



**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PAHOKEE
COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES
Friday, December 6th, 2013**

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission workshop meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 E. Main St., Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on December 6th, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Walkes at 10:08 a.m.

Official attendance was recorded as follows:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Mayor Colin Walkes	Present
	City Commissioner Keith Babb	Present
	Commissioner Allie Biggs	Present
	Vice Mayor Felisia Hill	Present @10:16 a.m.
	Commissioner Diane Walker	Present
	City Manager Derrek Moore	Present
	City Attorney Gary Brandenburg	Absent
	Sergeant At Arms Lt. Alonso	Absent
	City Clerk Anika Sinclair	Present

Topic

1. Marina Repairs – FEMA (Investment into Pahokee)

Senator Abruzzo advised he is committed to assisting Pahokee in any way possible.

Mayor Walkes advised the City has a grant which needs a \$20,000 match. This will help to restore natural resources, and expand Pahokee as a tourist community. The City will try to find funds, and will check to see if it is possible.

2. Pahokee Housing Authority

i. Singletary Garden Project (Stuckey Homes)

City Manager Moore advised the storms destroyed the former Stuckey homes. Pahokee Housing Authority (PHA) is trying to rebuild townhomes/single-family homes. Many Citizens moved away after the loss of the Stuckey Homes.

3. Roads & Streets (Resolution 2013-63)

- i. Lighting and Sidewalks**
- ii. Resurfacing and Reconstruction list**

City Manager Moore announced Resolution 2013 – 63 will be presented to the Commission on December 10th to help with acquire funding for infrastructure. The City of Belle Glade, and the South Bay, will consider a similar Resolution, which will be provided to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation.

Senator Abruzzo advised he will try to aid in finding money for the Road Project.

4. Employment/Jobs (Back To Work Program)

City Manager Moore advised a few years ago, the State sponsored the Reemployment Program, and desires to see more programs gearing to reemployment of citizens.

5. City Hall

City Manager Moore advised after the storm damaged the Old City Hall.

Senator Abruzzo suggested that the facility be a City Hall and Community Center, similar to the one like Wellington did in the past. Work on all five (5) projects. Develop a letter to Hastings requesting assistance for a City Hall on the Federal platform. Senator Abruzzo advised it would be difficult to assist with the item. The Roads would not be as complex, and it can help with Economic Development.

Commissioner Babb stated the City Hall is important to the City of Pahokee, but the limited homeowners will have to consider boarding the cost. Commissioner Babb advised he believes in a regional approach, but the perception is that the County is considering merging all three (3) Cities. Pahokee would like to maintain its identity. He advised Pahokee needs a hotel, and it can be developed at the bottom of the Dike, by the Old City Hall.

Senator Abruzzo advised he would advocate that merging the three (3) Cities is not what he represents nor wants, for his District. A local board is needed, which can represent, as well as know, its people. Senator Abruzzo advised he will focus on the water infrastructure as well.

Kimberly Diaz, Legislative Aide, advised incoming Senator Andy is trying to allow having Enterprise Zone expire and the Senator filled a bill for extension.

Commissioner Babb asked if the City should hire a Lobbyist.

Senator Abruzzo stated he, and the Commissioners, are the best Lobbyists. It is not wise to hire a Lobbyist, considering the fact that the City is budget strapped.


City Manager Moore announced he will send the date of the FAM Tour, which will be in March, to Senator Abruzzo, along with LORE and BDB.

Ms. Diaz announced she is working on scholarships from FAMU Board of Trustees, which will be provided.

Senator Abruzzo advised he will consider a Pahokee Day, with Representative Rader, in January.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Walkes adjourns the meeting at 11:08 a.m.


ATTEST: Anika Sinclair, City Clerk


Colin O. Walkes, Mayor