

ROBERTA M. CORREA
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

TAMMIE McCASKILL
COMMISSIONER

JUSTIN R. CAMPBELL
COMMISSIONER

WILL JONES
COMMISSIONER

RUFUS J. BOROM
COMMISSIONER



TROY BELL, ICMA-CM
MPA, MS-Finance
CITY MANAGER

TERRY TURNER
BOCC REPRESENTATIVE

TERESA JACKSON
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

JANE WEST, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SUNNI KRANTZ
CITY CLERK

MINUTES
CITY OF PALATKA
June 20, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

The following are the Minutes of the proceedings of a Workshop of the Community Redevelopment Agency held on June 20, 2024 at 2:30 PM.

a. Special Called Workshop Notice

The notice was read by the Clerk.

b. Invocation

An invocation was led by Commissioner Jones.

c. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Campbell.

d. Roll Call

Present:

Commissioner Justin Campbell

Commissioner Will Jones

Terry Turner (present via telecommunications technology)

Teresa Jackson

Absent:

Commissioner Tammie McCaskill

Commissioner Rufus Borom

Also present: Troy Bell, City Manager; Jane West, City Attorney; Sunni Krantz, City Clerk; Marcia Carty, Finance Director; Eddie Cutwright, Community Affairs Director; Chris Taylor, Fire Chief; Jason Shaw, Police Chief; Allegra Kitchens, former City Commissioner; Annie Svetlik; Annabelle Lamb and Keillan Ginnis, Interns to the City Clerk

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

a. Public Comments - (Speakers limited to three minutes - no action taken on items)

The floor was opened to public comment.

Cheryl Roach 312 Dodge St., Palatka, FL 32177 asked if CRA funding can be used towards the code violations on City owned properties within the CRA. She asked why the CRA does not have a director and asked for status the flowerpots on St. Johns Avenue and the St. Johns Avenue streetscape project.

Hearing no further requests to comment, the floor was closed to public comment.

3. DISCUSSION

a. Second Draft of FY 2024 - 2025 Budget

Ms. Carty presented the second draft of the CRA budget. The total revenues are Downtown Tax Increment Fund (TIF): \$573,642.70; South Historic TIF \$183,477.58; North Historic TIF: \$62,301.54. The total budget for downtown is \$1,539,456. The total budget for South Historic is \$493,043. The total budget for North Historic is \$151,658. Combining the three districts, the total CRA budget is \$2,184,157. Page 10 of the agenda packet show the ongoing projects of the CRA. Commissioner Jones indicated if we complete the ongoing projects some of the CRA funds will be spent.

Agency discussion continued with Ms. Carty regarding the CRA Building Improvement Grant and the CRA director position. Ms. Carty advised the CRA Director/Manager position salary is reflected on page 2 of the draft, and the amount is broken out between the three districts. Mayor Correa spoke regarding the citizen's difficulties in applying for the CRA Building Improvement Grant and of putting out the funds in order to be reimbursed. She indicated if a CRA director is hired there will be more ability for the CRA director to help guide applicants through the process and have ideas for other grants. Mayor Correa also asked for the CRA to consider beginning a Live-Where-You-Work program, and a facade grant. Mayor Correa advised she will look at the CRA Plan and make additional recommendations for the budget. Ms. Jackson spoke regarding the potential for the CRA to work on the appearance of buildings (including 913 Reid St., Palatka, FL 32177, the old Mt. Tabor Baptist Church on Reid Street) and asked if the CRA can reach out to property owners directly. Mr. Bell advised the owners of these properties can apply for the CRA building Improvement Grant. We are presently in a cycle of this grant, and postcards are going out to every property owner within the CRA notifying them of their ability to apply. Commissioner Campbell asked how to ensure the property owners receives the communication. Mr. Bell responded if there individual properties whose owner the Agency members would like to see Staff reach out to we can. Mayor Correa asked Staff go through the list of CRA property owners (that the card is being mailed to) to ensure all own properties in the CRA.

Discussion continued regarding other Agency budget requests: Ms. Jackson spoke regarding the potential for the CRA to fund decorative lighting. Mayor Correa asked for funding for new banners for the streetlights, as there is funding for the hardware. She also asked for further consideration for public art, as other groups, besides the Lee Conlee Snyder Mural Committee, may wish to receive funding for public art. Mayor Correa asked for additional kiosks downtown regarding architecture, events, and people in order to create a heritage walking tour.

Mr. Bell advised the flower pots mentioned during public comment are going in along St. Johns Avenue. Mayor Correa indicated Revitalize Historic Palatka was going to rally the community to maintain the plants in the pots. Commissioner Campbell asked that the CRA maintain them properly if the merchants do not maintain them. Mayor Correa indicated the need to reach out to RHP first to see if they are willing to enter into a contract to maintain the planters.

Commissioner Campbell recommended holding another CRA workshop with more serious conversation regarding the CRA Manager position. The Clerk will send out potential dates to the Commission regarding workshops.

4. ADJOURN Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Campbell at 3:05 PM.