ROBERTA M. CORREA
MAYOR - COMMISSIONER

TAMMIE McCASKILL
COMMISSIONER

JUSTIN R. CAMPBELL
COMMISSIONER

WILL JONES
COMMISSIONER

RUFUS J. BOROM
COMMISSIONER

MARCIA G. CARTY, CPA, CGFO
INTERIM CITY MANAGEF
FINANCE DIRECTOR

JANE WEST, ESQ.
CITY ATTORNEY

SUNNI L. KRANTZ, CMC
CITY CLERK

MARCIA G. CARTY, CPA
MS-Taxation
FINANCE DIRECTOR

JASON L. SHAW, SR
CHIEF, POLICE DEPT.

CHRIS TAYLOR
CHIEF, FIRE DEPT

MINUTES
CITY OF PALATKA
November 14, 2024

The minutes of the proceedings of the regular meeting of the Palatka City Commission held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:00 PM at City Hall, 201 N. 2nd St., Palatka, FL 32177.

1. CALL TO ORDER at 6:03 PM
    a. Invocation

led by Chaplain Mulberry

    b. Pledge of Allegiance

led by Commissioner Campbell

    c. Roll Call

Present:
Commissioner Tammie McCaskill
Commissioner Justin Campbell
Commissioner Will Jones
Commissioner Rufus Borom
Mayor Roberta Correa

Also present: Marcia Carty, Interim City Manager/Finance Director; Jane West, City Attorney; Sunni Krantz, City Clerk; Virginia Jones, HR Manager; Joe Verrechio, Interim Public Works; Amanda Hayes, Assistant City Clerk; Peter Willott, Public Information Officer; Eddie Cutwright, Community Affairs Director; Jason Shaw, Police Chief; Matt Newcomb, Assistant Police Chief; Blaine Snyder, Police Officer; Yul McNair, Airport Manager; Allegra Kitchens, former City Commissioner; Terrill Hill, former Mayor; Alonzo Mulberry, City Chaplain (via telecommunications technology); Andrew Holesko, Passero & Associates; Sam Deputy; Annie Henderson Davis (Commissioner-Elect); Pamela Henderson Brown; Lalita Thomas; Meri Rees; John Robinson; Marc Hewes; Berniece Johnson; Troy Bell; Marcia Lane; Cheryl Roach; Audrey Wise; Dave Oyster; Junior Daniels; Troy Bell; Shelley Schnecker; David Miner; Henry Montgomery; Tavarence Clark; Sam Deputy; Beverly Canty; Sarah Cavacini, Palatka Daily News; Teresa Jackson; Josh Alexander; Autumn Martinage; Margareuite Ellington

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES **Motion to approve A-E by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner McCaskill. The Motion Passed unanimously.**
    a. June 11, 2024 Executive Session

b. July 16, 2024 Executive Session

c. August 27, 2024 Executive Session

d. October 14, 2024 Special Called Meeting

e. October 24, 2024 Regular Meeting

3. PUBLIC RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

a. RECOGNITION - Lucy F. Hutcherson - 100th birthday December 18, 2024

The City Commission congratulated Ms. Hutcherson on her upcoming 100th birthday and on joining the "centenarian club" .

b. PROCLAMATION - Recognition of the Rotary International and the Interact Club's service to the community during World Interact Week November 4 - 10, 2024

Motion to approve by Commissioner McCaskill. Seconded by Commissioner Campbell. The Motion Passed unanimously.

The Proclamation was accepted by Maddie Hodge, President of Palatka Jr/Sr High School Interact Club and Dr. Yvette Jones member of the Rotary Club.

c. IN THE SPOTLIGHT - Employee of the Month

Mrs. Jones recognized Joe Verrechio, Interim Public Works Director, as the Employee of the Month of November. Ms. Turbeville spoke on the leadership qualities of Mr. Verrechio and his ability to progress projects efficiently.

d. RECOGNITION - City's employees - U.S. Military Veterans

The City of Palatka thanked the U.S. Military Veterans who are members of the City Staff.
Commissioner Borom asked to have a plaque on the wall that would recognize our military veterans that ever worked with the City.

e. RECOGNITION - Palatka Fire Department B-Shift personnel, Captain Kenny Reed and Firefighter Lauren Futch deployment to Dixie County after catastrophic hurricane damage

Deputy Chief Branford recognized Cpt. Reed and Firefighter Futch for their response to catastrophic hurricane damage in Dixie County.

f. PRESENTATION - Florida Department of Transportation closing of "Short" Crill Avenue

Justin Garland and Meg Ross of the Florida Department of Transportation spoke regarding the State Road 20 concept to eliminate access from Crill Ave and from Morris Street. This project is paired with the U.S. 17 road resurfacing job, which is scheduled to go to construction in September 2025 and construction around Winter 2025. Mr. Garland advised the design plans are presently at 60%.

Commissioner Borom advised on Crill Avenue heading west to State Road 19 South, there are some suicide lanes that have had traffic near misses. He also asked FDOT to revisit Reid Street between 9th Street to the Riverfront.

g. PRESENTATION - Policy Updates

Ms. Jones advised the current break policy is vague and the proposed policy would provide clarity. Commissioner Jones asked to include the consequences of breaking the policy in the policy. She also provided proposed language in addition to the resignation policy concerning an exit interview.

h. PRESENTATION - New Hires

Ms. Jones provided the new hire presentation. She also recognized Ms. Hayes who started employment after the presentation was posted.

4. CITY MANAGER AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

a. PRESENTATION - American Rescue Plan Act funding (ARPA)

Ms. Carty outlined the present spending and encumbrances of the funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. Everything on the report is allowed by ARPA. Ms. Carty advised the Affordable Housing applications and funding are progressing. Mr. Dominguez advised the program has a list of 35 people already. After they go through the list, they will perform an evaluation of which homes to repair. The qualifications include to own the house, the house must be subject to code violations, and there is an income level requirement. Ms. Carty advised if citizens desire to get on the list they can contact the Grants Department, who will provide their contact information to St. Johns Housing Partnership, Mr. Lazar.

Commissioner Borom asked to put the process on the City's website.

b. UPDATE - Airport Land Swap

Ms. West and Mr. Holesko outlined the presentation. Mr. Holesko advised we are involved with the FAA to release certain land.
The piece of land that we are talking about is relatively undeveloped where there is not much happening in the Southwest quadrant of the Airport.The airport used to have 4 runways, 2 of these were decommissioned and have not been active in decades.
The City proposed to build a Public Works facility and the FAA granted the release. After that, the City looked at other areas to build a Public Works facility. The City looked into giving up the airport land in yellow and getting the land in blue. Ms. West advised the area in teal could become aeronautical, the area in yellow is non-aeronautical. The City bought the area in orange from the Airport. Since the City decided to not put the Public Works facility on the area in orange, the City has not returned it to the airport. The City purchased the area in dark blue including the buildings (the dark blue sale is complete) and Mr. Nations purchases the land in the yellow and he swaps the light blue area to the Airport. We do not have the approval from the FAA for the second/final transaction (the yellow, dark blue, and light blue) as the FAA desires to concur that all fair market value is consistent with the documents. The present extension to the contract with Mr. Nations is through March 15, 2025.

Mr. McNair advised this was a non-aeronautical driven project. He advised the blue area is adjacent to current airport owned property and the additional 12 acres could possibly support some corporate hangar development. The non-aeronautical yellow property used to belong to the airport and then was put into disservice and the airport is not looking to develop it.

Commissioner Campbell expressed concern that members of the Airport Advisory Board have approached him with their concerns regarding this project. Commissioner Borom expressed concerns. Ms. West advised this matter has been fully discussed with the Airport Advisory Board.
Commissioner Campbell asked for the advice of the Airport Advisory Board. Commissioners Borom, Campbell and McCaskill recommended a joint workshop with the Airport Advisory Board.

c. UPDATES - Interim City Manager verbal reports

Ms. Carty provided various updates. On the project to verify whether there is lead on either the City's side of water lines or the consumers, the City has checked 2,200 water meters in 2 weeks. Ms. Carty spoke regarding the Commission's addition of "accountability" to our mission statement at the last City Commision meeting. Speed bumps have been added to Geary Street. Regarding the retaining wall on River Street, we believe a survey is needed regarding the River Wall, however there is a survey that shows the City owns the River wall. Former employee investigations are ongoing, one to be complete next week.

City employees are holding a team building event at Jenkins at 10:00 AM with a luncheon provided at noon. Ms. Carty advised she will follow up on where we are to have a facilitator facilitate a team building session (not the provider previously used).

Ms. Carty advised that our new communications e-mail method is able to reach 4,800 citizens.

d. Update - City Manager Search

Ms. Jones provided an update on the search for a permanent City Manager. She desires to have a contact for advice. Mr. Jim Hanson is willing and has provided advice to Human Resources. He recommended putting an advertisement in the ICMA brochure. She advised ads in the proposed avenues will run until December 31st. Commissioner Jones and McCaskill advocated for posting the position in regional newspapers and LinkedIn.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

The floor was opened to public comment:

Troy Bell, Palatka, FL - spoke regarding trust, his devotion to the community and public service.
Shelley Schnecker, East Palatka, FL - spoke regarding the former City Manager's renewal of the Blue Crab Festival contract
David Miner, Palatka, FL - spoke regarding the need for a qualified City Manager, advocate for the taxpayers, and regarding grants he applied for.
Henry Montgomery, owner of the Bait Shop downtown, spoke regarding the safety and cleanliness of the Riverfront Park. He also asked to know when fishing tournaments will be at the Riverfront Park.
Tavarence Clark, Palatka, FL - alleged a Business Tax Receipt was granted to a business illegally and his Business Tax Receipt was expunged. He advised he had a fire inspection 60 days after the City says he went out of business. He called for the resignation of the Commissioners.
Constance Daniels, Palatka, FL - advised the Veterans of the community want tangible, visible participation from the community and Commission. She asked the Commission have a float in future parades and attendance at the Veterans Ceremony.
Sam Deputy, Palatka, FL - spoke regarding the Commission's participation and funding of Boo on the Avenue. He thanked the Mayor for her help in last year's Christmas Parade.
Beverly Canty, Palatka, FL - as a representative of Palatka Christian Service Center/Heart of Putnam advised they are requesting to be considered to receive $30,000 from funding for the American Rescue Plan Act for various services to help the community.
Lalita Thomas, Palatka, FL - spoke regarding the Family Life Center that has an indoor junior Olympic-sized pool, a basketball gym, and skating area and requested they receive support to be able to continue to offer services. . They are planning a Night to Shine on February 7th.
Allegra Kitchens 1027 S 12th St., Palatka, FL 32177 - advised the former City Manager can sue the Palatka Daily News if he accuses them of libel. She spoke in support of the Heart of Putnam and asked if Family Life Center is still under contract with Colin Bingham and Beck Sloan Properties concerning their pool.

b. **Commission and Staff Response**

The Mayor asked the request for ARPA funding from the Heart of Putnam be provided to the City Manager.

Commissioners Borom and Campbell advised this was the first year they were unable to attend the Veterans Day parade. They asked that if organizers would like to participate in functions, to ask prior to the event. Mayor Correa advised she attended the Veterans ceremony.

Commissioner Jones advised Mr. Cutwright is our Community Affairs Director and asked that he notify the Bait Shop of known tournaments. Mr. Cutwright advised sometimes there are pop up fishing tournaments of about 20 boats (with nothing on the City property) that we do not have prior notice of. Ms. Carty advised we can begin to post special events on our website and allow folks to contribute.

6. CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner Campbell asked to discuss item S, and Commissioner Borom item K. **Motion to accept A - U except K and S by Commissioner McCaskill. Seconded by Commissioner Borom. The Motion Passed unanimously.**

   a. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-227 ratifying the Community Redevelopment Agency's recommendation of renewing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Small Business Development Center

   b. ACCEPTANCE of the resignation of Arthur Leary of the Firefighters Pension Board

   c. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-234 authorizing the exeuction of an extension to Svein Bakken's Building Improvement Grant as recommended by the Community Redevelopment Agency during its October 14, 2024 meeting

   d. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-228 authorizing the execution of a 1-year renewal agreement with Becker & Poliakoff, PA for lobbyist services in an amount of $60,000.

   e. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-237 authorizing the purchase of two vehicles for Public Works from Beck Auto Sales (total cost: $128,678.91, budgeted in the FY 2024-25 budget)

   f. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-229 rejecting all bids for Invitation to Bid (ITB) 2024-08 Palatka City Hall Renovation project

   g. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-232 awarding ITB 2024-20 and execution of a contract for the Lift Station 16 Improvements project to Ferreira Construction Company in amount not to exceed $1,686,680. ($340,196 grant funded with remaining budgeted with City funds in FY 24-25)

   h. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-235 authorizing a FY 2024-25 budget amendment for the use of evidence funds

   i. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-236 authorizing a FY 2024-25 budget amendment for Justice Assistance Grant D funding in the amount of $6,275

   j. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-233 authorizing the purchase of 10 police vehicles and equipment in a not-to-exceed amount of $603,000 ($250,000 of the amount is grant-funded)

   k. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-240 authorizing a FY 2024-25 budget transfer to accommodate the donation to the Animal Rescue Konsortium (ARK) for a mobile animal clinic in the amount of $10,000 utilizing ARPA funding

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-240 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO ANIMAL RESCUE KONSORTIUM; AUTHORIZING A FY 2024-25 BUDGET TRANSFER; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Virginia Delgado Oakwood advised the County has awarded funds for the program.

Commissioner Borom asked Staff take the funding from Animal Control not ARPA

Motion to approve with the correction of the general ledger line item by Commissioner Borom. Seconded by Commissioner McCaskill. The Motion Passed unanimously.

l. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-242 - authorizing approval of a settlement concerning 424 Emmett Street in City of Palatka v. Maria Corporation of Seminole, Inc.

m. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-243 - authorizing a reduction of the lien on 411 Laurel Street

n. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-244 authorizing a Special Events Permit to DPI, Inc. and DPE, Inc. for the Palatka Christmas Parade to be held November 29, 2024

o. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-215 granting a special events permit to Bread of Life for Beck 5-K Run to be held on December 7, 2024

p. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-245 granting a special events permit to Southside Historical Neighborhood Association for the Palatka Porch Music Fest to be held on December 7, 2024

q. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-216 granting a special events permit to Sunshine State Bass Nation Tournament Series, Inc for Florida B.A.S.S. Nation Junior /High School Fall & North Regional qualifiers to be held on December 14 - 15, 2024

r. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-194 granting a special events permit to City of Palatka Community Affairs for Jingle Jam to be held on December 21, 2024

s. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-217 granting a special events permit to Blue Crab Productions for Old Years Day to be held December 31, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-217 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, GRANTING A SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT TO BLUE CRAB PRODUCTIONS FOR OLD YEARS DAY; SETTING FORTH THE PROVISIONS OF THE PERMIT; AND GRANTING PERMISSION FOR ROAD CLOSURES; AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS

The applicant, Erin Hewes, addressed the Commisison regarding this new event which will include a drone light show. This will be a family-friendly event including a balloon drop at a respectable hour. Later, she will present a public-private partnership opportunity for the event.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner McCaskill. The Motion Passed unanimously.

t. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-231 granting a special events permit to The Putanm County Chamber of Commerce for Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament and the 76th Azalea Festival (Angelers and Azaleas) to be set up and held on February 16–23, 2025

u. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-238 authorizing the emergency purchase of an Aeration Tower for the Water Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed $45,532.60 (to be funded by the Water Treatment Plant Capital Outlay budget)

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

a. Recess for 10 minutes at 7:30 PM.

b. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-206 authorizing the City's Youth Ambassadors to host a canned food drive as its community service project for 2024-25

The City's Youth Ambassadors (Keilan McGinnis, Rhyann Elise Chandler, Annabelle Lamb, and Ralia Philips) have selected a food drive as this year's Community Services Project. Each month they will be collecting the food item of the month for Feed the Need. They will have drop off locations at the City's facilities.
Commissioner Borom offered the City's marketing services for the effort.
Motion to approve by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner McCaskill. The Motion Passed unanimously.

c. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-194 authorizing the designation of the Live Oak at Riverfront Park as a Liberty Tree to maker the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution - requestors: St. Augustine Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and the William Bartram Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

RESOLUTION 2024-R-194 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, AUTHORIZING THE DEDICATION OF A LIBERTY TREE AND STONE MEMORIAL AT JAMES C. GODWIN RIVERFRONT PARK, AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS

Meri Rees, along with members of the Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution, including Deborah Eckhardt, John Robinson, Harry Manford, and Allegra Kitchens, spoke regarding the original Liberty Tree in Philadelphia. Now, there is a 250th year initiative to designate Liberty Trees across the country. There is a tree at the Riverfront Park they would like the City to designate as a Liberty Tree. They are not proposing any cost to the City.

Commissioner Borom advised the City had declined a different monument at the Riverfront and asked regarding the precedent it would set.

The floor was opened to public comment:
Allegra Kitchens 1027 S 12th St., Palatka, FL 32177 - spoke in support of the designation of the tree.
Hearing no further requests to comment, the floor was closed to public comment.

Motion to approve the stone by Commissioner Jones. Seconded by Commissioner Borom. The Motion Failed unanimously.

d. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-241 authorizing the execution of a union agreement with the Police Benevolent Association

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-241 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION OF A UNION AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS

Motion to approve by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner McCaskill. The Motion Passed unanimously.

Mr. Greg Forhan, Esq. representing the Police Benevolent Association was present and thanked the Commission.

e. ADOPT Commission Calendar for 2025

The Clerk highlighted the proposed calendar for 2025, which sets the dates of the City Commission meetings and budget workshops for calendar year 2025. The second meeting in February is proposed to be canceled along with the first meeting of the month in the summer months and the second meeting of the month in the winter holiday months.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner Jones. The Motion Passed unanimously.

f. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-239 authorizing the execution of an employment agreement with Terrill L. Hill as Interim City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-239 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXEUCTION OF A TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH TERRILL HILL AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF PALATKA;
PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS

Ms. Jones addressed the Commission. The Commission approved the appointment of Mr. Hill as Interim City Manager on October 24, 2024. Ms. Jones advised the final version of the contract is before the Commission. The proposed contract reflects a term of Nov. 24 - Feb. 2025 and she recommended salary should not exceed $102,000 - 135,488 ($5,211 biweekly). Mr. Hill has asked for a term of 12 months and $7,500 bi-weekly ($15,000 per month). Ms. Carty advised there is a precedent contract of $84,000 from 5 years ago. In today's economy that would be $102,000.

The floor was opened to public comment.
Dave Oyster, Palatka, FL - spoke in opposition to paying $187,000 as the salary of the Interim City Manager.
Mary Longkey (sp?) 220 Madison St., Palatka, FL 32177 - read a letter from Linda Crider concerning the amount of financial stability and the impacts of that salary.
Vicki Duke, Palatka, FL - asked if Mr. Hill is willing to work for the Commission and called for a 90-day probation and to be treated as a new hire.

Commisison discussion commenced. Commissioner McCaskill expressed concern she was not involved in the creation of a salary recommendation.

Motion to table by Commissioner McCaskill. Seconded by Commissioner Jones. The Motion Passed unanimously.

Terrill Hill, 805 St. Johns Ave., Palatka, FL 32177 - advised he has received 3 different contracts from City Staff. He advised he gave the number $15,000 to commence negotiations. He advised as a temporary employee he would not have pension or benefits. The former City Manager, Mr. Bell's total package (including benefits) was $230,000 - $240,000. Presently, the City's highest paid employee has a $240,000 impact (with benefits) on the budget. He advised he has had a great experience working with Staff however it is unfair to Staff to allow them to negotiate a salary of their supervisor. He spoke regarding the Commission in past years to appoint a Commission liaison to negotiate with the new hire.

Commission discussion continued. Commissioner Jones recommended each Commissioner provide a range they feel acceptable to the Interim City Manager. Mayor Correa recommended the Commission provide information to HR. Commissioner Jones asked that when Staff pushes out information, it is provided to the entire Commission. Discussion commenced regarding the length of the contract. Mayor Correa suggested 6 months for the term of a temporary contract.

Ms. Carty recommended creating an average based upon the input of the Commission. She asked for the salary range and the length the Commission would like the contract to be. Mayor Correa asked the Commission to share the information in the next couple weeks in order to prepare for the December commission meeting. Commissioner Jones asked the Commission to submit the information to HR by Monday. Human Resources will then summarize the information and provide it to the Commission by Wednesday.

Commissioner Campbell asked that Commissioner Jones serve as the liaison to Human Resources.

g. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION for the funding of the demolition of 1122 Bronson Street (Old Best Packers)

Ms. West spoke regarding the appearance of the building at 1122 Bronson Street, owned by John Kastner. Sometimes up to 100 homeless persons live in the facility. We have a Court-ordered Summary Abatement to move forward with demolition. There is a contractor that is qualified to handle demolition of this kind. There is lead and asbestos and some air pollution quality containment that needs to occur during the demolition process, which will take one month. The quote to demolish the 3 structures is $374,000. The code enforcement liens will not come close to covering this cost. She advised Mr. Kastner's attorney is unresponsive to her.

Ms. West also spoke regarding a foreclosure judgment that was obtained on the property owner's other property, "John's Metals", that the owner paid in full.

Several members of Staff addressed the Commission: Chief Shaw advised this building is a public safety nightmare (including fires that occur on site). While, the Police Department has attempted to secure the property, it is impossible to secure. He advised if we were to weld the building shut, the City would take on the liability of what happens on site. Deputy Fire Chief Branford advised there are so many requirements to burn an acquired structure, they would never make this facility safe enough to use for a fire training site. Ms. Carty advised there is $200,000 in ARPA line for removal of blight/purchase of vacant property/abatement.

Commission discussion commenced. Commissioner Jones recommended using ARPA for multiple sites and recommended continuing abatement action for fines and liens. Mayor Correa spoke regarding the safety hazard that this site poses.

Ms. West asked if Staff can put this out to bid for estimates on demolishing the structure, and indicated this would not occur before winter.
The amount of money we would spend to demolish the structure could become a lien on the property. Commissioners Borom and McCaskill responded they are okay with soliciting bids. Commissioner Campbell asked to lessen the normal 30-day window for bids. Ms. West will ask the contractor if the company that provided the quote will keep their bid open. Commissioner Borom asked if Staff can communicate with the owner and see if we are able to turn the structures into a homeless shelter.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. ADOPT RESOLUTION 2024-R-230 approving the Palatka Mall Final Plat (400 N. SR 19)

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-230 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALATKA, AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE FINAL PLAT FOR
SUBDIVISION OF THE PALATKA MALL PROPERTY, 400 N. S.R. 19, PALATKA, FLORIDA, PARCEL NO. 02-10-26-0000-1260-0000, AUTHORIZING ALL REQUIRED SIGNATURES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF PALATKA; AND PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER'S ERRORS

Mr. Aghemo advised on August 6th the Planning Board approved the final plat with conditions. The applicant has satisfied those conditions.
The final plat has been reviewed by a third party surveyor selected by the City who has no concerns with the plat. Staff recommends approval

Autumn Martinage, DCCM, St. Augustine, spoke representing the applicant - the owner is attempting to plat three new parcels. She provided a presentation. The property owner's goal is to subdivide and market to potential buyers.

The floor was opened to public hearing. Hearing no requests to comment, the floor was closed to public hearing.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Campbell. Seconded by Commissioner Jones. The Motion Passed unanimously.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS Commissioner Campbell thanked Commissioner Borom for hosting a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday. He would like a Question and Answer summary be posted on our website. Commissioner McCaskill congratulated Commissioner Jones on his reelection and to Ms. Davis on her election.

10. ADJOURN **Motion to adjourn at 9:29 PM by Commissioner Campbell.**

NOTICES: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 329-0100 AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS.