

**CITY OF TAVARES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 2013  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
4:00 p.m.**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT**

**ABSENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pastor Doug Dykstra, Adventure Christian Church, 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 Norman Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION**

1 **Norman Hope moved to approve the minutes for July 3, 2013 and July 10, 2013, seconded**  
2 **by Bob Grenier. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

3  
4 **V. PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

5  
6 **Tab 2) Florida Water Professionals Week**

7  
8 Mayor Wolfe read a proclamation designating August 12-16 as Florida Water Professionals  
9 Week.

10  
11 **Tab 3) Update for the Single Stream/Recycle bank Program**

12  
13 Mr. Thompson introduced Janie Coleman, Municipal Services Manager for Waste Management  
14 of Florida.

15  
16 Ms. Coleman reported that over 5700, 64 gallon recycling carts were delivered in late January  
17 and the program started February 1<sup>st</sup>. The transition went well and the Waste Management Staff  
18 and City staff met with residents and homeowner groups. She described the recycling cart and  
19 noted that previously the average was about 182 pounds per resident per year and as of this date  
20 the average is about 405 pounds per resident per year. She noted the recycle bank rewards  
21 program helps to motivate people to get involved, save dollars and contribute to the environment.  
22 She said many national retailers are part of the program and they have also discussed with the  
23 Tavares Chamber ways to encourage more local businesses to participate in the program.

24  
25 Ms. Coleman said the registered participants in the City of Tavares in the first six months at 37%.  
26 She said Recycle Bank expects in a normal community to have registered participants is at  
27 approximately 20% in the first six months.

28  
29 Councilmember Pfister asked how Tavares compares to other cities. Ms. Coleman said Tavares  
30 is ahead.

31  
32 **VI. QUASI JUDICIAL AND DISCLOSURE OF EXPARTE CONTACTS**

33  
34 None.

35  
36 **VII READING OF ALL ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

37  
38 Ms. Barnett read the following ordinances/resolutions by title only:

39  
40 **ORDINANCE 2013-12**

41  
42 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 17-57 OF THE CITY OF TAVARES**  
43 **LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS RELATING TO LIENS FOR UNPAID**  
44 **WATER, WASTEWATER, RECLAIMED WATER CHARGES; PROVIDING THAT**  
45 **SAID LIEN, WHEN RECORDED, SHALL ALSO INCLUDE AND SECURE**  
46 **SUBSEQUENT UTILITY CHARGES, BASE RATES AND PENALTIES UNTIL**  
47 **SATISFIED; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**ORDINANCE 2013-10**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS BY AMENDING CHAPTER 16, SECTION 16.9, ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, BY ADDING CLAUSE (D), ABANDONED SUBDIVISIONS, REQUIRING THE REINSPECTION OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE BEFORE BEING PUT INTO USE; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**ORDINANCE 2013-13**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 294, 297 AND 298 OF ARTICLE IX OF CHAPTER 10.5 OF THE CITY OF TAVARES CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO THE APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURES FOR SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR PROCEDURES; PROVIDING FOR A FEE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION ACCORDING TO LAW; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**RESOLUTION 2013-08**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA, GRANTING A VARIANCE TO THE CITY OF TAVARES LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, TABLE 8-3, DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, MINIMUM SIDEYARD SETBACKS FOR AN RSF-1 ZONING FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1024 LAKE ELSIE DRIVE IN OAK HAVEN SUBDIVISION; SUBJECT TO THE RULES, REGULATIONS AND OBLIGATIONS ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TAVARES COUNCIL; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2013-09**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TAVARES, FLORIDA ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY TO PURCHASE THE CITY'S NOT TO EXCEED \$2,750,000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2013 TO ACQUIRE AND CONSTRUCT A CITY OWNED AND OPERATED CONFERENCE CENTER AND PAVILION TO BE LOCATED AT WOOTON PARK; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH SAID BANK TO SECURE THE REPAYMENT OF SAID NOTE; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH NOTE ON PARITY WITH THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REFUNDING REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2012, FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICE TAXES LEVIED AND COLLECTED BY THE CITY PURSUANT TO SECTION 166.231, FLORIDA STATUTES, ALL AS PROVIDED IN THE LOAN AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING THE PROPER OFFICIALS OF THE CITY TO DO ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL**

1           **THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY OR ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE**  
2           **EXECUTION OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT, THE NOTE, AND THE SECURITY**  
3           **THEREFOR; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF**  
4           **DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH SAID LOAN; DESIGNATING THE NOTE**  
5           **AS "BANK QUALIFIED;" PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND OTHER**  
6           **MATTERS IN REGARD THERETO; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

7  
8           **VIII. CONSENT AGENDA**

9  
10          None

11  
12          **IX. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

13  
14          **Tabs 4, 5, and 6) Ordinances 2013-12, 2013-10 and 2013-13**

15  
16          Mayor Wolfe noted these ordinances will be discussed at the following council meeting.

17  
18          **Tab 7) Resolution #2013-08 – Variance for Reduced Side yard Setback – 1024 Lake**  
19          **Elsie Drive**

20  
21          Mr. Skutt noted this is a variance application for LDK Builders for a reduction of the  
22          required minimum side yard setback of 10 feet on property that is located at 1024 Lake  
23          Elsie Drive. The owner wishes to build a new single family dwelling on his vacant lot with  
24          a proposed northerly side yard setback of 5.49 feet. The mandatory 50 ft. environmental  
25          setback from Lake Elsie limits the buildable area of this property. The proposed reduced  
26          side yard is adjacent to property in which a city lift station is located so that the requested  
27          reduction will not impact an abutting residential neighbor. No public objections have been  
28          received. The Planning & Zoning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval and  
29          staff is recommending approval.

30  
31          **MOTION**

32  
33          **Kirby Smith moved to approve Resolution #2013-08, seconded by Bob Grenier. The**  
34          **motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

35  
36          **Tab 8) Resolution #2013-09 – Award of Funding to BB&T – Approval of Closing**  
37          **Documents for Pavilion Funding**

38  
39          Ms. Houghton advised that this resolution authorizes Capital Improvement Revenue Note  
40          Series 2013 to complete funding for the Tavares Pavilion on the Lake construction project  
41          and authorizes execution of the financing documents with BB&T Bank in the amount of  
42          \$2,750,000. Ms. Houghton reviewed the past process on the funding of this project for  
43          Phase II.

44  
45          The loan is based on a 19 year amortization rate of 2.69%. Interest payments commence  
46          February 1, 2014; principal payments commence six months thereafter in 2015. There is  
47          a prepayment penalty of 1%. The revenue pledge is from utility taxes and there is a

1 requirement to maintain a 1.25% additional bonds test which means the total revenue  
2 must exceed by 1.25% times the amount of the debt service for both issues. After 10  
3 years BB&T has the option of reprising the note based on market conditions.

4  
5 Mr. Drury noted that the City Clerk will be having the City Council sign a No Conflict of  
6 Interest form regarding this loan.

7  
8 **MOTION**

9  
10 **Lori Pfister moved to approve Resolution #2013-09, seconded by Bob Grenier.**  
11 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

12  
13 **X. GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

14  
15 **Tab 9) Request from Lake County to Submit Report for Time Capsule**

16  
17 Mayor Wolfe read a letter from Commissioner Leslie Campion regarding the VIVA 500  
18 Celebration of Florida's 500<sup>th</sup> birthday in which she has requested that each city in Lake  
19 County provide a five page article on a momentous event in its history.

20  
21 Councilmember Grenier said he believed the renaissance of Tavares beginning with the  
22 preservation of the Woodlea House through the development of America's Seaplane  
23 Brand should be the milestone event. Mayor Wolfe mentioned the creation of the County  
24 seat in Tavares. Councilmember Smith noted that the deadline to submit the information  
25 is August 16<sup>th</sup>. He said there are many people in attendance that know a lot about the  
26 history of the city. He asked Councilmember Grenier if he had time to consult with the  
27 Historical Society.

28  
29 Councilmember Pfister said she would like to see the emphasis on the Seaplane City as  
30 that is the most positive story.

31  
32 Mr. Drury noted he believed they are looking for an event unique to Tavares. He said he  
33 believed that Councilmember Grenier as a historical writer could develop the report as a  
34 collaborative effort with the Historical Society. Councilmember Grenier said he thought  
35 the due date is flexible.

36  
37 Mr. Drury suggested that Councilmember Grenier bring back his report at the next  
38 Council Meeting for review.

39  
40 Councilmember Grenier agreed to do the report. He said he has a meeting with VIVA  
41 Florida in about two weeks.

42  
43 Mayor Wolfe asked for comment from the Historical Society.

44  
45 Brenda Smith of the Tavares Historical Society said she would be glad to work with  
46 Councilmember Grenier noting there is a lot of colorful and significant history in Tavares.  
47 Councilmember Grenier discussed the Woodlea House and transition to the Visioning

1 Process. Ms. Smith acknowledged the role of past Mayor Clutts in developing the  
2 Visioning process.

3  
4 **MOTION**

5  
6 **Norman Hope moved that Councilmember Grenier prepare the document jointly**  
7 **with the Tavares Historical Society of Tavares and bring it back for approval,**  
8 **seconded by Kirby Smith. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

9  
10 **Tab 10) Approval of Jet Ski Event August 23-25**

11  
12 Mr. Neron noted in June the City hosted its first Hydro Jet Ski drag racing event and it  
13 was very successful bringing in people from all over the State. The promoter has  
14 contacted the City because of a cancellation of one of their events at another venue,  
15 asking if the City would consider hosting it as this late date. They will offer it to the city at  
16 a cost of \$2500 and the County has agreed to pay \$1500 of that amount. The City has  
17 identified its \$1000 portion from within the existing budget.

18  
19 Councilmember Hope asked about the in kind expenses. Mr. Neron said the in kind  
20 expenses are minimal—use of the picnic pavilion and a few barricades. The boat ramp  
21 will be closed for the event.

22  
23 Councilmember Smith asked how many participants there were at the last event. Mr.  
24 Neron said he did not have the numbers at hand but there were two events: the regular  
25 Jet Ski and the drag racing. He said the drag racing far surpassed the regular Jet Ski  
26 event in attendance.

27  
28 Mr. Drury commented on the value of such events during the off season.

29  
30 Councilmember Grenier noted the upcoming Rifles and Rails event in September is also  
31 promoting tourism already through hotel reservations, etc.

32  
33 **MOTION**

34  
35 **Norman Hope moved to approve the Jet Ski Event, seconded by Kirby Smith. The**  
36 **motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

37  
38 **Tab 11) Request to Award RFQ for Independent Retirement Plan Advisory Services**  
39 **to the Bodghan Group**

40  
41 Ms. Tucker advised that Council previously selected Edd Holder & Associates as its  
42 retirement plan advisor. Edd Holder & Associates has resigned due to some insurance  
43 related issues.

44  
45 Ms. Tucker said with Edd Holder & Associates' resignation it is recommended that  
46 Council select the Bodghan Group, which was included in the previous ranking. She  
47 noted there are two ordinances that need to be reviewed.

1  
2 **MOTION**

3  
4 **Bob Grenier moved to approve award of the Independent Retirement Advisory RFQ**  
5 **to the Bogdan Group and authorize staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with**  
6 **the firm, seconded by Norman Hope.**

7  
8 Councilmember Smith asked if the Bodghan Group is willing to continue. Ms. Tucker  
9 responded affirmatively.

10  
11 **The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

12  
13 **Tab 12) Discussion of Code Enforcement Notification Process**

14  
15 Attorney Williams said he is recommending a change to the code enforcement notification  
16 process that had previously been approved by Council. He said the policy had grown out  
17 of concern that Code enforcement was citing people for violations and was notifying them  
18 in a manner that did not give the property owner personal service. He said Council had  
19 adopted a blanket policy requiring personal service that is proving in its application to be  
20 a hindrance to the Code enforcement officer in the ability to process code enforcement  
21 violations. The statutory process authorizes the officer to initiate the violation by serving a  
22 notice based on the address of record with the Property Appraiser's office. It can also be  
23 initiated through personal service which is preferable but if this is not possible, the statute  
24 also authorizes this service through the mail.

25  
26 Attorney Williams noted the recession brought about a lot of abandoned properties that  
27 has made it very difficult to find the actual land owner in many cases. He said at the last  
28 Code Enforcement meeting Mr. McCormick reported that he had 16 properties to initiate  
29 action but had been unable to do personal service. Attorney Williams noted the process in  
30 some other states can be more costly than in Florida. He suggested that Council revisit  
31 the process to allow Code Enforcement cases to be initiated as the statute requires  
32 through either personal service or certified mail service on the property owner but reserve  
33 the requirement only for foreclosure cases if City Council takes action to foreclose. He  
34 added it is important to have the lien recorded so the property can be brought into  
35 compliance which is the goal of code enforcement.

36  
37 Mr. Drury discussed the history behind the original policy. Councilmember Pfister asked  
38 about the state statute on foreclosure. Attorney Williams said requiring it for foreclosure  
39 may be somewhat stricter than state statutes as there is a way that the owner can  
40 potentially be notified through "constructive service", i.e. through a legal ad that can be  
41 published in the newspaper. He said there are limited instances which have to be  
42 approved by a court. Attorney Williams said any foreclosure would have to be approved  
43 by Council and Council can set the standards for notification.

44  
45 **MOTION**

46

1 **Bob Grenier moved to approve the City Attorney’s recommendation to allow Code**  
2 **Enforcement to initiate Code Enforcement action by either mail to the property**  
3 **owner’s address of record with the Property Appraiser or by personal service, and**  
4 **to continue to do personal service for foreclosures, seconded by Lori Pfister. The**  
5 **motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

6  
7 **Tab 13) Board Appointment – Lake Community Action Agency**

8  
9 Mayor Wolfe said that previously Council approved the replacement of the City  
10 Administrator as the designated representative to the Lake Community Action Agency. He  
11 said he had received an application from Peter Harrison and wished to recommend his  
12 appointment.

13  
14 **MOTION**

15  
16 **Bob Grenier moved to approve the Mayor’s recommendation of Peter Harrison,**  
17 **seconded by Norman Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

18  
19 **Tab 14) Interlocal Agreement with Lake County for TDC Funding for Partial Costs of**  
20 **Wooton Park Boat Ramp Expansion**

21  
22 Mr. Neron stated on February 20, 2013, Council authorized staff to apply for a grant with  
23 the TDC to assist in the funding of the boat ramp as part of the Wooton Park Expansion  
24 project. Staff submitted a grant application in the amount of \$400,000 and with  
25 subsequent review by TDC staff, it was recommended based on their formula, that the  
26 City receives a grant in the amount of \$248,000. This has received approval by the  
27 County Commission.

28  
29 Councilmember Hope asked for confirmation that the \$248,000 is for enhancements over  
30 and above what the cities voted for in the bond referendum. Mr. Neron confirmed.

31  
32 **MOTION**

33  
34 **Kirby Smith moved to accept the TDC grant of \$248,000, seconded by Norman**  
35 **Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

36  
37 **Tab 15) Request to Purchase Property from Duke Energy adjacent to Caroline**  
38 **Street Plant**

39  
40 Mr. Hayes said this is a request to purchase this property in the amount of \$20,800 (per  
41 its assessed value) from Duke Energy. The company had a long range plans to build a  
42 substation on the property adjacent to the Caroline Street Plant many years ago. Over the  
43 years various departments began utilizing the easement for storage of equipment,  
44 vehicles, etc. The city has the first right of refusal to purchase the property. The cost of  
45 purchasing the property has been included in the FY 2014 budget.

46

1 Staff recommends approval of the purchase contingent on approval of the 2014 budget  
2 with the closing to occur after October 1<sup>st</sup>.

3  
4 **MOTION**

5  
6 **Kirby Smith moved to approve purchase of the property next to the Caroline Street  
7 Plant for \$20,800, seconded by Norman Hope. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.**

8  
9 **XII. OLD BUSINESS**

10  
11 **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

12  
13 **XIV. AUDIENCE TO BE HEARD**

14  
15 Brenda Smith asked Mayor Wolfe if the audience would be able to speak during the Budget  
16 Workshop. Mayor Wolfe stated there would be audience participation.

17  
18 **XV. REPORTS**

19  
20 **Tab 14) City Administrator**

21  
22 Mr. Drury said in addition to his meeting report, he wished to give an update on the Blue Rhino  
23 incident. He said four blue Rhino employees remain in the hospital. The City Administrator, the  
24 City Attorney, Fire Chief and Public Communications Director met recently with the President of  
25 Blue Rhino, Todd Brown. Mr. Brown advised the company is 1) focused on full cooperation with  
26 the investigation from OSHA and the Fire Marshall to determine cause and any safety issues; 2)  
27 supporting the families and families of the injured; 3) continuing to support all of the existing  
28 employees paying them 40 hours per week during this closure time so that the employees can  
29 keep up with their financial obligations; and 4) are focusing on the clean up of the site. They have  
30 hired an expert company to do the clean up. He said Mr. Brown also advised that once they get  
31 further along on these four issues they will discuss the re-opening plans. At this time the plant  
32 remains closed.

33  
34 Mr. Drury added the city continues to wait on the Fire Marshall's report on cause. He asked Chief  
35 Keith if there is an estimate on when the report will be provided. Chief Keith said he had  
36 contacted the Fire Marshall but they are not ready to comment on when that would be provided.

37  
38 Mr. Drury said the first Responders in his opinion did a flawless job in responding to the incident.  
39 He said a unified command post was established at the Lake County Training Center. The Fire  
40 Chief, Lake County Fire Chief, Tavares Police Chief, and Lake County EMS, and Public  
41 Information Officers from Tavares, the Sheriff, Lake County and Blue Rhino were all there that  
42 evening working the scene. The mobile incident command post was established quickly at the  
43 scene. Lake County EOC was activated at a Level Three Tier (support). Homes in the immediate  
44 area were evacuated. All roads leading to the scene were shut down and posted with law  
45 enforcement redirecting traffic. A victim's family area was established next to the unified  
46 command post with a pastor at the post. A media staging was established next to the incident  
47 command post. He noted Councilmember Hope with his affiliation with the United Methodist

1 Church had enabled them to open up their Center to receive evacuated families. Mayor Wolfe,  
2 the City Administrator, and the County manager responded to the site. Afterwards site visits and  
3 community visits were done by Commissioner Leslie Campione, District Representative Jimmy  
4 Conner, Congressman Daniel Webster, and Governor Rick Scott.

5  
6 **XV. REPORTS**

7  
8 **Tab 15) City Council**

9  
10 **Councilmember Pfister**

11  
12 Councilmember Pfister thanked both the Fire Chief and Police Chief for a job well done.

13  
14 **Councilmember Hope**

15  
16 Councilmember Hope noted he had 27 years in public safety/FBI and worked the Oklahoma City  
17 bombing. He said while at the UMAC that night he had calls from England, two or three times  
18 from the media and he was very glad to be able to say that the City of Tavares was on top of the  
19 incident and that it was being handled appropriately. He said they had asked if the city had  
20 enough manpower for a town of 14,000 and he advised that the city had excellent Interlocal  
21 agreements with the surrounding cities for assistance.

22  
23 He commended both Chiefs and said he had only received positive feedback from the  
24 community. He commended Chief Keith for his communications with the media.

25  
26 **Councilmember Grenier**

27  
28 Councilmember Grenier noted that although it was unfortunate that some people were injured,  
29 that the incident could have been much worse and he appreciated how the event was handled.

30  
31 **Vice Mayor Smith**

32  
33 Vice Mayor Smith said a true sign of professionalism is how a team works together in the midst of  
34 chaos and that both Chiefs handled the set up very well at a very high professional standard. He  
35 also thanked the Lake County Fire Department, Eustis Fire Department, and Mt. Dora Fire  
36 Department, EMS, and all the supporting communities for their assistance. He also thanked Mr.  
37 Drury for his response and communications.

38  
39 **Mayor Wolfe**

40  
41 Mayor Wolfe commended the Fire Chief and Police Chief for doing outstanding jobs. He also  
42 noted Astatula and the Florida Wildlife Department had some staff respond. He noted there were  
43 helicopters ready in case the explosion had been worse. He commended Councilmember Hope  
44 and the Methodist Church for their assistance.

45  
46 (At 5:18 p.m. the Mayor adjourned the meeting for a 10 minute break before the Budget  
47 Workshop.)

1  
2 **XI. FISCAL YEAR BUDGET WORKSHOP 2014 - 5:36 p.m.**  
3

4 Mr. Drury noted there will be one more Budget workshop after this meeting and then in  
5 September there will be two Public Hearings on the budget.  
6

7 Mr. Drury gave an update as follows:  
8

9 Council has been given an updated Budget Book based on the changes made up to this time.  
10

11 Changes from last meeting:  
12

- 13 • Shuffleboard Court refurbishing – added \$16,190
- 14 • Revenue side – lowered the \$3.00 fee for Splash Park entrance to \$2.00 (revenues  
15 reduced by \$19,287)  
16

17 Budget questions:

- 18 • What effect would instituting a Fire Assessment have on the millage rate if not for profits  
19 paid their fair share of fire protection at 100%, 75%, 50%, and 25% of the cost to provide  
20 that service. Ms. Houghton has provided that information and the answer is as follows:  
21  
22 \$128,986 at .2194 mil at 100%; \$96,739 or .1646 mil at 75%; \$64,493 at 50% or .1097  
23 mil; and \$32,246 at 25% or .0549 mil.  
24
- 25 • One flagged item was left for discussion which was healthcare access for councilmembers  
26 which is currently reflected in the budget.
- 27 • The changes in the budget book show a balanced budget of \$13,393,537 at a millage rate  
28 of 6.4095 which is less than a half a mil increase over the current rate. The actual rate  
29 reflected at this point is .425 of a mil.
- 30 • Council has sent a tentative maximum millage rate of 1 mill above the current rate as a  
31 placeholder which can be set at the September meetings.
- 32 • Police Union and Fire Department Union Negotiations have just been finalized and  
33 negotiations with Blue Cross/BlueShield Health Care plan have been finalized. Those  
34 fiscal impacts will be brought to the next Budget workshop.  
35

36 **Health Care Access for Councilmembers**  
37

38 Vice Mayor Smith asked Council to vote “no” on this issue. Councilmember Hope stated he also  
39 wished to encourage Council to vote no because of the perception from the public considering the  
40 present remuneration that exists for Council. Councilmember Pfister stated she had volunteered  
41 for the job knowing the benefits but it has changed since she first started on Council. She thanked  
42 Councilmember Grenier for suggesting that the matter be postponed to this meeting. She then  
43 went on to discuss the IRS rules that affect Council similar to employees, the proposed changes  
44 to the health care law that may impact Council in the future, comparison to other cities that offer  
45 this benefit, and support she had received from speaking to some residents. She noted Council  
46 would still have pay a portion of the cost themselves to receive the benefit.  
47



1 workshops when the assessment update can be done. At this point any changes in the  
2 assessment would not affect the General Fund this year.

3  
4 **New Police Cars and Policy on Take Home Vehicles**

5  
6 Councilmember Pfister suggested discussion should be held on take home cars. She said she  
7 agreed except that she thinks residents want the cars to stay in the city and if they go out of the  
8 city, the employee should pay some amount back to the city for this benefit.

9  
10 Mayor Wolfe asked Chief Lubins to comment. Chief Lubins said there is a 15 mile limit on taking  
11 the cars outside the city. There are some other cities that have a cost differential but he did not  
12 know who or what they charge. Councilmember Pfister said one city charges \$25.00 per pay  
13 period for vehicles outside the city.

14  
15 Mayor Wolfe noted there are also other vehicles that come from other cities into the Tavares  
16 neighborhoods and he thinks they help to be a deterrent to crime.

17  
18 Mr. Drury noted this has been discussed with the Union and the agreement currently reflects that  
19 at such time as the Council offers a take home program it will be available to the officers. The  
20 nature of the program at this time is up to the Council and in future years, once the price has  
21 been set that item will be part of the bargaining process. Mr. Drury said the take home policy will  
22 not begin until it has been approved by Council.

23  
24 Councilmember Pfister said most of the residents she spoke to disagreed with the vehicles going  
25 outside the city but there was more support if the officers contributed to this benefit.

26  
27 Mr. Drury noted there are a list of pros and cons on this policy and he will have the Chief list  
28 those issues.

29  
30 **New Years Eve**

31  
32 Mayor Wolfe suggested in next year's budget process for 2015, Council may want to consider  
33 having some kind of celebration at New Year's Eve with fireworks at 9:00 for families followed by  
34 other events in the park.

35  
36 **Adjournment**

37  
38 There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

39  
40 Respectfully submitted,

41  
42  
43  
44 Nancy A. Barnett, C.M.C.  
45 City Clerk