

**MINUTES  
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2007**

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The Regular Meeting of the Seminole City Council was held on Tuesday, October 23, 2007, in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, 9199 113<sup>th</sup> Street North, Seminole, Florida.

James Johnson, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Thomas Barnhorn followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were: Councilors John Counts, Patricia Hartstein, Dan Hester, Peter Hofstra and Bob Matthews; Vice Mayor Thomas Barnhorn; Mayor James Johnson; City Attorney John Elias; City Manager Frank Edmunds and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth.

**INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:** None

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2007.**

Motion by Councilor Hartstein, second by Councilor Hester to approve the minutes of October 9, 2007.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

**3. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO CO-SPONSOR THE 2008 RELAY FOR LIFE EVENT.**

Motion by Vice Mayor Barnhorn, second by Councilor Counts to authorize the City Manager to execute a sponsorship proposal with the American Cancer Society for the Seminole Relay for Life Event and expend up to \$850.00 from the 511-8200 – Aid to Private Organizations Account.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

**4. SELECT A VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.**

Motion by Councilor Hartstein, second by Councilor Matthews to appoint Vice Mayor Thomas Barnhorn as the City's voting delegate during the National League of Cities Annual Business Meeting.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

**5. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS.**

Vice Mayor Barnhorn reported on the Florida League of Cities Legislative Council Meetings he attended, and reported he attended the opening of the Anne Frank Exhibit at the Florida Holocaust Museum, presented a proclamation at Lake Seminole Park to the National Association of the Blind, and attended the Suncoast League of Cities Meeting where issues associated with Brighthouse's City Channel change were discussed. Vice Mayor Barnhorn stated the speaker, Dr. Gene Webb, has offered to attend a meeting to explain this issue to Council. Vice Mayor Barnhorn provided an article on a Workshop being held during the National League of Cities Conference on the Redevelopment of Strip Centers.

Councilor Hartstein reported she attended the Lake Kersey Neighborhood Meeting, and the Suncoast League of Cities Meeting. Councilor Hartstein provided Council with a copy of the Leagues new Mission Statement and Goals, and requested Council revisit the City's Mission Statement. Hearing no objections from Council, Mayor Johnson asked that a Workshop to be scheduled.

Mayor Johnson reported he spoke at Freedom Square and the Kiwanis Club of Seminole Meeting, and he attended the opening of the Anne Frank Exhibit.

## **6. CITY MANAGER REPORTS.**

City Manager Edmunds reported:

- Public Hearings by the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation will be held on November 15, 2007 and January 3, 2008.
- The City's Annual Halloween "Field of Screams" will be October 26, 2007.
- The Annual Library Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is Friday, November 2, 2007 at Noon.
- The Bright Before Your Eyes Holiday Night Parade is scheduled for November 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.
- Several meetings ago Council was provided with two proposed Agreements between the City and the Lealman Special Fire Control District. The Agreement that appears will be advancing to Council is the "No Annexation – No Contract Agreement" whereby the City agrees not to annex east of Park Street and the Lealman District agrees not to contract for fire services in the City's fire district. If Council approves the Agreement and the Lealman District Board of Commissioners approves the Agreement, he will ask the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation to present a Special Law making the Agreement a Law to be in effect for 15 years.
- Requested a Workshop be held November 6, at 6:00 p.m. for Council to receive an update on the Architectural Standards Project.
- There is a conflict with the December meeting schedule as the second Council Meeting falls on Christmas. It was suggested the meeting be held December 18, 2007.

In response to a question from Councilor Hester on the Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance, City Manager Edmunds stated this is an item that will be scheduled for a Workshop to ask for Council direction.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS.** None

## **8. NEW BUSINESS.**

Councilor Hofstra referenced a letter Council received from the Mayor and Council of Kenneth City asking the City to consider adopting a resolution similar to theirs regarding Brighthouse Networks. Councilor Hofstra asked what the pleasure of the Council is regarding this request, and he felt perhaps the Council should wait until after they hear from the speaker Vice Mayor Barnhorn spoke about earlier.

Councilor Hartstein stated what Dr. Webb said is the change is going to occur, and the reason for the resolutions or suits against Brighthouse is to get the Courts to interpret the new law. If Council passes a resolution it is not going to stop Brighthouse from making this change which will occur December 11, 2007.

City Manager Edmunds stated many cities have passed the resolution as an expression of interest to Brighthouse but, this applies to any of the other cable carriers that are proposing to advance their public channels to digital. There are two cities; the City of St. Petersburg who has discussed litigation and the City of Tampa who has decided to litigate this but, the litigation is not based on a concern of the recently enacted State Legislation which allows for this to happen but, more the local franchise agreement in those given communities which stipulates this could not happen.

Mayor Johnson stated it was his understanding from the Mayors Council Meeting he attended that by 2009 everything will be digitalized and the box will be available at the cost of \$1.00 per month at least for the first year.

Vice Mayor Barnhorn asked Council if they would like to have Dr. Webb come to a meeting, and it was the consensus of Council to have him make a presentation during a Regular Council Meeting.

Motion by Vice Mayor Barnhorn, second by Councilor Matthews to reschedule the Tuesday, December 25, 2007, Council Meeting to Tuesday, December 18, 2007.

**UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION**

Motion by Councilor Hartstein, second by Councilor Matthews to amend the Employment Agreement of the City Clerk to reflect a 2% COLA salary adjustment effective October 1, 2007 and a 2.5% merit salary adjustment effective October 3, 2007.

MOTION CARRIED 6 to 1.

**9. CONSIDER A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion by Councilor Hester, second Councilor Hofstra to adjourn.

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk

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James Johnson, Mayor