CITY OF APOPKA

Minutes of the City Council regular meeting held on August 5, 2020, 1:30 p.m., in the City of Apopka Council Chambers.

PRESENT: Mayor Bryan Nelson
Commissioner Kyle Becker
Commissioner Alexander Smith
City Administrator Edward Bass
City Attorney Michael Rodriguez

ABSENT: Commissioner Doug Bankson

PRESS PRESENT: John Peery – The Apopka Chief

INVOCATION/PLEDGE

Commissioner Smith provided the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then provided the Fact of the Day as follows:

On August 7, 1782, in Newburgh, New York, General George Washington, the commander in chief of the Continental Army, creates the "Badge for Military Merit," a decoration consisting of a purple, heart-shaped piece of silk, edged with a narrow binding of silver, with the word *Merit* stitched across the face in silver. The badge was to be presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action" Washington's "Purple Heart" was awarded to only three known soldiers during the Revolutionary War and the decoration was largely forgotten until 1927, when General Charles P. Summerall, the U.S. Army chief of staff, sent an unsuccessful draft bill to Congress to "revive the Badge of Military Merit." In 1931, Summerall's successor, General Douglas MacArthur, took up the cause, hoping to reinstate the medal in time for the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. On February 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, the U.S. War Department announced the creation of the "Order of the Purple Heart." In addition to aspects of Washington's original design, the new Purple Heart also displays a bust of Washington and his coat of arms. The Order of the Purple Heart, the oldest American military decoration for military merit, is awarded to members of the U.S. armed forces who have been killed or wounded in action against an enemy. It is also awarded to soldiers.

PRESENTATION

1. Fire Department EMS Transport Update

   Wil Sanchez provided a presentation and overview of the EMS billing over the last couple of months. He said there are 8 months under review and about 6 months of core data that he will be speaking about as well as reviewing our billing policies. He reviewed the objectives and said we're communication with them daily and have a monthly meeting. He said men and women of the

Apopka Fire Dept. have had to be retrained to make sure they're up to date on compliance issues. He said that now the payments are going directly to the banks main headquarters in Georgia who regulates the payments. He reviewed the differences in payments and said depending on the zone, region, zip code and demographic, to get an allowable rate. He said Medicare pays up to 80% and Medicaid is a flat rate and he provided charts to show examples. He explained the difference between an ALS and a BLS provider and said that we are not a BLS provider, although we can render BLS services but are licensed at the higher level there. Mayor Nelson commented that the lost revenue could pay for 2 fire stations and 2 ladder trucks.

2. Fair Housing Presentation

Melissa Fox, of Fred Fox Enterprises provided a presentation and said the purpose of her presentation today is to inform the public as well as the City of the Federal Fair Housing requirements. She said that Title 42 of the United States Code prohibits discrimination in Housing Related actions, including the sale, rental or financing of dwellings. She said discrimination includes refusing to rent to someone, steering them away from a type of housing or neighborhood, enacting zoning measures to exclude particular groups because of membership in a protected class. She stated that the Federal protected classes include race, color, religion, national origin, sex, and disability and said that state and local governments may have additional protected classes. She also explained the various exemptions as determined by HUD and said if you think you've been discriminated against, you can contact your local or state government and file a complaint or you can take it to a federal level with HUD. She said the City of Apopka has a local Ordinance which includes steps and time limits in which complaints must be submitted and responses provided. She stated that once you file a complaint, the office receiving the complaint will notify the person filing the complaint and the violator and allow the respondent time to respond. She said the office will investigate and determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe that the respondent has violated the Federal Fair Housing Act and you will be notified if HUD cannot complete it's investigation within 100 days of filing.

Ms. Fox said that further down on the Agenda, you'll notice that there is a first Public Hearing on a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant and said one of the steps in completing this submitting the application is to hold a Fair Housing Workshop that's available for local elected officials as well as the public. She stated that this was advertised and this gets you extra points in your application.

AGENDA REVIEW

Edward Bass, City Administrator advised that there are no changes to the Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Two Comment cards were submitted online and read into the record including Carlos Diaz who wanted to shout out to the City Attorney for revising the great new deal with Taurus Development; and Lisa

Bennet who said is anticipating the new construction for the bike trail and said great job Apopka leaders and staff.

Todd Bengston, Apopka Fire Department said he is hearing conversations around the City and thought it appropriate to come speak about the employee raises. He said he can only speak for the Fire Dept. and said they're working hard in the midst of the Covid and the exposure to it. He said they had a few members test positive last weekend and families are being exposed at home but this is what they signed up for so they understand this. He stated that Chief Wylam and Captain Sanchez have put together an awesome program with getting all the equipment they can get to protect the firefighters and testing when needed. He said they work the most hours in the State of Florida and although they have a good starting pay, when you add all of the hours together for annual salary, it's much lower in comparison to others. He said they work a 56 hour work week, which is more time away from family and more exposure to the elements. He said he uses the reports Chief Sanchez just spoke about in order to grade them on for their evaluations. He stated that the issue is that when he does the evaluations, he knows our firefighters talk to all the other fire departments and know that they are all getting raises next year and indicated it's in their contracts. He further stated there are a lot of positives to working here and he enjoys working here but said they just want stability and to be compensated for the work they do.

Commissioner Becker said that he struggles because we sat in budget workshops almost a month ago and this is the first he's hearing about displeasure and strategy that staff has gone in regards to the 1% COLA and said there was plenty of opportunity to speak. He stated that 2 days ago, we received the anonymous letter and said that his email is open 24 hours a day so if people are upset around the budget and merit increases, he's always available, but this is the first time he's hearing about this. He further stated that employee pay does not fluctuate, he said it may go up but it will generally static unless there are merit increases. He explained that the fluidity is on capital expenditures, including fire stations, trucks, apparatus, which we've heavily invested in. He stated that those have to be factored into the quality of life, quality of job or work, not just 2% this year or whatever the case may be so the compensation package is not all reflected in base salary. He said that no one is disputing the fact that we're on a very weird economic situation right now and there is still some uncertainty as to what the final revenue numbers will be for this year. He said come to him with a plan and said he would review this and have a conversation.

Mayor Nelson said that the average increase at the Fire Department was 6.2% and asked Mr. Bengston if he had a raise this year to which he confirmed that it was his first raise in 6 years and said he appreciated that and is just sharing the sentiments.

Edward Bass stated that they're pulling the numbers for the merit program, which goes from 0-6% and said that most employees within our Public Safety Departments have historically earned between 5%

and 6%. He said we will provide the numbers so that Council can review in order to make these decisions.

CONSENT (Action Item)

1. Authorize the Police Chief to present service weapon to Corporal Kenneth Kaiser for recognition of credited service.
2. Approve the Lake Standish Estates Subdivision Plat.
3. Approve the DFL5 Lot 3 Amended and Restated Development Agreement.
4. Authorize the Mayor to execute the release of Development Agreement with BFG Apopka Properties 1 LLC.
5. Authorize the Mayor to execute the License Agreements with Florida Central Railroad Company, Inc. for the Railroad crossing located at Airport Road and Wesley Road.
6. Approve agreement for professional engineering services with Kimley Horn Associates in the amount of $299,995.
7. Approve extensions of general contractor agreements with AccuTech Construction Inc., CGC Kilfoyle, Inc. and Core Construction Services of Florida, LLC.
8. Authorize the reallocation of funds to complete the restroom facilities at the Northwest Recreation Complex.
9. Authorize the issuance of blanket purchase orders for fiscal year 2020.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to pull any of the items off the Consent Agenda and hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the nine (9) items on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker, and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the nine (9) items on Consent. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

BUSINESS (Action Item)

1. Final Development Plan – Iglesia El Getsemani Church Building Expansion
   Owner: Iglesia El Getsemani, Inc.
   Applicant: Bernardo Mateos
   Location: 2585 West Orange Blossom Trail
   Project: 4.29 +/- acres; 12,000 sq. ft. addition to existing building/place of worship
   Project Manager: Bobby Howell

Bobby Howell, Senior Planner said this is for a Final Development Plan for a 12,000 square foot addition to an existing 7,000 square foot place of worship.. He said the property is located at 2585 W. Orange Blossom Trail and is 4.29 acres in size with the access will be along W. Orange Blossom Trail and Highland Avenue. He stated that the two buildings will be connected by a covered walkway at the site of the Iglesia El Getsemani Church. He said that two storm water ponds are proposed on the northern portion of the site and there are a total of 104 parking spaces, including 5 accessible spaces, located on site in accordance with Land Development Code requirements.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the Final Development Plan for the Iglesia El Getemani Church Building Expansion.

MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the Final Development Plan for the Iglesia El Getemani Church Building Expansion. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

1. First public hearing to accept the FY19 Citizen Advisory Task Force recommendation on the CDBG.

Shakenya Jackson, Grant Coordinator said this is for a new application for the CDBG from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the funding year if funding year 2019. She said we just completed funding year 19 and said that we just completed funding year 2015 and we were able to complete the Billy Dean Community Center. She said Melissa is her to go over the first public hearing process in order to complete the application. She said the process today is the presentation, open it up for any questions from Council and or the Public and discuss the staff recommendation.

She introduced Melissa Fox who presented the details. Ms. Fox reiterated that we must notify the elected officials as well as the public and reviewed the categories that we're eligible to apply under. She said the maximum CDBG Grant the City is eligible to apply for is $750,000 and this is for three categories including Housing Rehabilitation, Commercial Revitalization and Neighborhood Revitalization. She said the Housing Rehabilitation is to rehab/replace of owner occupied, low to moderate income homes. She said this may include demolition, if warranted. The second category is Commercial Revitalization which is for streetscapes, building façade work to the Downtown Commercial area. The third category is the Neighborhood Revitalization area which includes infrastructure items such as water line repairs or replacement, paving, drainage or parks. She said the fourth category is where we can apply for up to $1.5 million and this is under the Economic Development and this is where we can provide infrastructure on City easement or property to facilitate a new business coming into or the expansion of an existing business. She stated that with the first three categories, you can only apply for one at time, however, you can have an open housing or commercial or neighborhood and still apply for an economic development grant. She said the LTM income is set by HUD and every year, they go up or down from FY 2020 for a family of 4, the maximum a home can make is $58,150. She said he CDBG grants are very competitive so we always try and work with Cities to build up the application and make them as competitive as possible.

Commissioner Smith asked to clarify the question about sewer system improvements, and would a new sewer system qualify to which, Mr. Fox stated to the affirmative. He asked how many grants are available to which Ms. Fox said it's hard to say.

Community Becker asked if this was what we had for the last CDBG Grant and whether it was for the Community Center to which Ms. Fox confirmed, yes. He asked if we get additional points if we proved success from the prior grants, to which she stated no.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the FY19 Citizens Advisory Task Force recommendation for the CDBG for Housing Rehabilitation.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the FY19 Citizens Advisory Task Force recommendation for the CDBG for Housing Rehabilitation. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTION (Action Item)

1. Ordinance No. 2758 – Second Reading - Change of Zoning
   From: T (Transitional)
   To: MU-ES-GT (Mixed-Use East Short District)
   Owner: Binion Road LLC
   Applicant: G.L. Summit Engineering, Inc.
   Location: North of Harmon Road, east of South Binion Road
   Project: 19.72 +/- acres; proposed 295 Dwelling Units
   Project Manager: Phil Martinez

   Michael Rodriguez, City Attorney said that after consultation with staff and well as staff communications, the item is to be withdrawn from the Agenda. He said there is currently still delays when it comes to OCPS in dealing with the issue with their Capacity Enhancement Agreements. He stated that they have actually rendered their position which is that the City has a provision in their Comprehensive Plan in our Education Facilities Policy. 3.1, which basically states that the City cannot approve any developments that are going to increase capacity until, (a) OCPS makes a determination of capacity or (b) that a Capacity Enhancement Agreement is entered into. He said that since OCPS is no longer doing a Capacity Enhancement Agreement, it leaves the City in a bind because our Comprehensive Plan will not allow us to go forward. He said there is a calculated risk in moving forward that potentially OCPS can come back to the City and state that we're inconsistent with our Comprehensive Plan and because they are under strict scrutiny in the courts, if you deviate one inch from the plan, the penalties are pretty severe. He stated that staff is currently making an amendment to our Comprehensive Plan which will mirror what Orange County is doing with their Comprehensive Plan in relation to OCPS and the enhancement agreement issue. He further stated that with that in mind, we are pulling this item to allow time to work the applicants and staff to complete the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and to fall in line with what appears that OCPS is wanting other local governments to do.

   Mayor Nelson asked for a motion to pull Ordinance NO. 2758 from the Agenda.

   MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to pull Ordinance No. 2758 from the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker, and Smith voting aye.

2. Ordinance No. 2779 - Second Reading - Sanitation Rate Increase
   Approve an amendment to the City of Apopka Code of Ordinances Section 58 Solid Waste increasing the residential solid waste rates by 3% and the commercial solid waste rates by 6%.
   Presented by: Edward Bass

   Edward Bass said he was filling in for Josh Robinson, who is on scheduled leave and said this is the second reading for this Ordinance. He stated that this is the second reading of this Ordinance and we have not raised the rates since 2015 and this Ordinance calls for a 3% increase for residential rates and a 6% increase to commercial rates. He said that even at $17.51 a month, we're the lowest rate for garbage in the County for the surrounding area.

   Commissioner Smith asked if this is enough to cover his budget in which Edward spoke to the affirmative.

   Commissioner Becker said we should never politicize fees and said it's the cost of doing business and said whatever that number is, is what we should be charging.

   Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2779.

   MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Becker, to adopt Ordinance No. 2779. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

3. Approve the addition of 2 Sanitation Equipment Operators for the Sanitation Division.
   Presented by: Edward Bass

   Edward Bass said that this item is dependent upon the revenue increase and said the revenues are driven by the numbers. He said the Sanitation Department is looking to add 2 Sanitation workers and said this department has 13 drivers and 12 routes and collect approximately 17,000 tons of garbage per year. He said they collect about 10,000 tons of yard waste and bulky waste per year. He said they collect about 2,400 tons of recycling per year and service approximately 17,000 homes, twice weekly. He said the commercial side has 2 drivers and 2 routes and collect a little over 10,000 tons of garbage on the commercial side and service approximately 670 dumpsters 1-7 days per week. He said this request is for the additional 2 drivers as they've used about 7,800 overtime hours last year. He said that on the books for 2020, they have approximately 5,200 hours of overtime liability and the average tenure is about 10 years. He said these two positions are included in the budget. He said it makes it tough to make the routes on time and said the first position will help alleviate pto backlog and the second position will reduce overtime.

   Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve the addition of 2 new Sanitation Equipment Operators.

   MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Becker, to approve the addition of 2 new Sanitation Equipment Operators. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

4. Ordinance No. 2776 – First Reading - Comprehensive Plan – Small Scale – Future Land Use Amendment
   From: Agriculture
   To: Industrial (Max. 0.60 FAR)
   Owner: 3307 S Clarcona LLC
   Applicant: Vihlen and Associates, P.A., c/o Sidney L. Vihlen, III
   Location: East of Clarcona Road, north of Stone Road
   Project: 5.85 +/- acres; +/- 152,895 non-residential sq. ft. (IND Future Land Use, 0.6 FAR)
   Project Manager: Phil Martinez

Phil Martinez, Planner II said that the applicant is proposing a small scale Future Land Use Amendment from Agriculture to Industrial for approximately 5.85 acres. He said that the subject property was annexed into the city on February 21, 1996 by Ordinance Number 916. The proposed "Industrial" Future Land Use is compatible with the property due to the "Industrial" Future Land Use, and industrial-oriented uses, being found adjacent to the parcel and in the vicinity. This application is being processed simultaneously with an application to rezone the subject property from AG (Agriculture District) to I-L (Light Industrial). He said the Development Review Committee recommends approval of the project and finds it consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and compatible with the surrounding area.

Commissioner Becker asked if Randall is expending or is this a different applicant.

Sid Valene, 1540 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL said that yes that is exactly what is happening and the Randall Company has branched out in to other areas of the construction industry.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve Ordinance No. 2776 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 2776 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

5. Ordinance No. 2777 – First Reading - Change of Zoning
   From: AG (Agriculture District)
   To: I-L (Light Industrial District)
   Owner: 3307 S Clarcona LLC
   Applicant: Vihlen and Associates, P.A., c/o Sidney L. Vihlen, III
   Location: East of Clarcona Road, north of Stone Road
   Project: 5.85 +/- acres; +/- 129,111 sq. ft. non-residential
   Project Manager: Phil Martinez

Phil Martinez, Planner II said that the applicant is proposing a rezoning from Agricultural District to I-L, Light Industrial District for the same subject property as the previous agenda item. He said the proposed I-L zoning is compatible with the proposed Industrial Future Land Use. He said the Development Review Committee recommends approval and finds it consistent with the Comprehensive

Plan and compatible with the surrounding area.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve Ordinance No. 2777 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 2777 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

6. Ordinance No. 2780 – First Reading - Change of Zoning / Planned Development Master Plan
From: T (Transitional District)
To: PD (Planned Development District)
Owners: American Sanford Four, LLC; Steven R. Rubright; JP Holdings, Inc.; Rubright Properties, LLC;
Rubright Family, LP; James Scott Pridgen; Douglas & Lisa Surrett and James P. Purdy
Applicant: Poulos & Bennett, c/o Kathy Hattaway
Location: West of North Orange Blossom Trail, north of Hogshead Road
Project: 349.37 +/- acres; 6 lot industrial park
Project Manager: Bobby Howell

Bobby Howell, Senior Planner, said the property is located West of Orange Blossom Trail, North of Hogshead Road and West of the Orlando-Apopka Airport. He said the vicinity map shows the location of the property and said that the subject property is approximately 349.37 acres in size. He said the property is currently zoned Transitional (T) and has a future land use designation of Orange County Rural and Industrial. He said the hearing for the future land use designation is scheduled to go before the City Council on August 19, 2020, which will change the future land use of the entire property to City of Apopka Industrial. He said the prospective developer is proposing a change of zoning to PD (Planned Development) in order to construct a six-lot industrial park consisting of a mix of light and heavy industrial uses. He said the access to the site is proposed via Wesley Road, Orange Blossom Trail, and via an access easement that is proposed to be established to the west of Apopka Airport Road. Locations for rail spurs leading from the CSX railroad line are proposed and will be determined during the Major Development Plan review process. He said that there are six stormwater ponds proposed for this site and said open space, wetlands, and stormwater ponds will be in tracts that are owned and maintained by a master Property Owners Association (POA) and said that internal roadways and utilities will be dedicated to the public. He stated that the PD Master Plan allows up to 4,500,000 square feet of industrial uses with the prohibition of the following uses as they are deemed to be incompatible with the adjacent airport use. He said the Development Review Committee, the Planning Commission as well as staff all recommend approval and said the applicant is here to answer any questions.

Mayor Nelson asked if there are any questions for Bobby.

Commissioner Becker said he just wanted reconfirmation of the fact that the Master Plan does talk about light and heavy industrial use only and there will not be any residential to which Mr. Howell confirmed that is correct.

Heather Isaacs, representing Poulos & Bennett, 2602 E. Livingston Street, Orlando, FL 32803, said they appreciate all of staff's assistance with working through this project and said it's been an ongoing several year process and said they're happy to be here today. She said they received unanimous support from the Planning Commission and they look forward to answering any questions and hope to have the full support of the Commission.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve Ordinance No. 2780 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 2780 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

7. Ordinance No. 2787- First Reading - Cemetery Fees Rate Increase
Approve an amendment to the City of Apopka Code of Ordinances, Amending Chapter 26 - "Cemeteries", Section 26-4, "Fees"; and establishing a new section, Section 26-13, Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund.
Presented by: Susan Bone

Susan Bone, Deputy City Clerk, said that the City Clerk's office performed a review of the costs associated with maintenance and support of the City cemetery, as well as a comparison of cemetery fees imposed by other area agencies. She stated that it's been nine (9) years since the City has raised their fees. She said that the City Cemetery is getting close to being sold out and staff is proposing to plat additional spaces to sell for future needs. She said that in addition, the City has also experienced an increase in the cost of maintenance, and personnel cost for overseeing burials has risen. She said that the City proposes to establish a "Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund" using the 20% of the sales of future lots, in order to ensure adequate funds will be available in the future for the care and maintenance of the City Cemetery.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve Ordinance No. 2787 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve Ordinance No. 2787 at first reading and hold over for a second reading and adoption. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

8. Resolution 2020-21 - FY19/20 Budget Amendment
Presented by: Jamie Roberson

Jamie Roberson, Finance Director said this includes changes in funding and appropriations related to a special disbursement by the Florida E-911 board of earned interest for each Orange County Public Safety answer point. She said that this $12,000 disbursement is intended to help the PSAP with expenses necessary to protect 911 personnel from Covid-19, which include cleaning and disinfecting, installation of protective barriers between positions, masks, gloves and any other pertinent supply that is needed for our dispatch department.

Mayor Nelson asked whether anyone needs to speak on this item and hearing none, he asked for a motion approve Resolution No. 2020-21. .

MOTION by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Becker to approve Resolution No. 2020-21. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Commissioner Smith said that on behalf of Commissioner Nolan, we appreciate the services she rendered here as a City Commissioner and we pray Godspeed as she transitions to the next step in her life.

Commissioner Becker echoed Commissioner Smith's point and said that he reached out to Commissioner Nolan this morning and relayed good thoughts and healing prayers for her and her family.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Edward Bass, City Administrator, said he has some new numbers for sales tax and said that this is May's activity that we've collected for July. He said that if you'll recall, last month, we thought we'd be about a 65% projected reduction and we came in about 63%. He said we thought we would about 50% for the month of May and we discussed an uptick because of things we had seen in the area and the economy and we came in at 45%. He said that last year we had about $928,000 for our sales tax number and this year for that same month is $454,000 and said this is a big reduction. He said if there is anything positive to come out of this, we thought it would be 50% and it was 45% and as you can see, the projected sales tax for next month will be the same trend and come in about 50% and then maybe 25% again, it'll depend on what happens with Covid in the coming months. He said we continue to watch them and said overall, we're down about $1.6 million currently to date and if you average it out and annualize it, it's about $1.7 million so as we get to the next few months, that will complete our fiscal year and we'll know exactly where we are from our actual budget estimates. He said he also has some budget information to share and said that at the budget workshops, he said that we continue to monitor everything, every day and said the State has recently given us some numbers so he wanted to provide those. He said with the Communications Tax, you'll recall in the budget, we kept that flat and the State has given us a new number and will see a $102,000 reduction in that number from the prior year. He said the biggest numbers with the biggest significance to the General Fund is sales tax and said the State revenue sharing was projected at a 25% reduction and they're telling us today it's at about 24% so we're pretty close to that number.

The local government ½ cent sales tax came in at over 27% reduction so the 25% number was a little low and they're telling us right now, it's about 27.3% which is an additional $214,000 reduction. He said we will keep monitoring these and said that the State meets and there haven't been any changes in these numbers but said that Jamie and he have been working really hard to provide the most updated and current numbers possible. He said as you can see we have a short fall revenue of about $1.2 million dollars due to the three revenues with the state.

He said on the expenditure side, nothing has changed and we are continuing to look at those. He said that he did tell you about our health insurance and they went out to the pool on health insurance and they would not offer a quote, based upon some large claims on our account so they couldn't offer us anything different and what we have is a good deal for the claims we have. He said our liability and casualty and said we should be getting that soon and maybe we'll see some savings there. He said he wanted to draw attention to the STIFF payment which is for the Marden Road Improvements and said that he's worked with Jamie and the Property Appraiser and our number was a little bit low and said that that number is about $325,000 so you'll see an increase there. He said we may have enough impact fees in that area and we may be able to pay that off before April when the STIFF payment is due. He said he's asked all Departments to review and see if there are any efficiencies or any items can push to the next budget year. He provided a summary of proposed millage rates for the surrounding area and said there's a list of what they're looking at for merit.

Mayor Nelson said he talked to Winter Park and they're going to do a 2% below $75,000 and a 1% above $75,000 pay raise for employees.

Commissioner Becker said the point is that we have another month to get this right.

Mayor Nelson said there are a couple of numbers we need to think about so if we look at a 1% pay raise across the board for every employee, it's $300,000 so it doesn't matter if it's merit or COLA. He said if we want to get to another number, keep in mind that we need to do something else with expenses or revenue. If we look at other Cities, there are some 2% and 3%'s but most are not firm on this issue.

Mr. Bass said that he's spoken with other jurisdictions and they're all up in the air on this item. He said as a reminder that we have a CRA Workshop prior to the Council meeting on August 19, 2020.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nelson said our hearts and prayers go out to Alice Nolan and said that with her resignation, we've had to scramble to put together a Special Election. He said we've spoken with Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections and said he gave us a date to have everything in place of August 28, 2020. He said that Susan has been under a lot of pressure with one part timer and said that we're going to bring back Linda Goff to help with the Special Election so that Susan can focus on the day to day activities of the office. He said the Special Election will be the same day as the General Election on November 3, 2020. He said that voters will go to their State and Federal precinct so whatever location that is, will be where you'll vote. He said all of the information for this election is in your packet and we will be putting something on the website. He said we have a proclamation for this and we will do a Resolution at the next meeting on August 19th, 2020. He then read the Mayors Proclamation.

He said the statistics for Covid are beginning to trend down. He said Commissioner Becker was at the Hilton Garden Inn grand opening and just talked to the folks at Taurus and they had a 60% occupancy rate on Sunday night.

Mayor Nelson said that Commissioner Smith is our voting delegation for the Florida League of Cities and we have a list of resolutions that we'd like to take up.

Mayor Nelson asked for a motion to approve the list of resolutions for Commissioner Smith to take on behalf of the City of Apopka.

MOTION by Commissioner Becker and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the list of resolutions to be brought by Commissioner Smith to the Florida League of Cities. Motion carried unanimously with Mayor Nelson, and Commissioners Becker and Smith voting aye.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

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Bryan Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST;

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Susan M. Bone, Deputy City Clerk

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