the audience who would have liked to speak about the last item. She said she thought this was a disservice to the staff to move the time and as far as anyone in the business community or residents having a problem with 4:00 p.m. she did not think that was a problem and had not affected attendance.

Mayor Wolfe asked Attorney Williams if there was a requirement to always ask the public to be heard. Attorney Williams said it was not required except for certain types of public hearings.

Norman Hope, Fox Run

1 Mr. Hope asked Attorney Williams about the email addresses. He said as Chairman of  
2 the Police Pension Board what would happen if an email did not get to the city and  
3 would his home computer be susceptible to a subpoena. Attorney Williams said it could  
4 be potentially. Mr. Hope asked Attorney Williams if he should have a city email account.  
5 Attorney Williams said it is always easier for the city to keep all public emails on the city  
6 computer although it is not illegal or improper the way it has been done but is just not as  
7 efficient. Mr. Hope said he would like to request Ms. Barnett to have an account set up  
8 for him.

9  
10 **Mike Perry**

11 Mr. Perry said he wanted to let the city know the progress on their nutrient reduction  
12 facility. While he said it did not directly affect the city, it would affect the city indirectly.  
13 He said the facility is off on the Apopka Beauclair canal and it is a system that strips the  
14 nutrients out of the water. He said it has been operating for about a year and a half and  
15 on average it has removed about 90% of all the nutrients that are coming out of Lake  
16 Apopka that affects the health of the other Chain of lakes. He said ultimately benefits  
17 will be observed in Lake Dora.

18  
19 Mr. Perry said he also wished to mention that the Water Authority is proud of its  
20 relationship with other local governments and that he wished Council to know that its  
21 staff is excellent to work with, particularly Mr. Drury.

22  
23 **REPORTS**

24  
25 **Tab 12) City Administrator**

26  
27 Mr. Drury stated he would like to introduce his mother, Louisa Drury, from Stowe,  
28 Vermont, who is attending her first Tavares Council Meeting.

29  
30 **Lori Tucker**

31 Ms. Tucker reminded everyone that the employee party (“Holly Jolly”) will be next Friday  
32 December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Center.

33  
34 **Tammy Rogers**

35 Ms. Rogers reminded everyone of the Light Up Activities on Saturday night.

36  
37 **Vice Mayor Pfister**

38 Vice Mayor Pfister said she would like to put the starting time of the Council and the  
39 discussion of email accounts back on the agenda at the next meeting for further  
40 discussion.

1  
2 Mr. Drury stated under Roberts Rules of order the mayor sets the agenda so it is  
3 appropriate to advise him of that in this meeting. He said the mayor will take that under  
4 consideration.

5  
6 **Councilmember Gamble**

7 Councilmember Gamble said one of the members of his church who lives near  
8 Summerall Park had observed a police officer who had been confronted by an angry  
9 individual. He said the police officer was very professional and did not get upset. He  
10 said he wished to let Chief Lubins know that he appreciated the professionalism of the  
11 officer.

12  
13 Councilmember Gamble noted regarding the starting time discussion, that Tavares is  
14 one of the only cities in the area that starts early--most other cities start at 6:00 or 7:00  
15 p.m.

16  
17 **Councilmember Greiner**

18 Councilmember Grenier noted that the Wall of Mayors had been rearranged and he  
19 appreciated having all the mayors being recognized.

20  
21 Mr. Drury noted the city had stopped the practice some years ago and staff will be  
22 reinstating the Wall of Mayors.

23  
24 **Councilmember Smith**

25 No report.

26  
27 **Mayor Wolfe**

28 Mayor Wolfe asked Ms. Rogers for some updates on Light Up information.

29  
30 **Adjournment**

31  
32 There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

33  
34 Respectfully submitted,

35  
36

37  
38 \_\_\_\_\_  
39 Nancy A. Barnett, C.M.C.  
City Clerk