

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 260
ORANGE TREE DRIVE ATLANTIS, FL. JUNE 20, 2007, 7:30 PM

Mayor Manny Fernandez called the meeting to order at 7:30.

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

Mayor Fernandez introduced Mr. Frank Guzman from Senator Ron Klein's Office who presented Atlantis with an autographed poster of the Atlantis space shuttle crew and he read a letter from the Senator to the citizens of Atlantis.

Councilmember Frank Austino moved to approve the minutes of the LPA and the Council Meeting held May 16, 2007 and the Council Workshop minutes of June 13, 2007. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Fred Furtado. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney White read by title only for first reading, Ordinance No. 397, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 9, Licenses and Business Regulations to Provide for a New Beginning Sale Date in Accordance with Recent Amendments to Florida Statutes. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren made a motion to accept the Ordinance, which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem David Cantley. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney White read by title only for first reading, Ordinance No. 398, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions with Regard to Loitering. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren made a motion to accept the Ordinance, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Fred Furtado. Motion carried 5-0.

City Attorney White read by title only for first reading, Ordinance No. 399, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 9, Licenses and Business Regulations, Creating a New Division 1 and 2 - to Reflect an Increase in the Communications Tax. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren made a motion to accept the Ordinance, which was seconded by Vice Mayor Fred Furtado. Motion carried 5-0.

Miscellaneous Business:

Frank Austino made a motion to name Mayor Pro Tem David Cantley as the Voting Delegate to FLC Conference that he will be attending. This motion was seconded by Mayor Manny Fernandez. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Pro Tem David Cantley made a motion to change the July council meeting from July 18, 2007 to the previous Wednesday, July 11, 2007; and also change the November council meeting from the day before Thanksgiving, November 21, 2007 to the previous Wednesday, November 14, 2007. This motion was seconded from Councilmember Frank Austino. Motion carried 5-0.

Vice Mayor Fred Furtado made a motion to change the council meeting time from 7:30 to 7 PM and this motion was seconded by Councilmember Frank Austino. A brief discussion followed and upon a vote, the motion was defeated 3-2.

Mayor Fernandez asked for comments from the public. Claudine Siebert of 519 Pine Tree Court read a letter from Ms. Pat Thorne of 540 Woodland Circle, who could not be present at the meeting. Ms. Siebert also made some comments on her own regarding the fountain and some vandalism that she had observed.

Mr. William Mitchell of 261 N. Country Club Drive commented on how spectacular the fountain is and the compliments he has heard from various residents and visitors.

League of Cities Report, City Manager Thornton reported on the last meeting she attended where the League discussed the tax issue. The League was involved with orientation of new Board Members, so not much other business was conducted. The City Manager mentioned that we are going to hold off on the "LET US VOTE PAC" – this is the dual vote amendment. This may be on the November 2008 ballot and we will be discussing it again as the time approaches for it to be a ballot issue. The camera installation is complete; fountain is done and kudos to the city and landscape staff that worked tirelessly to get the project completed. The matter of the entrance walls is pending a meeting with Miller Legg in July. We are waiting on a final report from Jim Leogue regarding the latest numbers for employee pay as discussed in the council workshop last week. There was an email presented to council from Attorney Keith Davis with a FRIMA update and the possible changes to the election calendar. The City Manager announced that with the proposed taxes, the city will lose 3% of its ad valorem tax income. We are waiting for a few more figures to come in regarding insurance to complete the budget package. We should be able to move through the new TRIM process in an orderly fashion within the next few weeks.

Police Chief Mangold reported on the crimes for the month. He also announced that Officer Craig Brown was called to active duty at the end of August. He will be deployed to Iraq in a very dangerous capacity. Our thoughts and prayers go with him and we await his safe return.

City Attorney White reported on the dual taxation case regarding the fire dispatch tax. The Judge issued a 27-page Order in which the cities prevailed over the county. Due to the in depth and detail of the Order, it will be difficult for the country to appeal, but they have requested a re-hearing. Also, there is an upcoming amendment, the language of which is still being drafted regarding the county's charter. Ms. White will keep council apprised of the situation.

City Council Comments: Councilmember Frank Austino commented on a meeting that he attended at the Lantana airport. He will continue to attend these meeting on behalf of the city and report back to council. So far the interlocal agreement regarding non jet traffic is still in force. There is still a possibility of a tower at the Lantana site and they expect traffic to increase 27%. Vice Mayor Fred Furtado commented on the helicopters - they seem to be approaching the airport from a different direction other than over Atlantis. Mayor Pro Tem David Cantley wanted to add his thanks to the city, landscape crew and all involved in the completion of the beautiful fountain entrance. The security cameras are a good feature making residents feel safe. He stated he felt the need for a marketing plan to promote the city. Councilmember Michael Dahlgren said the numbers still look good for this year and we will make things work for next year. Thanks to Richard Brown and all the crew who did a marvelous job on the fountain. Mayor Manuel Fernandez reported on the budget workshop held last week. The City Manager and Treasurer have given us the security of keeping the finances in order and we are not going to cut any services to our residents. We will figure a way to get the things done that we need to do. Helicopters continue to be an issue, not just in regard to noise but in safety. The Mayor asked the status of the Shoppes of Atlantis in regard to lighting and landscaping. These matters are on the Code Enforcement Agenda for June 21, 2007. The Mayor asked about the possibility of the city conducting a Bike-A-Thon for children as well as adults. We are going to look into this and see what arrangements could be made. The Heart Walk is scheduled for Saturday, September 29, 2007 and once again it is in the very capable hands of Richard Brown. City Manager Thornton stated that when the grant cycle came about, we would be apply for a FRDAP grant to provide the Splash Pad with a re-cycled water feature. In the meantime, we are going to be filing an application with the South Florida water Management district for a variance requesting limited use of the Splash Pad.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

City Clerk

Mayor Fred Furtado

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.

