

**MINUTES  
SEMINOLE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009**

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The Regular Meeting of the Seminole City Council was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, 9199 - 113<sup>th</sup> Street North, Seminole, Florida.

Vice Mayor Bob Matthews called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilor Dan Hester, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were: Councilors Leslie Waters, Dan Hester, Thomas Barnhorn, John Counts; Vice Mayor Bob Matthews; City Attorney John Elias; City Manager Frank Edmunds and City Clerk Ginger Stilton present. Mayor James Johnson and Councilor Patricia Plantamura asked to be excused.

**INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Last month, Community Policing Officer Deputy David DiSano attended the Annual Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Awards Ceremony held at the Seminole Recreation Center. At the function, Sergeant Joseph Gerretz and Deputy Jonathan Cleary received several awards while working in the City of Seminole. Deputy DiSano recognized Sergeant Gerretz, who received the Exceptional Service Award for supervising a six person team who apprehended an armed suspect who allegedly possessed a needle tainted with HIV blood. Deputy Jonathan Cleary was unable to attend the meeting, due to a vehicle pursuit he was involved in, resulting in a crash. During the pursuit, the stolen vehicle was recovered and its occupants were arrested. Deputy Cleary sustained minor injuries and is resting at his home. Deputy Cleary received a Certificate of Professionalism, and two Exceptional Service Awards; one for arresting three suspects involved in a home invasion, and the other for identifying and assisting in the apprehension of an armed robber from Seminole Mall. Deputy Cleary and another deputy also located a robbery suspect from Walgreens and arrested the suspect in the Albertson's bathroom. Deputy DiSano introduced Sergeant Gerretz to the City Council who thanked him for his service to the City.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mr. Gerald Shotts, 8275 113<sup>th</sup> Street North; Thanked the members of Council, and the City for their assistance regarding the fire at Seminole Gardens, stating that the City has been very helpful and he is so grateful. He recognized the police and fire departments on the scene, adding that every administrative section of the City has gone out of their way to help. He acknowledged and personally thanked Councilor Barnhorn for passing out orange juice at 5:00 a.m. to everyone, adding they really appreciated it. Mr. Shotts said that this is a great City to live in, and also acknowledged the residents which stepped-up to help out, and said they should be able to have the residents back in Seminole Gardens by Thanksgiving.

- Dr. James Olliver, 6495 Shoreline Drive; Provided the latest developments at SPC: Summer enrollment is underway and it is a smaller session, but enrollments are up almost 20% from a year ago. Fall registration begins tomorrow, and they are expecting it to be a banner session. The exotics invasive removal project is completed and they would be looking for a committee to work on restoration and planting. Jeremy Hockenbury, (*Public Works Director*) will be on that committee, so the City will be involved. The parking lot project is well underway; they are adding 314 spaces for the growth of the campus this fall, and they have been able to keep the large native trees on the property. Work on the Natural Habitat Park will begin this fall. Dr. Olliver stated the main reason he was here, was to announce that St. Petersburg College would be offering an associate in science degree program in Environmental Science Technology this fall, with tracks in water resource management, energy management and sustainability. He referenced the last Council Meeting in which the City Council had an extended conversation associated with supporting a potential commitment letter from “Green for All”. Dr. Olliver stated that he was happy to say that your partner across the street (*SPC*) is in that business, (*of creating “green” jobs*), and he has provided copies about the program to Mr. Edmunds and members of the Council, as well as information about their new recycling program and overall sustainability efforts on the campus.
- Mr. Tom Christy of 11224 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; Mr. Christy welcomed the City Manager back and mentioned his association as a board member at Seminole Gardens and on the Charter Review Committee, which he served with Dr. Olliver. Mr. Christy briefly reiterated his personal experience and opinions regarding sections of the Charter Review Summary of proposed changes from the last Council meeting.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING MAY 26, 2009.**

Motion by Councilor Hester, second by Councilor Waters to approve the minutes of May 26, 2009.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

**3. CONSIDER TAKING FROM THE TABLE APPROVAL OF THE MAY 12, 2009 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES.**

Motion by Councilor Hester, second by Councilor Barnhorn to Take from the Table the May 12, 2009 Minutes.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

Motion by Councilor Hester, second by Councilor Waters to approve the May 12, 2009 Minutes as amended.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

**4. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 18-2009 – PROPOSED ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO GRANDFATHERING OF THE GARDENS CO-OP APARTMENTS.**

City Clerk Stilton read Ordinance No. 18-2009 by title only.

Motion by Councilor Barnhorn second by Councilor Waters to approve Ordinance No 18-2009 on First Reading.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILOR WATERS	AYE
COUNCILOR HESTER	AYE
COUNCILOR BARNHORN	AYE
COUNCILOR COUNTS	AYE
VICE MAYOR MATTHEWS	AYE

MOTION CARRIED.

**5. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BILTMORE CONSTRUCTION FOR PRE-CONSTRUCTION SERVICE OF PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY ON 70TH AVENUE.**

Motion by Councilor Waters, second by Councilor Counts to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Biltmore Construction for Construction Manager at Risk Services associated with the EOC/Public Works Facility.

City Manager Edmunds briefly outlined the processes which lead to the selection of Biltmore Construction for pre-construction services associated with the EOC/Public Works Facility.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

**6. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND EXISTING PENNY MONEY FOR THE DEMOLITION OF TWO (2) BUILDINGS.**

Motion by Councilor Hester, second by Councilor Barnhorn to authorize the City Manager to expend Penny funds not to exceed \$14,750 for the demolition of two City owned properties.

City Manager Edmunds said that one of the properties is a single family residence which was the former Ogorek property, and the City had hoped to save it, but it was not in good condition, and the other property is the former St. Pete Times building on 70<sup>th</sup>. Both buildings needed to be demolished.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

**7. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS.**

- Councilor Waters reported: 5/27 – Attended the Seminole Historical Society; the program was “The History of the Kiwanis Club of Seminole”, 5/28 – Attended All Children’s Hospital and helped with setting up the annual telethon/luncheon, 6/1 – Attended the VFW #4364 and presented a Legislative Update on veteran’s related bill

that passed during the 2009 Florida Legislative Session in Tallahassee, 6/2 – Assisted in Kid’s Appreciation Day in which the City of Seminole, Chamber, Kiwanis and other local groups partnered for this annual event for hundreds of kids celebrating their last day of school. Helped to serve free food and the event was well-attended, well-organized and managed, and a lot of fun, 6/6 – Attended the Hurricane Expo, held at the Pinellas Park Performing Arts Center.

- Councilor Barnhorn reported: Since the last meeting; attended the Recreation Center’s dog days of summer movie/luncheon, 6/2 – Attended the Kid’s Appreciation Day, handing out hotdogs, attended the Historical Society, 6/3 – Attended the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at Starkey Elementary where two of our employees who participate in the mentoring program; Cathy Culp and Eddie Mui were recognized. He also had the honor to represent our Fire Union at the Fire OPS 101 - a day of fire-ground operations along with other city officials and state officials. They had the opportunity to use fire and rescue equipment as well, and were suited with fire gear and placed in a burning, smoke filled building in which they had to find their way out of. The experience was dangerous, and frightening, but provided a real sense of what the firefighters actually do in the line of duty, and he would recommend this training for everyone to see for themselves first had.
- Councilor Counts reported: The past weekend he volunteered for the college exposure tournament for the local high girls and up, and was a great event. He practiced with them and spent the weekend coaching.
- Vice Mayor Matthews reported: 6/1 - Participated in the graduation ceremony at Bright House Field for Osceola High School and there were almost 400 graduates; 6/2 – Attended Kid’s Appreciation Day, 6/3 – Attended the breakfast at Starkey Elementary, 6/3 – Attended the Mayor’s Council Meeting for Mayor Johnson who was on vacation; The speaker, Pinellas County Property Appraiser Pam Dubov conducted a presentation on foreclosure issues, property values, and property taxes. (*Foreclosure presentation materials were provided to Council*). 6/8 – Attended the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Meeting and received a presentation on disaster preparedness and the hurricane season; new CD’s are available, primarily geared toward businesses, called Florida Business Survival Disaster Kit, and can be accessed at [www.fldisasterkit.org](http://www.fldisasterkit.org) to order a copy or for additional information.

## **8. CITY MANAGER REPORTS.**

- As of today, the news from the Property Appraiser’s Office was that the estimated decreases in property values will be greater than the figures presented in the Property Appraiser’s presentation materials, and to anticipate another 1% decrease. They would expect that trend to continue.
- City Manager Edmunds reminded Council that the City Clerk has made arrangements for the Council group photo to be taken at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday June 23<sup>rd</sup>, prior to the City Council meeting.
- Currently, Administration is in the process of finalizing the proposed Operating Budget for the next fiscal year. Expect the proposed budget at the Council’s next business meeting, with workshops scheduled throughout July to discuss the proposal.

9. **OLD BUSINESS.** None.

10. **NEW BUSINESS.**

With regard to the recently received information from the Florida League of Cities (FLC) regarding grants for refurbishing and rebuilding fire stations, Councilor Barnhorn asked if we would be able to apply for them. City Manager Edmunds explained that the website is monitored daily, and as of today the forms were not available, however, he did anticipate them becoming available within the week and stated that they anticipate submitting an application as he believes they have a project that qualifies.

11. **CONSIDER A MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion by Councilor Hester, second by Councilor Waters to adjourn.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION.

Vice Mayor Matthews announced that a workshop would follow.

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

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Ginger Stilton, CMC  
City Clerk

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Bob Matthews  
Vice Mayor