

Volusia Growth Management Commission Meeting

MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Thomas C. Kelly Administration Center
Frank T. Bruno Jr. County Council Chambers
123 W. Indiana Avenue
DeLand, FL

MEMBERS PRESENT

James Wachtel, Chairman
Gerald Brandon, Vice Chairman
Roger Sonnenfeld, Secretary
Rich Walton
Sid Vihlen, Jr.
Sandy Lou Gallagher
Robert Lott
Loretta Arthur
Robert Lovelace
Robert Storke
Don Romanik
Debbie Connors
Douglas deLeon
Glyn Slay
Sandra Walters
William Pouzar

REPRESENTING

Volusia County
Ormond Beach
Lake Helen
Daytona Beach
DeBary
Deltona
Edgewater
Holly Hill
New Smyrna Beach
Orange City
Ponce Inlet
Port Orange
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Richard Kane

South Daytona

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Sara Lee Morrissey (not present)
Steven Fitzgibbons (not present)

Volusia Co. School Board
SJRWMD

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Chipok, GrayRobinson, General Counsel
Merry Chris Smith, VGMC Operations Manager

CALL TO ORDER

VGMC Chairman James Wachtel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and it was determined there was a quorum present. Chairman Wachtel welcomed newly appointed member Sid Vihlen, Jr. representing the City of DeBary.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizens present who wished to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gerald Brandon made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 regular meeting of the commission as presented; seconded by Glyn Slay. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no items scheduled for public hearing.

REPORT FROM PLANNING CONSULTANT

No report at this time.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

No report at this time.

REPORT FROM COMMISSION OPERATIONS MANAGER

Ms. Smith reported that the five 2014 applications which were pending at the time the agenda was distributed have been letter certified. Additionally, the commission recently received a new large scale amendment application from the City of Daytona Beach, and there are currently a total of three pending applications.

REPORTS OF COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

No report at this time.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

POP Committee Report: Gerald Brandon, Chairman of the POP Committee, reported the committee met immediately prior to the regular meeting. In addition to approving minutes, the committee evaluated the Operations Manager's performance over this past year which he stated was rated outstanding. Mr. Brandon also reported the POP Committee will be initiating a Request for Statement of Qualifications for legal services and they would be meeting again to further review that. Chairman Wachtel thanked Mr. Brandon and the POP Committee members.

Budget Report: Roger Sonnenfeld, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported the committee met immediately prior to the regular meeting.

2014-15 Year to Date Expenses: Mr. Sonnenfeld provided an update of 2014-15 year-to-date expenditures and stated the budget is in good shape. Mr. Lovelace pointed out that the commission is one-quarter into the fiscal year, yet the contract services expenditures to date are only at 3% of the budgeted amount. Mr. Sonnenfeld stated there is currently approximately \$5,092 in pending payments that are not reflected in the expense report. Ms. Smith stated the timing in terms of when the contract services expenses are reflected in the budget is somewhat delayed since billing is not received and processed until the conclusion of the period in which services are performed. Chairman Wachtel added that most of the applications received this fiscal year-to-date have been minor amendments which have not warranted a significant amount of planning or legal review time, like we may see with larger or more substantial amendments later in the year.

2015-16 Proposed Budget Discussion: Mr. Sonnenfeld stated the Budget Committee reviewed the proposed budget and are presenting it to the commission for discussion tonight. He stated most of the budget numbers are consistent with the current approved budget, with the following exceptions: 1) The proposed budget includes the \$25,000 litigation contingency fee; 2) The contract services budget is \$12,000 under the current approved budget; and 3) The proposed salaries budget is increased due to a recent County-wide 3.5% salary increase for County employees. Mr. Sonnenfeld stated if the County removes the \$25,000 litigation contingency as they've done in the past, our total proposed budget is approximately \$12,000 under the current approved budget.

The floor was then open for commission discussion. Chairman Wachtel asked about the timeline for reviewing, approving and submitting the proposed 2015-16 budget to the County. Ms. Smith stated the proposed budgets are generally due to the County by early to mid-April. There being no further questions or comments from the commission members, Mr. Sonnenfeld stated the Budget Committee will bring the proposed 2015-16 budget back before the full commission at the next regular meeting for approval. Chairman Wachtel thanked Mr. Sonnenfeld and the Budget Committee members.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Consider of VGMC Resolution #2015-01, Apportionment of Voting Weight

Chairman Wachtel stated that each voting member of the commission carries a percentage of the total weighted vote and some of the decisions are based upon the weighted vote. He stated the percentages are based upon population figures for each of the jurisdictions. Mr. Chipok added that the weighted vote percentages are updated annually and adopted by resolution of the VGMC.

Mr. Sonnenfeld asked how regularly the population figures are looked at. Mr. Chipok responded that the population figures are determined by BEBR (Bureau of Economic and Business Research) at the University of Florida and they are tabulated in April of the preceding year. He stated the current weighted vote figures are based upon the April, 2014 population figures which are the latest figures as of January, 2015.

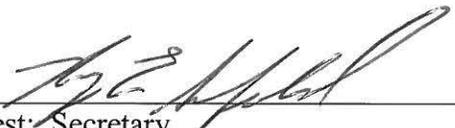
There were no further questions or comments of the commission. Debbie Connors made a motion to approve VGMC Resolution #2015-01 as presented; seconded by Glyn Slay. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER REQUESTS OR REMARKS

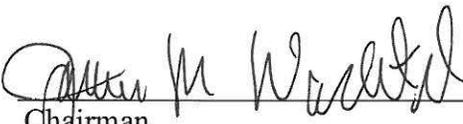
Chairman Wachtel commented that it may seem sometimes that the commission meetings are perfunctory, however, the purpose of the commission is to foster intergovernmental communication and cooperation and the fact that the local governments are communicating with each other is a testament that the philosophy behind the VGMC is working well. He stated he felt the purpose of the commission is strong and after nearly 30 years, it is achieving the jurisdictional cooperation it is intended to.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



Attest: Secretary



Chairman