

**VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY
MINUTES OF THE MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

DEERING ESTATE VISITOR'S CENTER
16701 SOUTHWEST 72 AVENUE
PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Flinn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members of the Village Council were present:

Mayor Eugene P. Flinn, Jr.
Vice Mayor Linda Robinson
Councilman Ed Feller, MD
Councilman Paul Neidhart
Councilwoman Shelley Stanczyk

The following staff members were present:

Village Manager Charles D. Scurr
Village Attorney Eve A. Boutsis
Village Clerk Meighan J. Rader

Mayor Flinn asked resident Stanley Kowlessar to lead the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Flinn expressed his gratitude to all of the soldiers serving our country during wartime, including Mr. Kowlessar's son, Alan Noe, the Brooks Brothers, Councilwoman Stanczyk's son-in-law, Corrice Patterson's son, and Mr. Scurr's son.

II. VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Scurr provided an update concerning the mitigation issue. He advised that the Board of County Commissioners has called a special meeting to be held on April 30 to discuss the appropriate phase-out of mitigation. He stated that staff will be discussing the Village's strategy.

Councilman Neidhart stated that the mitigation matter was their focus at Miami-Dade Days and they also sought to receive appropriate funding for stormwater. Councilman Feller added that the Legislators representing the Village are doing an excellent job in supporting the Village's interests.

III. ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

- A. AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO *AD VALOREM* TAXATION; AMENDING THE SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION, *AD VALOREM* TAX BREAK TO QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS OVER THE AGE OF 65, WITH AN ANNUAL INCOME UNDER \$20,000 AND HOMESTEAD RESIDENCE WITHIN VILLAGE

LIMITS IN ORDER TO INCREASE TAX BREAK TO \$50,000; PROVIDING FOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT, CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Feller moved to hear this item out of order. Seconded by Vice Mayor Robinson. All voted in favor. The Motion carried.

Vice Mayor Robinson moved this item forward. Seconded by Councilman Neidhart.

Attorney Boutsis provided staff report. She noted that the State has allowed cities to increase the additional exemption to \$50,000 for qualified seniors earning under \$20K.

Mayor Flinn stated that he feels this law is appropriate. He noted that the reason for it being heard during a Special Council meeting is that the cities have to have the law passed by June 1st in order for it to be applicable.

A roll call in favor of passing on first reading and conducting a public hearing on May 7, 2007, was taken, as follows: Vice Mayor Robinson: Yes; Councilman Feller: Yes; Councilman Neidhart: Yes; Councilwoman Stanczyk: Yes; and Mayor Flinn: Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. RESOLUTIONS

- A. A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PALMETTO BAY, FLORIDA, RELATING TO SELECTION OF A VILLAGE MANAGER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Flinn reported that Mr. Scurr has resigned effective May 14, 2007 and the Village must make a decision regarding the manager position.

Councilman Neidhart moved the matter forward. Seconded by Councilman Feller.

Vice Mayor Robinson remarked that she had believed the Council was going to appoint an "Acting" position until a permanent individual is selected. She asked if it would be possible to open the process and solicit interested individuals.

Mayor Flinn noted that there are three chartered positions: manager, attorney and clerk. Attorney Boutsis is outsourced through her law firm and Clerk Rader is a Village employee. He recalled that the first time the manager was selected, a service was hired to solicit resumes. He stated that he believes that the Village currently has a "good team".

Councilman Neidhart concurred. He stated that he is aware that the Village has a highly qualified person. He moved to appoint Ron E. Williams to serve as Manager. Councilman Feller concurred and seconded.

Councilman Feller remarked that it is advantageous to promote from within and should the Village conduct a search, individuals that may be qualified and working must tell their employer that they are seeking other employment due to the laws requiring open access to public records. He opined that it is essential to have a manager that knows how the County works and Mr. Williams has a superb reputation with the County.

Councilman Neidhart provided a history of Mr. Williams' qualifications, including a Bachelor's Degree in Management and Finance, Master's Degree in Public Administration, over 20 years of progressive experience with the City of Miami, leaving as the Assistant City Manager responsible for GSA and Solid Waste (with over 350 employees and a budget of \$18-20 million in operating, \$25-30 million in capital). He noted that prior to coming to Palmetto Bay, he served as the Regional Director for the State of Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. Councilman Neidhart reviewed Mr. Williams' performance as the Village's first Public Works Director and noted that his department consistently provides excellent service to the public with all programs/projects completed on time and within budget.

Councilwoman Stanczyk expressed that the process should not be eliminated. Vice Mayor Robinson concurred, adding; however, that she believes Mr. Williams would be a good choice.

Following discussion, Attorney Boutsis advised that if Mr. Williams were selected, she would return the employment contract for approval at a future date.

Mayor Flinn expressed his support for Mr. Williams. Councilman Neidhart concurred.

Discussion ensued concerning the term of the contract. Attorney Boutsis stated that she would distribute information and meet with Mr. Williams to see what he would be advancing forward. She advised that she would have the contract ready for approval at the May 7th Council meeting, if Council wished.

Clerk Rader reiterated the Motion earlier stated. The Motion carried 4 to 1, Councilwoman Stanczyk being the sole opposition.

Mr. Williams thanked the Council for their confidence, Mr. Scurr for his support, and staff for their great service to date.

Each member of the Council welcomed Mr. Williams.

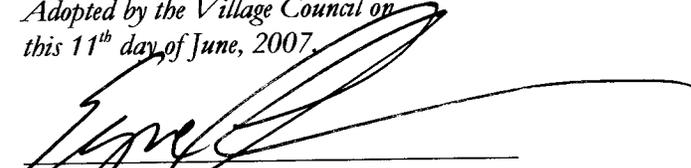
XV. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by:


Meghan J. Kader, CMC
Village Clerk

*Adopted by the Village Council on
this 11th day of June, 2007.*


Eugene P. Flinn, Jr., Mayor

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