

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FORT PIERCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 100 NORTH U.S. #1, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, AT 5:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013.

Chairwoman Hudson called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Upon Roll Call, those present were: Chairwoman Linda Hudson; Commissioners Rufus Alexander, Edward Becht, Thomas Perona, and Reginald Sessions; City Manager Robert Bradshaw; City Attorney Robert Schwerer; and City Clerk Linda Cox. Those absent: None

There was no approval of Minutes at the Special Meeting.

Comments from the Public. Seeing no one from the Public had signed up to speak Chairwoman Hudson moved on to the next item.

There was no Financial Report at the Special Meeting.

There was no Old Business discussed at the Special Meeting.

Commissioner Alexander questioned why there was no Financial Report; City Clerk Linda Cox explained it was a Special Meeting.

8. The next item on the agenda was Submittal of Applications for Appointment to the FPRA Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee. Deputy City Manager Nick Mimms stated that at present there were eight applications submitted five applications had been referred by the FPRA Board Members. The Board will be made up of nine total members, five of which are appointed by the FPRA Board members and will serve a two year term the remaining appointees will serve a 1 year term.

Commissioner Alexander questioned the process and asked why an applicant had referred two other people. Deputy City Manager explained that Ms. Gibbons and Ms. Cassons were instrumental in the founding of the committee and working with staff on the criteria and took it upon themselves to go out and recruit members for the committee.

Commissioner Alexander stated he just likes an even playing field. He notices there was an application from an IRSC student and with one more spot open could they appoint them.

City Attorney Schwerer explained that there were certain criteria, had to reside in the FPRA district, own a business in the redevelopment agency district or be an executive of a business in the redevelopment agency district. If the criterion is met there would be no problem.

Commissioner Perona stated the criteria is to live or work or have a business in an FPRA district, does that constitute the business of education and the college is not in the district.

Deputy City Manager Mimms stated they do have a portion of the college in the district, the northwest center

Commissioner Becht said he was under the understanding that each of the Commissioners would get an appointment and there would be four at-large.

City Attorney Schwerer said that is correct and that if each Commissioner would announce their appointee for the record; so if that person leaves the Committee the Commissioner can appoint a replacement.

Commissioner Becht appointed Erica Ganzi, Commissioner Alexander appointed Faye Owens McCarthy, Commissioner Perona appointed Plythe Gibbons, Commissioner Sessions appointed Charlie Frank Matthews and Chairwoman Hudson appointed Hoyt C. Murphy, Jr. a/k/a Pat Murphy.

Motion was made By Commissioner Perona, seconded by Commissioner Alexander to accept the appointments by the Board.

Those voting in favor of the motion were: Commissioners Alexander, Becht, Perona, Sessions, and Chairwoman Hudson. Those opposed: None

Chairwoman Hudson asked if they would like to appoint the remaining positions tonight.

Motion was made by Commissioner Alexander move to approve, seconded by Commissioner Becht with comment.

Commissioner Becht commented he is excited on the caliber of folks they got; this is a good moment to have a strong, intelligent, diverse background advisory committee. He hopes they are active and hopes they give the Board a lot of recommendations.

Commissioner Alexander asked how they could get a student slot on the committee.

City Attorney Schwerer explained that in order to have a permanent student slot on the committee the FPRA Resolution would have to be amended.

Commissioner Becht and Commissioner Perona both said they liked the idea of a student on the committee.

Motion was amended by Commissioner Alexander to make one of the four remaining slots be filled by a qualifying IRSC student, seconded by Commissioner Becht with discussion.

Commissioner Becht said he would like to see the motion expanded to not just IRSC students but also qualified high school seniors of Fort Pierce schools.

City Clerk Linda Cox read back motion to be clear, approve the three additional names offered tonight plus one student slot.

Those voting in favor of the motion were: Commissioners Becht, Perona, Sessions, Alexander and Chairwoman Hudson. Those opposed: None.

Deputy City Manager Mimms explained that according to the FPRA by-laws the FPRA Board is to pick the chairperson of the advisory committee.

The Board members asked if they had to, they felt it would be more beneficial if the committee picked its own chairperson.

Commissioner Alexander requested that the chairperson be changed on an annual basis so one person is not seated as chairperson for four years.

Deputy City Manager Mimms said that would be fine and that at the next FPRA Board meeting the Board members could give the advisory committee their tasks.

9. The next item on the agenda was Discussion on the Disposition of FPRA Properties. Deputy City Manager Mimms explained that the FPRA owns a lot of properties, some have definitive uses but others do not and on a daily basis he is getting calls from investors, realtors, developers and residents inquiring on purchasing or leasing of these properties, examples being the Old PAL Building and the Kings Inn. He needs direction from the Board .

Commissioner Perona asked is the sale of FPRA properties differed from sale of private owned properties.

City Attorney Schwerer explained that they would have to follow statute in selling of the properties and that if the Board wants staff to peruse this, they would make sure it is done according to statue.

Commissioner Sessions said he noticed on the list of properties the non-conforming lots and would like the surrounding property owner get preference.

Commissioner Becht said that they just picked a committee of highly qualified people and that can be a task for them.

Commissioner Perona agreed but also stated that some of the properties were purchased with a specific purpose in mind and that the committee needs to be made aware.

Commissioner Alexander questioned the highlighted properties on the provided list and asked the Deputy City Manager to brief him on the properties.

Deputy City manager Mimms explained those properties had been transferred or sold. He also explained that he would like the committee to look at each of these properties and come up with a recommendation what to do with the property.

Commissioner Becht said he would like to see this committee come up with a comprehensive plan for the FPRA owned properties and also the city owned properties, to get them back on the tax roll.

Chairperson Hudson asked Deputy City Manager if he had his direction.

Deputy City Manager Mimms replied yes.

10. Next item on the agenda is Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund Program. Deputy City Manager Mimms said that the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council advised him that there may be approximately \$250,000.00 through their Brownfield Revolving Loan Program to assist the FPRA with the clean-up of the King Power Plant site and is this something the Board would like to pursue.

Commissioner Sessions asked if the FPUA was going to be held responsible for the payment of the loan.

City Attorney Schwerer explained that this was only to get their approval to apply and that he felt the terms would be the same as the previous loan and that the Board would have the opportunity to look over the loan agreement at a future meeting.

Commissioner Becht said after speaking to Bill Thiess at the FPUA they are the ultimate and sole obligation to clean-up the property. This is beneficial and maybe necessary to the clean-up. As with the documents of the first loan and the documents with this loan it does not cost the City of Fort Pierce anything. If it is beneficial he would like us to get it if we need it we have it, if we do not need it we can pay it back.

Motion was made by Commissioner Perona, seconded by Commissioner Becht to direct staff accordingly to take the next step to acquire the \$250,000.00 loan from the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council.

Those voting in favor of the motion were: Commissioners Perona, Sessions, Alexander, Becht and Chairwoman Hudson. Those opposed: None.

Next item on the agenda Consent Agenda there was none.

Next item on the agenda was Staff Comments. Deputy City Manager said none at this time, but he did want to say that the site that was just discussed they have a plan and a strategy to move forward in 2014.

Next item on the agenda was Board Comments. Commissioner Alexander had none.

Commissioner Becht asked when will the Advisory Board be notified. Deputy City Manager Nimms said this week. Commissioner Becht then asked when will be the first meeting. Deputy City Manager Mimms replied after the Holidays. Commissioner Becht asked who is the contact person, Deputy City Manager said it was him. Commissioner Becht then asked where were they to be held and if they were going to be televised. Deputy City Manager Mimms said they would be held at City Hall and would not be televised.

Commissioner Perona had no comment.

Commissioner Sessions had no comment.

City Attorney Schwerer said he just wanted to make aware of the fact that the Advisory Board members that were appointed tonight are governed by some of the principals of the sunshine laws and that his office will be going over that with them.

There being no further business, Chairwoman Hudson declared the meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.

Adjournment.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CHAIRWOMAN