

## **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**April 12, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Milton met in Regular Session, April 12, 2016 at 5:02 p.m. (CST) in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 6738 Dixon Street, Milton, Florida. The following were:

### **PRESENT:**

Wesley Meiss, Mayor  
Grady Hester  
Lloyd Hinote  
Mary Ellen Johnson  
Ashley Lay  
RL Lewis  
Alan Lowery  
Pat Lunsford  
Jimmy Messick

### **ABSENT:**

Brian Watkins, City Manager  
Heather Lindsay, City Attorney  
Dewitt Nobles, City Clerk

### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Al Brewton, Carol Jordan, Chuck Greer, Sammy Carroll, Bradley Johnson, Cassandra Sharp, Melissa Odom, Margaret Smith, Connie Clark, Matt Brown, Cindea Booth, Stephanie Lowery, and Matthew Hargraves

Mayor Meiss called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**Roll Call was performed.**

**INVOCATION:** Councilwoman Pat Lunsford led invocation followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

### **\*\*APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS\*\***

Additional items recommended from Staff

Additional items recommended from Council

- a) Council Reports

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester to approve agenda; seconded by Ms. Johnson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1) February 9<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester to approve February 9<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> Minutes; seconded by Mr. Messick. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

## **RECOGNITIONS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS**

#### **PERSONS TO APPEAR**

- 1) Warren Averitt – FY 2015 Audit Report

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to accept FY 2015 Audit Report; seconded by Ms. Johnson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

#### **GENERAL CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1) *As forwarded from the Executive Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.*

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to approve General Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Hinote. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

#### **STORMWATER: CHAIRMAN- COUNCILMAN ALAN LOWERY**

<i>Item 98</i>	<i>KH&amp;A Proposal for Saratoga Street Stormwater Improvements</i>		
<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval to engage Ken Horne &amp; Associates to recommends solutions and complete design of approved improvements</i>		
<i>Cost</i>	<i>\$11,830.00</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Stormwater Fund</i>

#### **PUBLIC WORKS: CHAIRMAN- COUNCILMAN R.L. LEWIS**

<i>Item 84</i>	<i>Landscape Concept Plans for Hwy 90 West</i>		
<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval to proceed with Option #3 for the landscaping on HWY 90 West</i>		
<i>Cost</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Item 97</i>	<i>Purchase of 2 used vehicles one for Public Works Director and one for Code</i>		
<i>Action</i>	<i>Approval to purchase two used vehicles with Water/Sewer Reserves and Gas Reserves at a price not to exceed \$38,000</i>		
<i>Cost</i>	<i>\$38,000.00</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>W/S Reserves, Gas Reserves</i>
<i>Item 31</i>	<i>Road Paving Priority Plan</i>		





*Item 105 Fire Service Assessment Billing*  
*Action Approval to send out a separate mailing for the Fire Service Assessment Billing*  
*Cost \$0.00 Funding Source N/A*

**ADMINISTRATION: CHAIRWOMAN – COUNCILMAN GRADY HESTER**

*Item 104 Renewal of Storage Tank Liability with Tank Guard through the Florida League of Cities*  
*Action Approval to renew Storage Tank Liability with Tank Guard through Florida League of Cities*  
*Cost \$650.00 Funding Source Budget*

*Item 83 Renewal of Flood Insurance for Patterstown Sewer Vacuum Station*  
*Action Approval to renew Flood Insurance for Patterstown Sewer Vacuum Station through Wright National Flood Insurance Company*  
*Cost \$4,613.00 Funding Source Budget*

**MILTON PLANNING BOARD** – No report

**ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & PROCLAMATIONS:**

- 1) Resolution #1365-16 – A nonbinding Resolution supporting the construction of an Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) and a Regional Transportation Management Center**

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester to approve Resolution #1365-16; seconded by Mr. Hinote. Roll call vote: Ms. Johnson, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

- 2) Resolution #1366-16 – A Resolution supporting restoration of passenger rail service between New Orleans, Louisiana and Orlando, Florida.**

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to approve Resolution #1366-16; seconded by Mr. Lewis. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

- 3) Resolution #1367-16 – Budget Resolution**

**Reallocated funds in General Fund (Road & Street Department) for Labor Ready temp employee (\$9,000) from Regular Salaries Line. This is a budgeted employee**

**Funds additional \$10,000 for NESHAP Inspection Requirement on properties at 6863 Pine Street and 5120 Elmira Street from Contingencies as approved by CRSA on 03/08/2016**

**Funds Fire Training Facility Design (Phase 1 - \$15,500) from reallocation of funds as approved by Council on 2/9/2016. (Project #16002A)**

**Funds purchase of a new residential side arm Sanitation Truck (\$250,000) from Sanitation Reserves as approved by Council on 02/09/2016**

**Funds design services for Saratoga Street Stormwater Improvements (\$11,830) from Stormwater Contingencies as approved by Council on 04/12/2016**

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester to approve Resolution #1367-16; seconded by Mr. Lewis. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT** - None

**CITY CLERK’S REPORT** - None

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE ITEMS**

**GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT- CHAIRWOMAN: COUNCILWOMAN ASHLEY LAY**

**Item 101 Purchase of Property at 6883 Pine Street in support of Courthouse Plan**  
Recommendation Discussion

Approval to purchase the property at 6883 Pine Street in support of the Courthouse Plan approved by the BOCC at a cost of \$125,000

Cost	\$125,000	Funding Source	General Fund Reserves
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Councilman Lowery – Spoke in opposition of item including the price was too much.

Matthew Hargraves, 7074 Milton Court – Mr. Hargraves stated he served on the courthouse committee. He said the property 6883 Pine Street was not originally considered as part of the court house plan. He said originally the location for the courthouse plan with HOK was situated exclusively north of Pine Street. He stated the committee only looked at this property when the Board of County Commissioners indicated they weren’t happy with the plan north of Pine Street. Councilman asked what date that was and Mr. Hargraves stated he couldn’t tell him the exact date but it would be in the meeting minutes.

Councilman Lowery asked Mr. Hargraves if the property was never considered why was it numbered. Mr. Hargraves stated there were a number of parcels that were numbered in the general downtown area that the committee looked at that were not being considered for part of the courthouse plan. Councilman Lowery asked which properties were numbered but not considered. Mr. Hargraves stated anything south of Pine Street that was numbered was not considered during the initial review of the plan because there was no need to go south of Pine Street.

Councilman Lowery stated at least of as August parcels on south side of Pine Street were considered.

Mr. Hargraves stated he could say when these parcels were considered by the committee, sometime after Commissioner Rob Williamson came to the council and spoke about his proposal for south of Pine Street. He said at that point the committee started looking at other options for property. Mr. Hargraves stated looking south of Pine Street was a last resort. It was based on the committees understanding that the County Commission was not interested in pursuing a plan that incorporated the original footprint and they wanted to move south of Pine Street to address some other issues.

Cassandra Sharp, 3109 Waterview Drive – Ms. Sharp stated she believed in June 2015 the city council appropriated \$175,000 to purchase properties numbered six and eight. She stated these parcels were approved to be purchased before Commissioner R. Williamson presented the plan for Pine Street to the council. She said and it was after that presentation from Mr. Williamson that Mr. Messick began abstaining because his wife owns the parcel.

Councilwoman Lay stated council was looking at parcels 6 and 8 to purchase for parking because they were listed on the market.

Al Brewton, 6033 Breckinridge Drive – Mr. Brewton stated Mr. Rob Williamson appeared before the council on November 2, 2015 regarding the courthouse. Councilman stated the council would have already purchased properties 6 and 8.

Brad Johnson, 6866 Oak Street – Mr. Johnson stated he is representing Theresa Messick regarding the purchase of this property. Mr. Johnson stated his understanding of when the city began identifying properties for sale they initially looked for properties that were listed for sale. Mr. Johnson stated his client's only willingness to sell is to make sure the courthouse remains downtown. Mr. Johnson stated the city approached her to purchase her property. He stated she would prefer that parcels 1 or 4 be purchased.

Councilman Lowery stated Mrs. Messick's husband has been to the County Commission pushing to keep the courthouse downtown with his wife owning a piece of property and now all of the sudden her property is required to be purchased. He said if she had asked for \$65,000 he'd been ok with that price. He said he feels like the city is being gauged and he has a hard time with it because the property is owned by another councilmember.

Mr. Johnson stated some of the other properties have been approved unanimously to be purchased at 230% and 208%, and this property is 250%. He stated he believed it is on the record that Mayor Meiss has asked that the entire council go to the County Commission and advocate for the courthouse to remain downtown because it is in the best interest of the City of Milton. Mr. Johnson stated this parcel was not required until the recent determination of the wetlands study that additional property would be required.

Mr. Johnson stated he believed everyone would rather purchase parcel 1 but it wasn't financially available. Councilman Lowery stated they were never given the opportunity to vote as a council on parcel 1. Mr. Johnson asked if was voted for at a committee meeting. Councilman Lowery stated he was

not in that committee. Mr. Johnson stated there was a letter that indicates a land swap for a piece of property that is located waterfront (marina property). He stated he understands that property is appraised significantly greater than \$26,000. Councilman Lowery stated he wouldn't have been for that either.

Mayor Meiss asked if her offer was firm at \$125,000 and Mr. Johnson stated yes.

Michael Johnson, Bagdad Florida – Mr. Johnson stated he was Mr. Brad Johnson's ghost writer for the Press Gazette. He stated he sent an email to Aaron Little at the Press Gazette concerning the Messick property. He stated the Press Gazette left out the most major part of his email including 4 reasons why this property should go through: Price would reflect an approximate 12% increase per year, at the time of the purchase there was no discussion or debate about a courthouse being built downtown, having the City of Milton hiring an appraiser would naturally lead to the city's interest. Mortgage companies hire their own appraisers before releasing mortgage proceeds, and as in all real estate transactions property value is a product of supply and demand. A need will always create an increase in costs.

Councilman Hester called for the question. Mayor Meiss stated there are others who want to speak.

Kim McCarthy, 7060 Highway 90 – She stated there were two side conversations between City Attorney and City Manager, that were not heard and wanted them repeated in the microphone for the benefit of everyone in the room. Mayor Meiss asked they recalled what they said. Mrs. Lindsey said she couldn't say word for word.

Mayor Meiss stated he's all multiple citizens contact him about this decision. The citizens say the price is too high, and they are watching this. He stated he'd like to propose to the council to vote no and take up another motion to get a one year option to purchase the property.

Councilwoman Lay said we already have an option on the property that if the courthouse doesn't move forward the City won't purchase the property. Mr. Watkins said it is until December 2016.

\*\*Motion was made by Ms. Lay to authorize the Purchase of Property at 6883 Pine Street in support of Courthouse Plan; seconded by Mr. Hester. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, nay; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, abstained. Motion carried.

### **TPO REPRESENTATIVE: COUNCILMAN JIMMY MESSICK**

Next meeting April 13, 2016

### **TDC REPRESENTATIVE: COUNCILMAN ALAN LOWERY**

Double digit improvement on collection of Bed Taxes

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilman Lowery – Public Records Fee Charge

Mr. Lowery he was charged for public records request, and he doesn't think Council should be charged because they need the information to make a decision. Mrs. Nobles stated she doesn't charge Council members for regular recordings of meetings, but everyone else has to pay for them. She said if the council wants to vote to not charge the council for public records requests they can do that. Mayor Meiss asked he Councilman Lowery could have access to the database to research himself, and Mrs. Nobles said yes.

Margaret Smith, 6758 Madison Street- Mrs. Smith stated in the past she has received cd's that were blank, but Mrs. Nobles has refunded her money. She also stated when you ask for Freedom of Information Act you need to be careful because she has to give it to you and it may be more than you expect. She said the new recording system is much better because you can actually hear people.

Mrs. Nobles said she'd refund Councilman Lowery's money.

## **MAYOR REPORT**

1<sup>st</sup> Annual Crawfish Festival and Car Show at Milton High School

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Item 127 Replacement of City Hall Chiller**

Staff Recommendation      Vote Required

Issue a request for proposal (RFP) to obtain evaluations and recommendations for the City Hall HVAC system to include the chiller, air handlers and associated controls. The RFP will provide staff with various alternatives and pricing to present to Council.

Cost	\$0.00	Funding Source	N/A
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Dwayne King, 5473 Alabama Street – Mr. King stated the 6883 Pine Street property belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Messick because they are married. Mr. King also stated instead of going out for RFP for Replacement, he thinks the council should hire a qualified engineer to review what they have and then come back and put it out for bid.

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester to authorize RFP for Replacement of City Hall Chiller; seconded by Mr. Lewis. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

#### **Item 126 Application for Riverfest July 4, 2016**

Staff Recommendation      Vote Required

Recommendation to approve the Riverfest Application as presented

Cost	\$0.00	Funding Source	N/A
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\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hinote to approve Application for Riverfest July 4, 2016 as presented; seconded by Mr. Messick. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**Item 125 Annual Employee Spring Luncheon**

Staff Recommendation Information

Reminder Annual Spring Luncheon Wednesday, April 13, 2016 from 11-1

Cost \$0.00 Funding Source N/A

**Item 124 Purchase of Side Load Sanitation Truck**

Staff Recommendation Vote Required

Authorization to purchase a side load Sanitation Truck from Ingram Equipment, Co LLC

Cost \$250,000.00 Funding Source Sanitation Reserves

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to authorize purchase of Side Load Sanitation Truck from Ingram Equipment, Co LLC; seconded by Ms. Johnson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**Item 120 2016-2017 State General Appropriations for the City of Milton regarding the design of the Riverwalk South extension**

Staff Recommendation Vote Required

Staff recommends we negotiate agreement with DEO to meet requirements of State appropriations

Cost \$0.00 Funding Source N/A

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hinote to authorize staff to negotiate agreement with DEO to meet requirements of State appropriates; seconded by Mr. Messick. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**Item 119 Red Light Camera ROW Permit expiration**

Staff Recommendation Vote Required

If the permit expires staff recommends suspending red light camera citations until the permit is renewed

Cost \$0.00 Funding Source N/A

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Hester that if the Red Light Camera ROW Permit expires, than to suspend red light camera citations until the permit is renewed; seconded by Ms. Johnson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**Item 114 Natural Gas Regulatory Compliance Services**

Staff Recommendation Vote Required

Authorization to negotiate with the number one ranked firm Payne Pipeline Services

Cost \$0.00 Funding Source Budget

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to negotiate with #1 ranked firm Payne Pipeline Services for Natural Gas Regulatory Compliance Services; seconded by Mr. Hinote. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hester, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

**Item 110 City's Annual Arbor Day Ceremony**

Staff Recommendation Information

The Ceremony will take place at City Hall or a Park (TBA) in memory of Pat Wilcox

Cost \$0.00 Funding Source N/A

**Item 129 Dedication of Matching Funds for State Historical Grant**

Staff Recommendation Vote Required

Recommendation to approve the letter dedicating matching funds for the FY 17 budget

Cost \$10,000.00 Funding Source Budget

\*\*Motion was made by Mr. Messick to approve the letter dedicating matching funds for the FY 17 State Historical Grant; seconded by Ms. Johnson. Roll call vote: Mr. Hester, aye; Mr. Hinote, aye; Ms. Johnson, aye; Ms. Lay, aye; Mr. Lewis, aye; Mr. Lowery, aye; Mrs. Lunsford, aye; and Mr. Messick, aye. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Mayor Wesley Meiss

ATTEST:

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Dewitt Nobles, City Clerk

/jdb