

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 SPECIAL SESSION
GREEN COVE SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL**

Call to Order

A duly called Special Session of the Green Cove Springs City Council was called to order Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 321 Walnut Street, Green Cove Springs, Florida.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The invocation was given by Felecia Hampshire followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steven R. Kelley
Pamela J. Lewis
B. Van Royal
Constance W. Butler, Vice Mayor
Roy M. Timberlake, Jr., Mayor

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

L. J. Arnold, III, City Attorney
Derek Asdot, Asst. Chief of Police
Julia W. Clevinger, City Clerk
Janis Fleet, Development Services Director
Danielle J. Judd, City Manager
Mike Null, Asst. City Mgr. / Public Works Dir.

STAFF MEMBERS ABSENT:

Marlena Guthrie, Finance Director
Mary Jane Lundy, Interim Personnel Director

**Mayor to call on members of the audience wishing to address
the Council on matters not on the Agenda.**

There were none.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. City Council update on Hurricane Irma. *Danielle J. Judd, Mike Null, Derek Asdot*

The City Manager gave an update on the impacts to the City from Hurricane Irma including:

- Public Service Announcements made via Facebook and Twitter;
- Tree canopy damages;
- Electric line damages;
- The washout and repair of the access road to the Chapman Substation;
- Outages and restoration of electric power;
- Schedule of arrival of out-of-state electric crews from Alabama;

- Flooding in many areas of the City;
- Extension of garbage pick-up services but no recycling pick-up;
- Debris removal schedule to begin September 18th;
- Damages to structures in the City;
- Continued field assessments;
- Curfew issued by the Sheriff's Office;
- Phone banks at City EOC;
- Accommodations for City Staff; and
- FLC insurance assessments have begun.

Mr. Null provided additional details regarding:

- Public Works will take care of downed trees that are not involved with downed electric lines;
- Repairs of the damages to the circuits and access road at the Chapman Substation;
- Continued tree falling;
- Water and Wastewater plants continue to run on generators;
- Lift stations are back on regular power; and
- The sewage spills have all been reported to the State as required and clean-up issues are being addressed.

Acting Chief Asdot provided additional details regarding:

- Requested citizens to stay off the roads due to debris and downed power lines; and
- Checking on and helping your neighbors.

Mayor Timberlake recognized Felecia Hampshire, 508 Franklin Street, Green Cove Springs, who expressed her gratitude to the first responders, Public Works Department, and City Staff who have responded to Hurricane Irma.

Mayor Timberlake recognized John Whiteman, 723 N. Magnolia Avenue, Green Cove Springs, who expressed his concerns regarding the availability of gas in the City. Chief Asdot advised that Shell station had gas but recommended Mr. Whiteman follow the "Gasbuddy" website for up-to-date information.

The City Council made comments regarding the following:

- Broken water lines on docks that have been damaged;
- Tagging or identifying downed power lines;
- GIS for utility poles and ability to show that a pole has been energized;
- FEMA reimbursement not yet received for Hurricane Matthew;
- City does not have the equipment to pick up large debris – this will be left to the debris contractors; and
- The possibility of volunteers to assist with debris pick-up.

Mayor Timberlake recognized Joe Sobotta, 212 North Street, Green Cove Springs, who expressed his concerns regarding downed phone and cable lines which could possibly be energized and a safety issue.

Ms. Judd recognized Bob Page who also assisted with communications with FMPA, Kim Thomas and Julie Clevinger who worked at the County EOC. Mr. Null added that just about every employee had a role. The September 19th Agenda would be limited to Public Hearings already advertised as required by the Mayor.

Under further discussion, the City Council commended the City Staff for their professionalism, coordination, communication, and assistance during a major disaster. Mayor Timberlake reminded everyone that the City employees had left their families to work and assist their fellow citizens and he commended them for the preparations made before the storm arrived. He also loved seeing neighbors helping neighbors.

Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

Roy M. Timberlake, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Julia W. Clevinger, City Clerk