



CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING

Meeting Streamed By YouTube - LIMITED CAPACITY
Friday, March 18, 2022

MINUTES

Pursuant to due notice the regularly scheduled Commission meeting was held in the Commission Chambers at 360 East Main Street, Pahokee, Palm Beach County, Florida on March 18, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Babb at 3:00 p.m.

A. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Keith Babb
Vice-Mayor Regina Bohlen
Commissioner Juan Gonzalez
Commissioner Clara Murvin
Commissioner Sara Perez

City Manager Greg Thompson
Acting City Attorney Gemma Torcivia
City Clerk Tijauna Warner

C. TOPIC

1. Prosecution of Keith Babb & Jongelene Adams for illegal distribution of city funds

Mayor Babb explained who called this special meeting.

Vice-Mayor Bohlen motioned to prosecute Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr. and Jongelene Adams for illegal distribution of city funds, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. A discussion ensued regarding the previous City Manager's payout.

Motion made by Vice-Mayor Bohlen to prosecute Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr. and Jongelene Adams for illegal distribution of city funds, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. Motion failed (2-3)

Voting Yea: Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Commissioner Perez

Voting Nay: Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Murvin, Mayor Babb

2. Termination of Greg Thompson

Vice-Mayor Bohlen motioned to terminate Greg Thompson as of March 23rd pursuant to paragraph 9A of his contract, Seconded by Commissioner Perez.

Commissioner Murvin requested Vice-Mayor Bohlen to please read that portion of Mr. Thompson's contract.

Vice-Mayor Bohlen read Paragraph 9A into the record. Without Cause. Employer may terminate this Agreement Without Cause, at any time, for any or no reason, by paying the Manager 20 weeks'

severance. Severance shall be paid by the Employer continuing Manager's normal pay, and frequency of pay, Severance Period. During the Severance Period, Employer for the shall continue medical coverage of Manager, however, Manager is not entitled to any other benefits. Manager will be paid for all time worked through and including the date of termination, and unused accrued vacation time.

Commissioner Murvin read Section 3.03 Removal into the record. To remove a Charter officer, the city commission shall adopt a preliminary resolution stating reasons for the intended removal and shall offer the Charter officer an opportunity for a public hearing before the commission on the matters raised by the resolution. This preliminary resolution may also suspend the Charter officer from duty immediately with pay. The Charter officer must accept the offer of a public hearing or file a written response within ten (10) days of the adoption of the preliminary resolution or the resolution becomes final at the expiration of this ten-day period and the Charter officer is terminated on that date. If the public hearing is requested it shall be held not earlier than twenty (20) days or later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of the preliminary resolution. After such public hearing, or after consideration of any written response, the commission shall adopt a final resolution of removal or let the preliminary resolution lapse.

Commissioner Murvin inquired where's the resolution. Ms. Torcivia advised she had not drafted a resolution and informed that she can go and draft a resolution and bring it back to the commission. A discussion ensued regarding drafting a resolution.

Motion amended by Vice-Mayor Bohlen for the Acting City Attorney to draw up the resolution and email it to the City Clerk to say without cause with a thirty (30) minute recess, Seconded by Commissioner Perez. Motion passed (3-2)
Voting Yea: Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Commissioner Perez, Commissioner Gonzalez
Voting Nay: Commissioner Murvin, Mayor Babb

Recess 3:59 pm

The meeting resumed 4:36 pm

Ms. Torcivia read Resolution 2022 - 05 into the record. Discussion ensued regarding Resolution 2022 - 05.

Mayor Babb opens the floor to allow citizens' comments.

Richard Brown (resident) expressed concerns with the commission not following the process and the cup that the City Manager had that was racist.

Otis Harvey, Jr. (non-resident) expressed concerns about why the commission is firing Mr. Thompson and ask for answers.

Carl Morrison (resident) expressed concerns about why the commission is terminating Mr. Thompson and advised we see through it and that your time is limited.

Sanquetta Cowan (resident) asked Commissioner Gonzalez, Vice-Mayor Bohlen, and Commissioner Perez their reasons for firing Mr. Thompson when you were saying he was doing a great job.

Jason Crawford (resident) questioned if Mr. Thompson have an application on file. He advised if Mr. Thompson wanted to waive the process, he should just quit. Since, the three (3) commissioners that brought him in, now want him out.

Christopher Troutman (resident) expressed concerns about the commission not following the process. Motion made by Commissioner Perez to approve Resolution 2022 - 05, Seconded by Vice-Mayor Bohlen. Discussion ensued regarding severance pay and the process. Motion passed (3-2).
Voting Yea: Commissioner Perez, Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Murvin

Voting Nay: Mayor Babb

D. DISCUSSION, COMMENTS, CONCERNS

Commissioner Gonzalez apologize for having everyone stick around so long, he advised we could've done this earlier.

Vice- Mayor Bohlen no comment.

Commissioner Perez no comment.

Commissioner Murvin no comment.

Mayor Babb no comment.

E. ADJOURN

Motion made by Commissioner Perez to adjourn the meeting, Second by Vice-Mayor Bohlen. Motion passed unanimously.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Perez, Vice-Mayor Bohlen, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Murvin, Mayor Babb

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Babb adjourns the meeting at 5:20 pm.

Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: Tijauna Warner, City Clerk