Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Regular Meeting, June 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District
101 West "D" Road, Loxahatchee Groves

Frank R. Spence, Town Manager
Michael Cirullo, Town Attorney; Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A.
Ann Harper, Town Clerk

OPENING 1 - 3

Mayor Browning called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. In addition to Mayor Browning, the following Council members were present: Councilmen Ron Jarriel, Ryan Liang, Jim Rockett, and Vice-Mayor Dennis Lipp. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Browning gave the Invocation. Present from Staff were Frank Spence, Town Manager; Michael Cirullo, Town Attorney; and Ann Harper, Town Clerk.

4) Additions and Deletions - none

5) Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Lipp, seconded by Councilman Jarriel, to approve the Agenda. The motion carried by voice vote, 5/0.

CONSENT AGENDA

6) Approval of March 2010 and April 2010 Financials
7) Approval of April 20, 2010 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Liang, seconded by Vice-Mayor Lipp, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by voice vote, 5/0.

PRESENTATIONS

8) Representative Joe Abruzzo, District 85, Florida House of Representatives – later in meeting

9) COMMITTEE REPORTS

Intergovernmental Committee *(Councilman Ron Jarriel)* Report

Councilman Jarriel said they are still working on 40th Street North, maintenance policy for non-district roads, acceptance of 22nd Road North, and dedication of 148th Terrace North. The Committee discussed the District/Town funding agreement for road maintenance for FY 2010-2011, and he needs the consensus of Council for funding. In order for the Water Control District not to raise the assessment for residents, the Town would have to come up with $130,000 in funding. He has spoken to members of the FAAC and they said funding was available through the road tax monies.

Representative Joe Abruzzo arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m. He reviewed legislation which was passed at the recent Florida House of Representatives session and signed by Governor Crist. The legislation included a horse protection act, restrictions on the operation of pain clinics, and a twenty-percent discount on energy-saving appliances.

Councilman Rockett asked the status of legislation which would help municipalities dealing with abandoned properties. John Ryan said the bill did not pass this session.

Councilman Jarriel thanked Representative Abruzzo for keeping the Town informed.

Finance Advisory & Audit Committee *(Chairman Lung Chiu)*

Chairman Liang reviewed the items discussed and actions taken at the Committee meeting on May 20th. Elise Ryan was elected as Vice-Chair, and the Committee made a recommendation to shorten the RFP for Code Enforcement so smaller firms can apply. The Committee also discussed setting up a separate Sanitation Fund.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

RESOLUTIONS - None

ORDINANCES - None

OLD BUSINESS

10) Award of contract for Vegetation Bulk Pickup

Mr. Spence said the agenda item is to award the contract for bid #2010 – 007 for Vegetative Haulers to collect and dispose of vegetation during a special pick-up the week of June 28, 2010. The Town annually provides a free sweep of the Town picking up all vegetation placed in front of the property. This is done before the hurricane season begins. An ad was published in the Town Crier and advertised on the Town's website. The Town has budgeted $15,000 for this service. Price per load was requested, as well as the size of the truck (or trucks) to be used. Loads are verified by load tickets and are monitored.

Four sealed bids were received on May 24, 2010 at 2 pm, at which time they were publicly opened in the Town Clerk's Office. The bids received were:

A)	C & C Loader Svs.	$350/Load 52 cu/yd truck
B)	RKC	$350/Load 45 cu/yd truck
C)	SWS	$400/Load 45-50 cu/yd truck
D)	WBI	$833/Load 62 cu/yd – Tractor trailer dump truck

Mr. Spence recommended award of contract to C & C Loader Service, Inc., as the lowest bidder meeting specifications. The company also provided an Insurance Certificate.

Councilman Rockett asked what was spent last year, and Mr. Spence said the budgeted amount was $15,000, so that was the cap. Last year the amount paid was $14,775, so they didn't use it all.

Vice-Mayor Lipp said that next year he would like the RFP to ask for the cost per cubic yard. Councilman Jarriel said he would like the RFP to ask for both a load cost and a cubic yard cost.

Mayor Browning said last year was the initial year, and this year it is probable that more people will participate. Mr. Spence said that a postcard announcing the tire amnesty day and the bulk pickup was sent to each resident, so everyone was informed this year.

Councilman Rockett said he did not receive the postcard or the land development survey, and Mr. Spence said he would research how the mailing list was obtained.

Motion was made by Councilman Rockett, seconded by Councilman Liang, to approve award of the contract to C & C Loader Services. The motion carried by voice vote, 5/0.

11) Report on Laptop Computers

Mr. Spence said the Town Council directed staff to research options for the purchase of five laptop computers. The quote from the company which supplied the LGWCD with their five laptops is included in the backup. However, when prices were checked online with a large nationwide distributor, there was a $700 savings. He requested that Councilman Liang work with staff to come up with an exact intern list. Staff will order the equipment and hire local IT tech Wes McDermott on an hourly basis to load the software.

Councilman Rockett asked for information on the "tablet" Vice-Mayor Lipp uses. He is concerned about the battery length and whether or not it provides the features we need.

Councilman Liang suggested waiting a couple months before ordering because as new models come out, the prices will be lower.

Vice-Mayor Lipp said his notebook has been working well, and he explained how you can make notes. He recommended having Acrobat 9.

After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman Rockett, seconded by Councilman Jarriel, to move forward with the proposal for the "tablet" for $969.37 each, plus the cost of a 9 cell battery (if available) and Adobe 9. The motion carried by voice vote, 4/1 with Mayor Browning voting no.

12) Dedication of 148th Terrace N. *(Referred to Town Attorney)* – no report
13) Acceptance of 22nd Road N. *(Pending)* – no report
14) Addendum items if necessary - none
15) Administrative Update – June Calendar

CLOSING COMMENTS

16) Public Comments

Frank Schiola reminded everyone of tire amnesty day on Saturday, June 5th at the Water Control District.

Maureen Lefkowitz asked about for the status of the noise ordinance. Mayor Browning said we are going to get estimates for decibel readings.

Marge Herzog asked the status of the land that the County wants to turn over to the Town. Mr. Spence said the Palms West Presbyterian Church is requesting a title search to see why it is on the conservation list.

17) Town Attorney Comments

Attorney Cirullo said he will be on vacation June 16 – 27, and other attorneys in the firm are available to assist the Town. He requested to schedule up to two Executive Sessions, and one will be at 5 pm on June 15th and another one before that date.

18) Town Council Member Comments

Councilman Rockett said he would like for the residents of the Groves to not pay any more taxes than they do right now.

Councilman Jarriel thanked everyone who participated in the Memorial Day Services held in the local communities.

Vice-Mayor Lipp said ~~he~~ and telephone poles on Okeechobee. (Note: Added 7-6-10) would like an item on the next agenda about advertising signs on trees between Folsom and F Road. There are more signs in that area than on the rest of Okeechobee out to 161st Street. He would like an agenda item with the purpose of instructing Staff to write an ordinance. He said that someone should take pictures of the signs, call everyone and tell them they have a week to get the sign down. If we take the sign down, we will send them a bill. The signs in the ULDC do not deal with signs like this.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion and no additional public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

David Browning

DAVID BROWNING, Mayor

July 6, 2010

Date Council Approved

Attest:

Ann Harper

Ann Harper, Town Clerk

NOTICE

THIS MEETING WILL BE PRECEEDED BY A WORKSHOP ON THE TOWN'S LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS (LDR'S) BEGINNING AT 6 PM. THE WORKSHOP WILL BE CONTINUED IMMEDIATELY AFTER CONCLUSION OF THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING.