

City of Gulfport Florida
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 3, 2009

City Hall

7:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, 2401 53rd Street South, Gulfport, Florida.

Michael J. Yakes, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Invocation was given by Councilmember Mary Stull, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call.

Present were: Councilmembers Judy Ryerson, Mary Stull and Robert Worthington; Vice Mayor Michele King; Interim City Manager James O'Reilly; City Attorney Timothy Driscoll and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth.

Presentations:

Recognition of Retirement - Police Chief Curt Willocks. Mayor Yakes recognized Chief Willocks' 18 years of service with a plaque and his badge, and reflected on his tenure with the City.

Law for Public Officials Seminar Certificates. Mayor Yakes recognized Courtland Yarborough, Christine Brown, Councilmember Bob Worthington, John Milford, Marjory Milford, Michael Arras, Bob Newcomb, James Thayler and Marlene Shaw for their attendance at the Seminar, and certificates were presented to those present. Mayor Yakes mentioned that citizens Lee Stapella, Cindy Davis, and Al Davis also attended.

Spirit of Gulfport Award – Pat Dunham. Mayor Yakes presented the Spirit of Gulfport Award to Pat Dunham for her yard sale at Gulfport Montessori Elementary School which raised over \$3,000.

1. Public Session.

Dottie Wolski, 2652 44th Street South, stated today her garbage was picked up with the new sideloader and she thought it was wonderful.

Jim Greenwald, 4747 Tradewinds Drive, requested the City Council place a moratorium on the "no golf carts" rule during the Flamingo Home Tour on Saturday, March 7, and that the Police not ticket visitors who are coming for the tour for illegal parking.

City Attorney Driscoll stated there is no basis upon which the City council can take action on this as golf carts are not allowed on public streets unless they are outfitted as a motor vehicle and street worthy.

2. Approval of Minutes. Consider approval of the minutes of the following City Council Meetings and/or Workshops of February 3, 2009, August 26, 2008, and May 21, 2008.

Motion by Councilmember Worthington, seconded by Councilmember Ryerson to approve the minutes.

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3. City Managers Report.

Interim City Manager O'Reilly introduced newly appointed Fire Chief James Marenkovic and City Clerk DeMuth administered the Oath of Office.

City Clerk DeMuth explained that after the new Councilmembers are elected there will be an Organizational Council Meeting where the new members will be sworn in and a Vice Mayor will be chosen. This meeting will precede the March 17th Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 pm.

4. Consent Agenda: No Items

5. Ordinances:

2009-02	<u>SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI OF CHAPTER 15 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, PERTAINING TO THE GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR RESTATEMENT OF SAID ARTICLE, INCLUDING SECTIONS 15-91 THROUGH 15-115 THEREOF, AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES, OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES, IN CONFLICT HEREWITH, TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.</u>
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The City Clerk read Ordinance No. 2009-02 by title only.

Interim City Manager O'Reilly explained the ordinance provides for a 2.7% contribution to the General Employees' Pension Plan.

Mayor Yakes stated this has been voted on by the Employees, and opened the Public Hearing. See no one wished to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion by Councilmember Worthington, seconded by Councilmember Ryerson to adopt Ordinance No. 2009-02.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER STULL	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER WORTHINGTON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR KING	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER RYERSON	AYE
	MAYOR YAKES	AYE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Resolutions:

- a. 2009-25 **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF CONSULTING SERVICES BY BETH RAWLINGS, INC.; PROVIDING FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ABILITY TO SERVE REPORT AND AN OUTREACH PROGRAM IN THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION AREA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,450.00; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2009-25 by title only.

Interim City Manager O'Reilly advised Council that Ms. Beth Rawlings was present to provide the results of her survey and answer any questions Council may have.

Community Development Director Metcalf stated the proposed Resolution is an continuation of the City's efforts to annex the area between the City and South Pasadena, south of Gulfport Boulevard.

Beth Rawlings, of Beth Rawlings, Inc., spoke on the survey which they conducted, and pointed out that 57.5% of those who had enough knowledge of local government to express an opinion were interested in learning more about annexation and having the opportunity to vote on it.

Councilmember Worthington requested there be a map made of the area which is to be annexed, and stated he has talked to several residents in that area and he has heard no negative comments.

In response to a question by Vice Mayor King, Ms. Rawlings stated the next step in this process will involve preparing the necessary document; an Urban Services Report, the 70/30 Analysis and the Ability to Serve Report.

Councilmember Worthington questioned when a decision would need to be made if this is to be a mail ballot election, and Ms. Rawlings stated this will be a special election and written notice to the Supervisor of Elections to preparation for a referendum in the fall would be by July 6, 2009.

Mayor Yakes opened Resolution No. 2009-25 for public discussion.

Dottie Wolski, 2652 44th Street South, questioned how the consulting company was chosen, and Interim City Manager O'Reilly explained this was a unique situation, given what this company does, and they have previously worked with City Staff. He mentioned that additional money was placed in the budget for consulting services.

Motion by Councilmember Ryerson, seconded by Vice Mayor King to approve Resolution No. 2009-25.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER STULL	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER WORTHINGTON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR KING	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER RYERSON	AYE
	MAYOR YAKES	AYE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. 2009-26 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY POLICY FOR MICHAEL J. YAKES, MAYOR, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,014.07; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City Clerk read Resolution No. 2009-26 by title only.

Mayor Yakes stated he will be abstaining from voting. (In accordance with Florida Statutes, Form 8B – Memorandum of Voting Conflict filed by Mayor Michael J. Yakes is attached hereto, and made a part of the minutes.)

City Attorney Driscoll stated the Mayor has submitted a request under the City’s adopted reimbursement policy and, as required, he has reviewed the information provided and is recommending a reimbursement in the amount of \$1,014.07, as the Mayor did successfully defended the changes made against him.

Mayor Yakes opened Resolution No. 2009-26 for public discussion.

Pam Prell, 5230 8th Avenue South, stated she felt the Mayor should be reimbursed.

Motion by Councilmember Ryerson, seconded by Vice Mayor King to approve Resolution No. 2009-26.

ROLL CALL:	COUNCILMEMBER STULL	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER WORTHINGTON	AYE
	VICE MAYOR KING	AYE
	COUNCILMEMBER RYERSON	AYE
	MAYOR YAKES	ABATAIN

MOTION CARRIED – 4 AYES, 1 ABSTAIN.

7. New Business.

Councilmember Stull stated there will be a Crime Watch Meeting on Monday, March 9, at 7:00 pm. about crime in the current economy. She also reminded the citizens of the Flamingo Home Tour as well as the Little League Parade and Opening Day this Saturday, starting at 10:00 am.

Councilmember Worthington stated he received some comprehensive information on sea grasses and the Small Toothed Sawfish Recovery Plan from the Agency on Bay Management which he will share with the City as well as the Marina. He also spoke on the situation with Pinellas County Government and the changes to their emergency services. Councilmember Worthington presented information to Council on a gift which has been offered to the City by Captain Phil Fletcher, through his daughter Cindy Davis, of a 36 foot motor home to be used by the Fire Department as a Mobile Disaster Emergency Response Vehicle. Councilmember Worthington requested the City Council accept this donation.

Mayor Yakes thanked the Davis’s for their generosity, and it was the consensus of Council that a Resolution needed to be placed on the agenda for official action by Council to accept the vehicle.

Vice Mayor King commented on the success this past weekend of the Pet Pal Rescue.

Councilmember Ryerson spoke on numerous events that were taking place within the City during March, and that this information was available on the City's website.

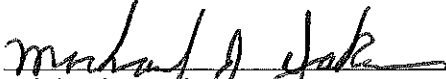
Mayor Yakes reminded the citizens of the upcoming City election on Tuesday, March 10.

8. Adjournment.

Motion by Councilmember Worthington, seconded by Councilmember Ryerson to adjourn.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

Date Approved: 3-17-09


Michael J. Yakes, Mayor


Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk