

**CITY OF TAVARES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2013  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
4:00 p.m.**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

Robert Wolfe, Mayor  
Kirby Smith, Vice Mayor  
Norman Hope, Councilmember  
Lori Pfister, Councilmember  
Bob Grenier, Councilmember

**STAFF PRESENT**

John Drury, City Administrator  
Robert Q. Williams, City Attorney  
Nancy Barnett, City Clerk  
Chris Thompson, Public Works Director  
Joyce Ross, Communications Director  
Bill Neron, Economic Development Director  
Tammey Rogers, Community Services Director  
Lori Houghton, Finance Director  
Richard Keith, Fire Department  
Stoney Lubins, Police Department

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Tom Cavanaugh, First Baptist Church of Mt. Dora, gave the invocation and those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION**

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

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION**

1 Kirby Smith moved to approve the minutes of February 20, 2013, as submitted, seconded  
2 by Bob Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.  
3

4 **V. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**  
5

6 **Tab 2) Proclamation for Florida Surveyor and Mapper’s Week**  
7

8 Mayor Wolfe read a proclamation recognizing the week of March 17-23, 2013 as Florida  
9 Surveyors & Mappers Week. He presented the proclamation to Michael Straughan of BESH.  
10

11 **VI – SWEARING IN BY CITY ATTORNEY AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE CONTACTS**  
12

13 There were none.  
14

15 **VII READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**  
16

17 Ms. Barnett read the following by title only:  
18

19 **ORDINANCE 2013-02**  
20

21 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, REZONING**  
22 **APPROXIMATELY .45 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE**  
23 **SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAINT CLAIR ABRAMS AVENUE AND ESTHER**  
24 **AVENUE FROM RMF-2 (RESIDENTIAL MULTI-FAMILY) TO MU (MIXED USE);**  
25 **SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY**  
26 **THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**  
27

28 **ORDINANCE 2013-03**  
29

30 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE**  
31 **TAVARES COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP 2020,**  
32 **PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE OF FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION ON**  
33 **APPROXIMATELY .45 ACRES OF PROPERTY GENERALLY LOCATED ON**  
34 **THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAINT CLAIR ABRAMS AVENUE AND**  
35 **ESTHER AVENUE; FROM MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO MIXED USE**  
36 **COMMERCIAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS;**  
37 **PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE**  
38 **DATE.**  
39

40 **RESOLUTION 2013 – 01**  
41

42 **A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAVARES,**  
43 **FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**  
44 **TITLED “FREEDOM FLAG MAINTENANCE FUND”.**  
45

46 **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**  
47

1 Mayor Wolfe asked if anyone in the audience was opposed to the Consent Agenda

2 **MOTION**

3  
4 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the Consent Agenda [Tab 3-Request for Street Closure for  
5 Vietnam Veterans Welcome Home Honor Parade & Recognition Ceremony and Tab 4-  
6 Request for Street Closure for No Duck Left Behind Rubber Ducky Race & Carnival and  
7 Tab 5- Request for City to Participate in Earth Hour March 23, 2013] , seconded by Norman  
8 Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

9  
10  
11 **IX ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

12  
13 Mayor Wolfe explained the ordinances were read for first reading only and will be discussed at  
14 second reading.

15  
16 **Tab 8) Resolution #2013-01 – Special Revenue Fund for Excess Donations Received for  
17 Freedom Flag**

18  
19 Ms. Houghton stated this is a housekeeping measure to formalize the approval by Council at the  
20 previous meeting to establish this special revenue fund. It fulfills the GASB 54 reporting  
21 requirements. It states that the City Council is authorizing those expenditures related to  
22 maintenance, repair, improvement or replacement, for the Freedom Flag or the Freedom Flag  
23 roundabout which is the home for the Freedom Flag.

24  
25 Mayor Wolfe asked for audience comment.

26  
27 **MOTION**

28  
29 **Norman Hope moved to approve Resolution #2013-01, seconded by Bob Grenier. The  
30 motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

31  
32 **X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

33  
34 **Tab 5) Approval of Engineering & Design for the Royal Harbor Booster Station**

35  
36 Mr. Drury stated he would be giving the summary on this item in the absence of Brad Hayes  
37 whose mother had passed away at 101 years old [Virginia Hayes] as he has gone to  
38 Massachusetts for her service.

39  
40 Mr. Drury stated the agreement for engineering services is in the amount of \$110,517. He  
41 reviewed the decade long problem of low water pressure problems in Royal Harbor. He noted  
42 Council commissioned a study of the entire community to isolate and identify the problems and  
43 the solution. The study was presented to Council, and Council directed staff to move forward with  
44 implementation.

45  
46 This agreement will include the design, permitting and oversight of the construction project of  
47 building a booster pump station. It represents about 12.4% of the anticipated project costs.

1  
2 **MOTION**

3 **Kirby Smith moved to approve the agreement with Malcolm Pirnie, seconded by**  
4 **Norman Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

5  
6 **Tab 10) CDBG Application for Restrooms at Ingraham Park**

7  
8 Ms. Rogers stated this is a request to make application for a grant to construct restrooms at  
9 Ingraham Park. The grant has aided in construction of restrooms at Aesop's Park and Summerall  
10 Park. The surrounding community has expressed a desire to have the restrooms in lieu of the  
11 existing portalets. She said the grant will require an additional \$30,000 to be budgeted in the  
12 fiscal year 2014 budget which is based on the amount budgeted previously for the other site built  
13 restrooms.

14  
15 **MOTION**

16  
17 **Kirby Smith moved to approve the application for the CDBG grant, seconded by Norman**  
18 **Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

19  
20 **Tab 11) Request to Waive Fees for the Use of Stover Field for Fundraiser**

21  
22 Ms. Roger said this was a request from Nilus Hanawalt of the University of Central Florida  
23 Business program to be able to utilize the Stover fields to have a home run derby fundraising  
24 event have the fee of \$100 be waived. All of the proceeds will be donated to a fundraising cause  
25 [New Hope for Kids].

26  
27 Discussion followed regarding the issue of setting a precedent. It was noted that the city has  
28 waived fees for some other fundraising events in the past but that these requests will continue to  
29 be considered on a case by case basis.

30  
31 Mr. Hanawalt addressed Council and answered questions.

32  
33 **MOTION**

34  
35 **Lori Pfister moved to approve the request to waive the rental fee, seconded by Bob**  
36 **Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

37  
38 **Tab 12) Establishment of Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Priorities**

39  
40 Mr. Drury noted that he annually solicits broad budget priorities from Council prior to developing  
41 the budget. He reviewed the seven different budgets: general government, Utilities, Garbage  
42 Collection, Stormwater, Seaplane & Marina Enterprise, Pavilion on the Lake, and Capital  
43 Projects, and the sources of the funding for each.

44  
45 Mr. Drury noted that the projects that have been undertaken in the city have been considered in  
46 two lights: will they help put people back to work and will they help to stimulate the economy and  
47 create sustainable jobs. The other question that was asked was whether the projects could create

1 revenues in addition to economic stimulus. He reviewed the investments that have made in the  
2 city from various sectors and the leaning of the city government that has also taken place.

3  
4 Mayor Wolfe asked for Council comment.

5  
6 Vice Mayor Smith

- 7  
8
  - Continue the same level of service to the residents
  - Pursue the ALS option along with the Tri-City Fire District

9  
10  
11 Mayor Wolfe

- 12  
13
  - Provide the same level of service to the residents
  - Pursue the ALS option
  - Compensation to employees if the revenues support

14  
15  
16  
17 Councilmember Hope

- 18  
19
  - Employee COLA and if possible re-instating the merit program
  - Finish the Pavilion on the Lake
  - Ruby Street Stormwater project and drainage pond
  - Public Safety building
  - Restrooms in Ingraham Park treated the same as the other parks
  - Same level of service to residents
  - Public Works complex

20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27 Councilmember Grenier

- 28  
29
  - Pavilion on the Lake – include all the additional revisions presented at the last Council Meeting

30  
31  
32 Councilmember Pfister

33  
34 Councilmember Pfister said she has not yet made a list. She asked when the residents would  
35 receive a return on their investment noting the impact fees were waived to assist in balancing out  
36 the commercial with the residential.

37  
38 Mr. Drury noted there are national economic issues that are beyond the control of Council. He  
39 said the other issues are the independent barometers such as the way that the city is reducing  
40 the tax burden on the residents. He discussed the change in the commercial percentage versus  
41 residential.

42  
43 Ms. Pfister said she understood the changes in the commercial however she was concerned that  
44 it has cost the residents more money.  
45

1 Mayor Wolfe said this is a good question and he believed the citizens have reaped the benefits  
2 such as the expansion of Wooton Park, the library flooring and the library events, expansion of  
3 ball fields; and the growth of the medical facilities near Florida Hospital. Councilmember Pfister  
4 said she has told people that she hopes the residents' reward has been the increase in their  
5 property values.  
6

7 Councilmember Pfister said she had voted against the fire assessment as she did not feel it was  
8 a fair equitable distribution. She said she did not think it is fair that the residents and commercial  
9 carry the weight and that the not for profits do not participate in the fire assessment. She asked  
10 that that issue be re-addressed. Mr. Drury noted the City has approached the County to pay its  
11 fair share. He noted this is a good question and he will put together information on the benefits to  
12 the residents. He said he had been proud of the fact that Tavares had had the least drop in  
13 property values and he had wondered if the Council had not decided to invest itself how the  
14 Tavares' property values would have fared.  
15

16 Councilmember Pfister said she is proud of what the city has done and wants to insure that the  
17 benefit to the investors continues to be the basis for everything the city does. Vice Mayor Smith  
18 spoke in support. Mayor Wolfe stated to the audience that the public is welcome to contact any of  
19 the councilmembers to comment on the budget and that there will be public meetings in the future  
20 to allow opportunity to address Council as whole on the budget issues.  
21

22 Mr. Drury thanked Council for this discussion.  
23

#### 24 **XI. OLD BUSINESS**

25

26 Vice Mayor Smith asked about the status of the golf cart crossings.  
27

28 Mr. Drury said the city has been advised that a letter has been sent from the Florida Department  
29 of Transportation headquarters but it has not been received as yet. He said it is supposed to  
30 allow a crossing at Dead River Road and SR 19 and after that has had some time to be in effect,  
31 then FDOT would be willing to reconsider US 441 and St. Clair Abrams. He said he will share the  
32 letter when it arrives.  
33

#### 34 **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

35

36 None  
37

#### 38 **XIII. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

39

40 None  
41

#### 42 **XIV. REPORTS**

43

##### 44 **Tab 14) City Administrator**

45

46 Mr. Drury referred to the list of upcoming meetings. He said he had provided a copy of an  
47 upcoming events publication.

1  
2 **Economic Development**  
3

4 Mr. Neron noted as of the end of February between April 2010 and the end of February 2012  
5 there have been 5,386 seaplane visits with 252 visits in February which has been the highest  
6 month since the base opened.  
7

8 **City Attorney**  
9

10 Attorney Williams said he had taken a walking tour of the Wootton Park area with Mr. Drury  
11 recently and it was very impressive to see what has been done and he encouraged others to do  
12 that.  
13

14 **Tab 24) City Council**  
15

16 **Councilmember Pfister**  
17

18 Councilmember expressed appreciation to Mr. Aldrich and Ms. Rogers for the Senior Shakedown  
19 event. She encouraged the seniors in the audience to attend the event the first Monday of the  
20 month. She also reminded those present of the senior meals being offered at the Union  
21 Congregational church on Mondays and Wednesdays.  
22

23 **Councilmember Hope**  
24

25 Councilmember Hope thanked Ms. Pfister for spearheading the senior events.  
26

27 **Councilmember Grenier**  
28

29 Councilmember Grenier asked if there are any commercial airlines that provide regular seaplane  
30 service. Mr. Drury said there are scheduled route airlines in South America and Japan. In terms  
31 of unscheduled services, the United States has many of those airlines and the current seaplane  
32 operator in Tavares is considering adding that to his services.  
33

34 **Vice Mayor Smith**  
35

36 Vice Mayor Smith commented that Mr. Neron had represented the city in the 5K run. He  
37 commended Mr. Aldrich and Ms. Rogers for the baseball opening day. Mr. Drury commented that  
38 the National Anthem was sung by Mandy Hutchinson in Tavares who had done an outstanding  
39 job.  
40

41 Vice Mayor Smith commented on the new splash park pad. He noted the city workers had done a  
42 phenomenal job of correcting a recent water break.  
43

44 Vice Mayor Smith stated on this day in history Davy Crockett and Jim Bailey were killed on the  
45 last day of the Alamo battle. Councilmember Grenier added that Colonel Travis was also killed.  
46

47 **Mayor Wolfe**

1  
2 Mayor Wolfe thanked Mr. Aldrich for the opening day event and the appearance of the softball  
3 fields. He reminded everyone of the No Ducks Left Behind event on Saturday.

4  
5

6 **Adjournment**

7

8 There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 pm.

9

10 Respectfully submitted,

11

12

13 Nancy A. Barnett, C.M.C.

14 City Clerk