

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 260  
ORANGE TREE DRIVE ATLANTIS, FL ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 - 7:30 PM

Mayor Manny Fernandez called the meeting to order at 8:40.

Present: Mayor Manuel Fernandez; Vice Mayor Fred Furtado, Mayor Pro Tem David Kintz, Treasurer Michael Dahlgren, Councilmember Catherine Higgins, City Manager Mo Thornton, City Attorney Trela White, City Clerk Joan Cannata-Fox, Police Chief Robert Mangold and Utilities Director Steve Mazuk.

Mr. Howard Coates who is running for the State House District 85 seat addressed Council and the public.

Mayor Pro Tem David Kintz moved to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on August 20, 2008, Workshop with the Architectural Review Committee on September 3, 2008, the Budget Workshop on September 3, 2008, and the First Budget Hearing Held on September 9, 2008. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Fred Furtado. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney White read by title only Resolution No. 08-25 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign a Certain Agreement with JFK Medical Center for Emergency Room Security. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren made a motion to accept the Resolution, which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem David Kintz. Motion carried 5-0

City Attorney White read by title only Resolution No. 08-26 – A Resolution Adopting an Updated Comprehensive Fee Schedule. Vice Mayor Fred Furtado made a motion to accept the Resolution, which was seconded by Councilmember Michael Dahlgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Fernandez asked for comments from the public.

Pat Thorne, 540 Woodland Circle thanked City Manager Mo Thornton for rectifying the dangerous situation with the hedges at the home on S. Country Club Drive. She mentioned her concern over the white fly epidemic; asked about the danger of fires in shuttered and vacant homes and inquired about the possibility of Atlantis being featured on the Channel 5 program "On the Road".

Nancy Wolfe, 465 Pine Tree Court asked for clarification regarding the budget. She suggested more advertising of upcoming meetings and asked about the recent pit bull incident.

Barbara Allen, Manager of the Shoppes of Atlantis made a suggestion that Pat Thorne seek out other exterminators and solutions to the white fly problem.

Collene Walter, 488 S. Country Club Drive asked for information on the recent pit bull incident.

Lauri Melear expressed her concerns over the lack of information on the website and calendars in informing the public of upcoming minutes. She suggested putting the tentative budget information on the website.

Miscellaneous Business:

League of Cities Report, City Manager Thornton reported on the last meeting she attended. The next meeting will be September 24, 2008 in Royal Palm Beach. The annual scholarship golf tournament will be October 10, 2008 at the Atlantis Golf Club. Friday the city's comprehensive water supply plan is on the agenda at Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council. The City is still in talks with the City of Lake Worth over sewer charges.

Police Chief Mangold reported on the crimes for the month. He informed that the overtime situation would be monitored. He also told council about a commendation received from a resident regarding Officer Craig Brown. City Attorney White told council that two cases she had been following for the City, the Lake Worth zoning case and the dual taxation case were awaiting the decision following oral arguments. The dual taxation case may yet go to the Supreme Court. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren stated that we have made it to the finish line within the allotted budget. He complimented Steve Mazuk and his staff for all their hard work and dedication during the past several weeks with all the water leak problems. He stated that he was disappointed at the way the budget hearing went. Mayor Pro Tem David Kintz informed the public that he, and Council, would do everything in their power to do what is best for the residents and staff of the City. He thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their opinions. Councilmember Catherine Higgins complimented the Police Department staff for the job they are doing. She said she will work and research and try to do what is right for everyone. Vice Mayor Fred Furtado expressed his concern that Atlantis stay competitive in the job market since we are losing good officers to other departments. Mayor Manny Fernandez praised the Police Department for keeping crime outside the walls of the city. He announced to Council and the public his deep concern over several employees who will be hurt by the new budget. He ran some of the numbers and pledged a portion of his pay to make up the difference in what they received now and the cut they would have to take with the budget. He was joined by several other council members and the City Manager who want to help the situation. The City Manger and City Attorney will investigate the situation and advise Council what is needed to accomplish this.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM

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City Clerk

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Mayor Manny Fernandez

Note: A mechanical recording has been made of the foregoing procedures of which these minutes are a part, and is on files in the office of the City Clerk.