



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Claudia V. Cubillos: October 24th; it is 7:02 PM. I'd like to call our Regular Council Meeting to order. At this moment, if I can please have a moment of silence meditation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilpersons: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Cubillos: Madam Clerk, may I please have roll call?

Madam Clerk: Roll call, Mayor Cubillos?

Mayor Cubillos: Here.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Dreher?

Councilperson Dreher: Present.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Roman?

Councilperson Roman: Present.

Madam Clerk: Vice Mayor Nickerson is not here. Councilperson Mathis is not here yet. Also, for the record, present is, Yenise Jacobi, Village Clerk; Interim Chief Hufnagel; Christia Alou, Interim Village Manager; Councilperson Mathis.

Mayor Cubillos: I get a motion of approval of the agenda as is.

Councilperson Mathis: Motion.

Councilperson Roman: Motion.

Mayor Cubillos: A motion has been made by Councilperson Mathis, second by Councilperson Roman. All in favor signal by saying aye.

Councilpersons: Aye.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: Any nays? Hearing none, the agenda passes. At this time, I would like to go ahead and acknowledge any special visitors and/or presentations at this meeting. We have none today, so we are going to go ahead and move on to Good and Welfare. At this time, if anybody would like to come up at the first Good and Welfare to address us with any point.

Councilperson Harold E. Mathis: Harold Mathis, 420 NE 90th Street. I apologize for being late, but I was late for a very good reason. I think that as a council, we really need to take a look at 90th Street. I was stopped by residents because their son was almost hit by a car. It's a thoroughfare. Everybody knows it. Everybody uses 90th Street to go to public. We really need to do something. Somebody is going to get hurt really, really bad. The kid was this close from getting swiped by a car that was doing more than the speed limit.

I think we really, really need to take a look at this. I've already spoke to my block captain; he has already initiated a petition to get either humps or a partial street closure. I think it's something that we really, really need to look into. Thank you.

Mayor Cubillos: Thank you. Anybody else on Good and Welfare? All right. Hearing none, I want to go the first agenda item. This agenda item, I put it up for discussion at the Public Affairs Committee meeting. We spoke in great length with the committee about the idea of what this means. Basically, to explain agenda item one is, one of the things that comes up often with our residents is better communication, better communication, better communication.

A thought that I brought to the committee was, I took a look at how we run business and how we run meetings, and I thought of the timeframe that I've been on council, and I looked at the committee meetings. The committee meetings have been every other month. They have been every month. They used to be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, then they were Monday and Tuesday, and it just seems to be a little loosey-goosey.

One of the things that I thought after I got elected mayor was; when I realized that I had to have a State of the Village Address, I remember when I was a counterperson and I would attend the State of Village that the former mayors had, there is little to no attendance. I kind of attributed because it was never planned. It was either in May, or it was April, it was a Saturday; it was what have you.

When I thought about it, I was like -- the idea that I had, I was like, "Hey, let me do it the fourth Tuesday in August, because it's the one month we don't meet," and residents are used to coming here on the 4th Tuesday because they know that's sort of the time we meet.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

I've had three State of the Village, and I found them to be quite successful; great turnout each one in '15, '16, and '17. I think maybe it has to do something with; people like to plan and people like to have a plan. Everybody has to work. Everybody has kids.

Seeing the success of that, I started thinking of the committee meetings, and especially because I believe that we are doing a better job using the committee meetings as a form for better discussion and voting. I believe the committee meetings right now, the way they are is; they are Mondays and they are Tuesdays, and then we used to have three. What I proposed to the council is, "Hey, what if we made El Portal Tuesday was sort of government night?"

What that really means is, the residents will know that on any given Tuesday for the most part, we are going to be here talking, and discussing, and strategizing, and doing good things for the community.

Initially, when I came to the committee, I proposed having -- there's four Tuesday for the most part in a month, so I proposed two, two and two, and then the fourth Tuesday will be the council meeting. Councilperson Roman via e-mail to the clerk had recommended something else so we listened to that. But actually, it was the manager and the clerk that said, "Well, we like the idea, but we think every Tuesday is a little much. What if we did three meetings on the first Tuesday, three committee meetings, three committee meetings on the second Tuesday and then council meeting on the fourth Tuesday?"

After much and back and forth, the Public Affairs Committee liked that option best. We said, "We can have three committee meetings on the first Tuesday," and we would align them to make sense, so for example, Code Enforcement, Public Safety, and Public Works, to probably altogether. Then the other ones that would be grouped together would be P&Z, Public Affairs, and Admin, and Finance; so then we'd have one week for the clerk in the event that we need to do notices, resolutions, the clerk has that week to be able to get that done.

To add a little more to that, another thing that we seem to miss the boat on is, our Budget Workshop; and there's no surprise when the TRIM notice comes out. The TRIM notice is always going to come out in June. That's no surprise. The manager and the mayor generally gets it by June, in the middle of June; and the last TRIM notice, which is the anticipated ad valorem for the following year, it comes out on July 1st, so there's no surprise.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

As a result, it would make most sense is if along with these, we agree as a council. If the council votes on this, I'll ask the attorney for resolutions, sort of a policy. Then, in July, the second Tuesday would be our Budget Workshop. That way, we already know where we are going to be throughout the year. It should not be a surprise. We should not be chasing our tails at this point.

We should know that in the second Tuesday of July, not only are we going to identify or start reviewing our budget because we're going to have our ad valorem estimated for the New Year, then we are going to realize where that missing gap is and we can identify our legislative priorities so that we can have a game plan. It's all on a calendar. The residents will know, the council will know; so there's no more, "We missed the boat," and, "We are going to do the rollback," or, "We are not going to do the rollback."

This is something I proposed to the committee. The committee voted to bring it to full council for discussion so that if we agree on something, if this is an idea that you all like, then we move it via a resolution with the attorney and we can do reading in November.

Madam Clerk: Also present, for the record, Vice Mayor Nickerson; Joe Geller, Village Attorney.

Mayor Cubillos: I know Vice Mayor Nickerson and Councilperson Mathis was at that meeting, so I don't know if Councilwoman Roman or Councilperson Dreher has any comment, or questions, or recommendations, or they wanted to say, "Yes, let's go for it."

Councilperson Dreher: Of course.

Councilperson Roman: I'm for it. That's fine. It makes sense.

Councilperson: Are we then agreeing then the first Tuesday we'll have those three committees? We said Public Works, Planning and Zoning, and Public Safety?

Mayor Cubillos: It should be Public Safety. Code Enforcement should be together. Then, either Public Works or P&Z, whichever, and then the following three would be Public Affairs – yes, sir. Sorry.

Councilperson: If you have a choice in setting what when, Planning and Zoning sometimes requires advertising before a council meeting, so it makes sense to have that earlier--

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: Okay, excellent. First Tuesday; it makes sense. Okay. That's how it is now.

Madam Clerk: It's Public Affairs, Public Works, and Planning and Zoning.

Mayor Cubillos: Well, the first Tuesday would be Planning and Zoning, Code Enforcement, and Public Safety. The second Tuesday would be Admin and Finance, Public Affairs, and Public Works.

Madam Clerk: You are changing it around?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes. The reason I'm putting Admin and Finance at the second Tuesday is because if we are going to do our second Budget Workshop in July the second Tuesday, it would be in lieu of the Admin and Finance, so it would make more sense.

Councilperson: A motion then?

Mayor Cubillos: Is there is a motion to accept it?

Councilperson Mathis: I move.

Councilperson Dreher: I second.

Mayor Cubillos: A motion has been made by Councilperson Mathis. The second is by Councilperson Dreher. Madam Clerk, can I get roll call?

Madam Clerk: Roll call, Councilperson Dreher?

Councilperson Dreher: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Roman?

Councilperson Roman: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilperson Mathis: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Mayor Cubillos?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Motion passes 5-0.

Mayor Cubillos: Attorney Geller, we'll send this to you so we can do a resolution and we'll vote on it and--

Attorney Geller: Let me say mayor that; although, yes, you have resolution for everything you do, the exception to that really is just your internal rules of procedure. For instance, if you as I understand you may have already done or are going to do -- you're going to change the date of the November meeting up here.

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Attorney Geller: Is that actually done yet or you are going to do that tonight?

Mayor Cubillos: To my recollection, and I know the clerk can correct me, I think we do it every year at the beginning, so usually at the October meeting. We agree for the calendar because we started a new fiscal year, so we voted on October 16th for these dates.

Attorney Geller: My point is that something like that doesn't [inaudible 00:10:17]. It's not really action that you are taking on an item; it's just an internal housekeeping thing in the council. You had a motion, the motion passed. The minutes reflect that. That's a rare exception that--

[crosstalk]

Mayor Cubillos: Okay, excellent. Perfect, even better. Okay. Thank you.

Councilperson: When will be the effective dates?

Mayor Cubillos: January.

Councilperson: January 2018. The first Tuesday, so when we look at our calendar year, the first because New Year falls on--

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: The first Tuesday is January 2nd.

Councilperson: It will be the 9th.

Councilperson: We're starting 9th?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes. I mean unless you all want to be here January the 2nd.

Councilperson: Well, actually, the 16th is a holiday as well.

Mayor Cubillos: The 16th? What is it?

Councilperson: Martin Luther King.

Mayor Cubillos: No, that's one is on 15th.

Councilperson: No, it's a 16th.

Mayor Cubillos: No it's 15th.

Councilperson: Sorry. I'm looking at 17th, sorry.

Madam Clerk: Tuesday.

Mayor Cubillos: All right. Perfect.

Councilperson: We'll start on 9th then with Planning and Zoning, and Public Works?

Mayor Cubillos: The 9th, yes. No, it will be Public Safety, Code Enforcement, and P&Z. Then it's going to be Public Works, Public Affairs, and A&F; Admin and Finance for 2nd. Then that month is a long month.

Any other questions? Great. Hearing none, we are going to go to the first resolution. Resolution 2017, 29, stormwater revision--

Councilperson: We didn't vote on the fourth.

Councilperson: -the second vote.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: No, it was only one. It was all one.

Councilperson: We only did a motion on -- the motion encompassed everything?

Mayor Cubillos: It encompassed everything. Yes, there was bullet points; there's only one agenda item where the first or second Tuesday, the State of the Village is ready on the forth Tuesday, and the Annual Budget Workshop will be on the second Tuesday. Attorney Geller?

Attorney Geller: Resolution 2017-29, the resolution of the Village Council of the Village of El Portal, Florida authorizing the Interim Village Manager to enter into an agreement with Pennoni Associates Inc., to perform Stormwater Master Plan preparation services for the improvement of village's stormwater system, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for effective date.

Mayor Cubillos: One of the last components as we move forward with this -- we are talking to sewer on Phase I -- is there a motion to approve resolution 2017-29?

Councilperson Mathis: I move.

Mayor Cubillos: It's been moved by Councilperson Mathis. Is there a second?

Councilperson Dreher: I second.

Mayor Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Dreher. At this time, council, I'm going to go ahead and close the meeting, then open up for public comments before we moved for a vote.

At this time, I'm going to close the council meeting. If anybody would like to come up and ask us any questions with regards to resolution 2017-29, stormwater revision plan contract.

Hearing none, I'm going to close public comments, open it up back to the council. Before I ask for a vote, are there any questions or comments about this? Yes, Attorney Geller.

Attorney Geller: Later, we'll discuss some minor resolutions -- their visions through the resolution. That's why I've spoken with Pennoni, we read on them, we're going to [inaudible 00:14:12] and write that up and then get the final contract.

[crosstalk]

Mayor Cubillos: Okay, perfect. Hearing none, Madam Clerk, can I get roll call please?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Madam Clerk: Roll call. Councilperson Dreher?

Councilperson Dreher: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Roman?

Councilperson Roman: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilperson Mathis: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Mayor Cubillos?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Motion passes.

Mayor Cubillos: All right, great. Thank you. Aye to resolution 2017-30 lobbying firms renewal agreement; Attorney Geller, can you please read it to the record?

Attorney Geller: Resolution of the Village Council of the Village of El Portal, Florida authorizing the Interim Village Manager to enter into an agreement Southern Strategy and Akerman to attain permits for state lobbying services, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Mayor Cubillos: All right thank you. At the Admin and Finance committee, the committee wanted to move forward with our lobbying firms. The former manager had continued on a month-to-month basis but we need to solidify for this legislative session. According to the resolution, it takes us through the end of April, 2018, because it's an early session. May I have a motion to approve resolution 2017-30?

Councilperson Roman: I motion.

Mayor Cubillos: Motion made by Councilperson Roman. May have a second?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Councilperson Dreher: I second.

Mayor Cubillos: Second by Councilperson Dreher. I'm going to close the council meeting, open up for any public comments. At this time, I want to close the council meeting, open up for any public comments as it relates to renewing our lobbying agreement that we have with Akerman and Southern Strategy.

Hearing none, I'm going to close public comments, open it up back to the council. Any discussion before I request the--? Hearing none, Madam Clerk.

Madam Clerk: Roll call, Councilperson Dreyer.

Councilperson Dreyer: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Roman.

Councilperson Roman: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilperson Mathis: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Mayor Cubillos?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Motion passes, 5-0.

Mayor Cubillos: All right, thank you. Next, we have resolution 2017-31; ECOSTRATA SERVICES -- hopefully I pronounced that correctly -- services contract. Attorney Geller, can you please read it for the record?

Attorney Geller: Resolution 2017-31, a resolution of the Village Council, the Village of El Portal, Florida to approve the agreement with ECOSTRATA SERVICES INC., to provide

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

professional management services, providing for incorporation of recitals, providing for an effective date.

Mayor Cubillos: All right. Great. Thank you. Again, this is also an item that went through committee with regards to our current grant writer who is here today. We need to always solidify our agreements with our vendors through a resolution when it's more than \$5,000. Is there a motion to approve resolution 2017-31?

Councilperson Dreyer: I motion.

Councilperson Mathis: I second.

Mayor Cubillos: Motion by Councilperson Dreyer. Is there a second? Second by Councilperson Mathis. I want to close the council meeting and open up for any public comments.

Hearing none, I'm going to close the public comments, open it up back to the council. Any questions with this contract before I request a vote from the clerk? Yes?

Councilperson: I know what the contract encompasses, but I didn't know if we wanted to let the residents know that the contract encompass.

Mayor Cubillos: ECOSTRATA SERVICES, he is our grant writer. He is the one that writes the grants for the police department, for our trees, and for any other avenue in terms of grants that we have applied for. This firm is also the one that applied for the grant for the nature trail which we received funding for. We are going into an agreement with him to continue the services of grant writing for the village.

Councilperson: Thank you.

Mayor Cubillos: Any other comments, questions? Hearing none, Madam Clerk, can I have roll call?

Madam Clerk: Roll call, Councilperson Dreyer?

Councilperson Dreyer: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Roman?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Councilperson Roman: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilperson Mathis: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Mayor Cubillos?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Madam Clerk: Motion passes, 5-0.

Mayor Cubillos: I want to go back real quick on the agenda, my apologies. I need a motion to approve the minutes for September 26. They were emailed. They are large. It's a big packet, so they were emailed.

Madam Clerk: Yes, they were attached. By the next council meetings, we're going green; I'm getting those iPads already and stuff, so you're not going to get anything, everything is going to be absolutely email.

Councilperson: Okay.

Mayor Cubillos: There is a motion. I need a second. If you didn't have a chance to read them, we can move them.

Councilperson Mathis: I read it.

Councilperson Dreher: I second.

Mayor Cubillos: Do we have a second? Okay. It's been made by Councilperson Mathis and it's been second by Dreher. It's a very thick document that was emailed to us.

Councilperson: Was it emailed today?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: No. When was it emailed?

Madam Clerk: The same day you get the package.

Mayor Cubillos: Double check if it doesn't, I'm supposed to resend it to you. Okay. All in favor signal by saying aye.

Councilpersons: Aye.

Mayor Cubillos: Any nay? All right, I needed to get that done. Okay.

[pause] All right, where are we at now?

We are going to go into the committee report; attorney, manager and the mayor. The first up is me. Couple of points that I'm going to mention is; I really would ask the council that this year is -- if you all go to Tallahassee, if you don't go to Tallahassee, I think one of the things that we really need to listen to what's happening as it relates to the legislator is home rule. I received an email today with an update as far as what senators or representatives would like to do on state level.

This is really something because we have to remember that, what may work for one county, what may work for one city, is not going to work for all of us. We really need to be proactive. When you see things come through, whether -- I'll make sure that I'll be vocal on the council when we need to call, not just our own state senators and our state representatives, but, we have to ensure that we have the ability to do what we know is the best for El Portal.

Tallahassee does not know, necessarily all the time, what's best for the Village of El Portal. It's really, really important that we stay connected to that, because that's really, really, really important. I saw a couple of bills come through my email today, and that was a little concerning.

I'll be sure to, as I get them, make sure that the clerk sends them to you all so that you all are reading what's going on, because nothing worse than having a disaster, or having whatever can happen to our village, and we are completely have our hands tied because everything is pre-empted till the state has to move and decide on things.

It's really important that we are proactive. That's one of the things that I'm proactively as part of the Florida, that is the big thing; is let cities get to work and let them have home rule and

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

have that decision. I want to thank Chief Hufnagel, the clerk, the manager, Corporal [Sharp], also Captain [Carol] and I; we all went to best practices. There was three really good sessions. One of them is on How to Run an Efficient Meeting. The other one was Lessons learned from Irma. The other one was Cyber Security. I think that all of that resonated to us.

Actually, the manager is going to be having a meeting with cybersecurity because it's really scary how someone really can come in here, and literally less than five minutes, they can download a lot of information from the police officer's computers because there is not the best security in here. That was a very interesting session.

The next one was Lessons Learned from Irma. I think the best part about that session was the fact that, I believe that we could have run that off session because everything that they said as far as what to do, I felt we did. That was a proud moment for us because there's nothing better when you are sitting as part of the audience of a panel and you are nodding your head and you're like, "Yes, we did that. Yes, we did that." That was really good.

The last one was, How to run an Effective Meeting, which I think we are moving along that direction as far as ensuring that all our discussions go through committee, and respect toward the process, and then bring things to council when things are ready to vote on is the way to go; and use resolutions more because I think in the past was something that we probably could've done a little better, right Attorney Geller?

This conversation has come up. It is one of those things that it comes up. Until a resident doesn't bring it up, it doesn't resonate or remind you; but there was a post that went on next door and I should not have to call the resident on another matter. In Central Florida, I believe, they did a regional compact as it relates to their canals. It's something that for 2018 I'm going to take a look at, because if we try to attack or attempt to do anything with South Florida Water Management on a local level, it becomes a little harder. There is strength in numbers when you do a regional compact.

I spoke to Ian, and we are going to talk a little more on how maybe in 2018 we can take a more proactive approach with our C7 canal. I know that we have annual cleanings, but there is much more than we can do possibly from our position, and through potentially a regional compact which would encompass a couple of other cities, so I wanted to just put that out there. It's a very preliminary conversation but I thought it was worth mentioning.

The Nature Trail expansion; Robby and Ronald left but we touched briefly on it. As we are in the final stages, we actually are going to request a meeting with Steve from Pennoni because

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

before we even move forward with the Nature Trail Expansion, we want to be sure that there's no point in doing it if this Phase I is going to be happening out there. That's where we are at with the Nature Trail expansion, is that even though it's all approved through the school, you can't have this big project and have a ribbon cutting of the huge park, and then we are going to have Phase I. The manager will request in a meeting in the next couple of weeks about the Nature Trail expansion.

Education Compact initiative, horseman has a new principle. We had started this process with the school board member last year. It's another great initiative to be able to work better with the school. I spoke to Dr. Mendigo at Best Practices, so hoping that we can pick up where we left off to hopefully to solidify, finally once and for all, our education compact.

I think that concludes our report. There's a lot of little things that the manager is going to touch on. We are almost done with the debris. I'll let her touch on that a little bit. That pretty much concludes our report. If anything comes up, I'll go through it through another committee. Then, we have Village Manager Interim, Christia Alou, her report.

Christia Alou: Thank you, Mayor Cubillos. I have many pages but I'm going to make it quick; I'm going to truncate all of these. The month of October has been filled with two budget hearings, committee meetings, special council meetings, preparation for this meeting, deadlines, and pushed back deadlines because of hurricane Irma, so we've been hustling trying to get everything completed and to be responsive to those deadlines that we missed because of the hurricane.

But, speaking of the hurricane, I'll just give you a quick update on that. We are really ahead of the curve, which is fantastic. We did go to the Best Practices conference on October 13th, and that's where we found out we are really doing well. We are ahead of a lot of other municipalities. They are actually asking us about Best Practices like what we did, and who we're using, and how we managed this whole process. That was very reassuring especially now that the bills are coming in.

[laughter]

But at this stage, as you see, greater churches, the debris amount has diminished significantly; we are down to just enough to put in the dustpan, so we are happy about that. We are also at the point where we are doing removal special cases for tree removal, stump removal; those kinds of things.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Our next step will be just replacement and repair of traffic signs, sidewalks, the stormwater drain cleaning, and maintenance, and those kinds of things. That's where we are at for next steps. Those are all [unintelligible 00:28:19] for the FEMA recoverable funds.

Let's now move on to see what's happening with our police. Right now, we are addressing all of those security issue falls that came from an audit last month, but we are doing them very quickly. Acting Chief Hufnagel has been on it. She really has come through with getting laptops and ensuring that they are encrypted, and taken care of a lot of those security measures that we had to redress in order to be compliant. I think we are on schedule. We have a due date coming up, so I think we are almost there. We'll be prepared for that.

Of course, we are excited about the upgrade of our server to a cloud server, so that's going to be fantastic as well. We are awaiting quotes for the footbridge and to ensure those cameras for monitoring will be placed. That was a request from Councilmember Roman and Vice Mayor Nickerson to ensure that those are monitored. We'll be working on that as well.

Our new police vehicles are being striped and we are getting them Wednesday, that's tomorrow.

[laughter]

[crosstalk]

Councilman: That's our new one out there--

Christia Alou: Yes, there's one out there right now that's not striped, but, yes, we have these long-awaited police vehicles. We'll have a little parade maybe tomorrow.

[laughter]

Moving on to just some code of enforcement things and just some yard clean ups, we have security quotes and with our existing landscaping companies as well as a resident who wanted to submit a bid as well to clean up yards that were abandoned, that we haven't seen any activity in terms of clean up or just maintenance. We are getting those. I hope to have all of that information to the council tomorrow because I think we're almost ready to make the decision on that.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

Let's see, continue to work on the budget with our CFO, and the mayor, and the whole council, since we had our final budget submitted last week. We're moving forward. Happy to have a good, in the black budget passed, so we're happy for that. Administratively, we are continuing with our operations here in the village, but also addressing some position changes and updates, and so new job descriptions are in the works now with the assistance from Councilmember Roman as well as the Administrative and Finance Chair, Councilmember Mathis.

We've hosted a number of events. We are happy about our Food Truck Night that was last weekend with the assistance of the Women's Club. That was a very nice turnout and a good evening, despite that rain at the end, but it was a good time. We are looking forward to our annual Halloween Block Party on Tuesday, October 31st. Well, for now, that concludes my report to you.

Councilman: Thank you.

Mayor Cubillos: Thank you. Any questions? All right. Hearing none, we are going to go to the committees. First one up is Chairperson Nickerson for Public Affairs.

Chairperson Nickerson: Hello, how's everybody doing? It's good to see everybody out here tonight that came out. The first thing I wanted to bring up. Well, how are you doing, Mister Attorney? Miss Manager? How are you doing Councilperson Roman? Madam Mayor?

Attorney Geller: It's a lovely evening out here councilor; lovely.

Mayor Cubillos: Very good.

Chairperson Nickerson: How are you doing Councilperson Mathis? Councilperson Dreher? The first thing I want to bring up was, the manager touched on it briefly, and that was this Tuesday we do have a Halloween Block Party; another great evening created by our mayor that continues to bring more excitement to the community. It starts at 6:30 and it runs until 8:30 PM.

It will be on 87th Street, between the avenues of 3rd Avenue and 4th Avenue, Northeast; 3rd Avenue through Northeast 4th Avenue. Okay, so that's this Tuesday, October 31st. Our Halloween Block Party is a huge event. We have many people come out. Fun event; DJ, everything that you would want, so make sure you come out here. There's not another like it in the county, in my opinion. Great job on that; for our mayor, as always, everything that she touches turns to gold.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: Oh.

Chairperson Nickerson: Well, what's wrong with that?

[crosstalk]

Chairperson Nickerson: We also have coming up, our 80th anniversary. The thing that I want to say about that; there's one thing that's pressing on that, the 80th anniversary that I would like to bring up to the entire council. We were here recently a few weeks ago and it came up. The mayor was like, "Yes, that's something we really have to get on," which is location, like, "You guys, you really have to get on this location real fast."

Councilperson: I'm ready.

Chairperson Nickerson: Our date we have is December the 7th or 9th?

Councilperson: 9th.

Chairperson Nickerson: The 9th, which is a Saturday. The 7th is the actual day, but we are going to celebrate on the 9th, I believe it's a Saturday, which is right around the corner. For anybody who does events, Councilperson Roman, she's an expert at doing events and that type of thing. Our mayor also, Mayor Cubillos, she's also an expert at throwing events. You guys know December the 9th, and it's right around the corner and we do not have a location. We need to find a location and make sure that location's available for that date.

I don't know what you guys want to do. I don't know what you guys want to do as far as that, but that's something that we have to start emailing the manager our own ideas, or clerk, or have some type of special meeting one night. I don't know how you guys want to handle it, but that's something that we really have to get on if we want to make this come to actuality.

Councilperson Mathis, I know the 80th anniversary also was something that you are focused on. Is there anything else you want to add on to that?

Councilperson Mathis: No. I mean, you touched on everything that we are going to have a special 80th meeting to get moving on this. I sent an email to the clerk and she'll reach out to everybody tomorrow to see what dates are--

Chairperson: Are you chairing the event?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Councilperson Mathis: We all are.

Chairperson: We all are.

Chairperson: Oh, I wasn't sure.

Chairperson: Mathis: We all are. It's going to be a joint effort.

Chairperson Nickerson: We all are.

Chairperson: Okay.

Chairperson Nickerson: Moving right along besides that. I'm almost finished. I just would like to say to the clerk that the website is looking wonderful. The website has come a long way from before you were here. I love the pink in the website.

Clerk: That was requested by Councilman Mathis.

Chairperson Nickerson: It looks beautiful. It looks absolutely beautiful in celebration of breast cancer month, which is October. The last few things I would like to say. There's one thing I was thinking about. Another thing was the idea of a resident. But one thing I was thinking about, just I know we can't do it know, but going forward we might want to try to implement this a little bit more; when you go to the website, let's say if I'm a resident and I have to pay a fee for some type of alarm permit or some type of that.

There should be certain things that we should be able to pay on the website. Just through the website through a credit card, there could be like a processing fee of whatever amount of dollars that helps pay for that process. Whatever [unintelligible 00:37:01] we use to pay for that, whatever they charge us each month, we can have a processing fee that help us pay for that each month.

But that would be something that is going forward, would help us out, help out individuals a lot of time, just paying for normal permits and stuff through their credit card over the website.

Councilman: What committee would that fall on?

Councilman: Administration and finance.

Chairperson: Maybe we can move that to--?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

Chairperson Nickerson: Yes, we can move that to Administration and Finance.

Chairperson: [inaudible 00:37:29].

Chairperson Nickerson: Also, and this kind of goes along with that; this was a suggestion of a resident that emailed me.

Madame Clerk: That would incur cost. We've discussed this.

[crosstalk]

Mayor Cubillos: If I could just add one thing. One of the things that we didn't bring forward because I think there was a lot going on between all of the projects that we're working on. We had asked our website designer to give us a proposal to redo our whole website because it needs to be redone. We didn't bring it forward for this session. We might do it for the mid-year review, mid-year budget, but she's put together sort of a whole encompass where it's going to have an app and much more user-friendly.

But, again, it's something that we felt at this time, although was necessary and needed; we had so many projects in the works. But, it's something that we are probably going to introduce, probably at the mid-year, if not for the following year; time goes by very quickly, but absolutely. While it looks great and it's come a long way, we are still not there yet with regards to putting up [unintelligible 00:38:35], ordinance, proclamations, paying online, locating this and that; all that good stuff, and even an app or what have you.

Chairperson Nickerson: No. You guys, I'm not trying to force anything, but that's something I came up with.

Mayor Cubillos: Yes, for sure.

Chairperson Nickerson: Let me just say it quickly. The reason why I came up with that idea was that, I had a resident email me. This resident emailed me, which was funny because over the past few months, we are a small village, [unintelligible 00:39:02] we had like four other people contacted me about this.

What they were contacting me about was that they were trying to get to the office to do something but the office closed at 4:00PM. They were saying like they're not even off work yet and the office closed at 4:00PM. Well, 4:30PM. I was like, "Well, maybe if you guys can

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

do some of that stuff online, then you guys wouldn't have to worry about trying to take off early one day to make it to the office since it closes at 4:30.

I want to do the online thing. Their suggestion was, "Well, Omarr, maybe you can talk to them about maybe one night a week staying open a little bit later."

Madam Clerk: They do on Wednesdays.

Chairperson Nickerson: Is it? Wednesdays it's to what time?

Madam Clerk: It's to 6:00, so tomorrow it's till 6:00.

Chairperson Nickerson: Okay, on Wednesdays it's till 6:00 All right, and so that's what--

Councilperson: We should announce that in the newsletter.

Chairperson Nickerson: Yes.

Mayor Cubillos: It's been at the last two newsletters. But I think the manager might want to add with the whole year coming and times have going to change; people are going to start working to 5:00 again. That time change was something that the formal manager did; it was an experiment, but I think that she spoke to her staff already.

Chairperson Nickerson: Okay. You wouldn't ask maybe. [laughs] Well, thank you very much, you guys. I appreciate it. [unintelligible 00:40:28].

Mayor Cubillos: Thank you Chairperson Nickerson. Chairperson Dreher, Public Works.

Chairperson Dreher: Thank everybody. I'm just going to go ahead and thank our village manager, our village clerk, and our village attorney, and the rest of the council for making the next steps, making the project for the septic to sewer conversion Phase I, where we're at right now, and as well for improving the 2,000 upgrade of the master plan for wastewater.

In addition to that, we still have a couple of new task that we need to still not drop the ball and we need to keep moving forward. We requested, basically, a special committee meeting for Public Works. Christia did send out the email to the rest of the Public Works committee members, Omarr and Claudia. We are scheduling this for next Monday at seven o'clock. There's an administrative task obviously. This is for the next end of quarter.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

We want to make sure -- we've asked Pennoni to provide us with all the next steps we're queued for, just to make sure we do not drop any activities for both projects. I just wanted to hear it. I want to bring it up to our mayor and vice mayor. Are you guys available next Monday at seven o'clock Eastern Time?

Mayor Cubillos: I got the email late. I'll be sure to respond to the clerk tomorrow.

Chairperson Dreher: Sure. Okay. Thanks.

Mayor Cubillos: No problem.

Chairperson Dreher: All right. In addition to this, one of the resolutions that we pass was basically accepting the loan moneys for the design phase. I understand there is some administrative, more completion of forms to be completed. There's a target they would like to actually have this ready by Friday. This is basically just securing from what I understand. The engineering firm is here.

It's just to make sure we secure the grant money that we've been awarded for the septic to sewer conversion design phase, design for Phase I, and as well for the actual monies for upgrading our master plan from 2,000 to today's date. There's an application form. I know that it has been submitted to Christia; who needs to sign this is our village mayor. I want to bring that up to light. They would bring this application ready for this Friday.

I'm just bringing this in light to everybody so everybody is aware that there's this application. It's for the both project so we need the mayor signature on this. That would be really appreciated. I saw the email. It was copied. I think this was probably sent to our mayor.

Mayor Cubillos: Yes, I got it.

Chairperson Dreher: Thank you.

Mayor Cubillos: You are welcome.

Chairperson Dreher: Pretty much that includes the report that a lot of our time has been focusing on these projects to make sure we can move them forward and we can continue with being on board with all the next activities. Again, thanks a lot to our village manager; you've done excellent, and for keeping with all these activities, so thank you very much.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: Thank you, Councilperson Dreher. At this time, Chairperson Roman, Public Safety; as the manager mentioned, the cars are in. There are a couple of things that I felt it's important. I'm going to ask our acting chief Hufnagel to come up and brief us a little bit with regards to what you told the committee with FTLE compliance. Just if you bring us up to speed is to where we at with that.

Chief Hufnagel: [Inaudible 00:44:42].

Councilperson: Can you move to the clerk's microphone?

Chief Hufnagel: The laptops and desktops being purchased because they needed to be encrypted. Our IT individuals are also getting their backgrounds done. We are working on trying to get everyone's backgrounds here also done. We are having a little bit of issue with their ORI number, so that's being work on also.

The radios for the vehicles are being ordered also because the new vehicles did not come with radios. Basically, right now, the only thing that were pending on is getting everybody's background done; and then after that you have to take a small test on the computer. Basically, that's it.

Councilperson: The background or the NCIC, FCIC.

Chief Hufnagel: Because of the ability that we have of civilians walking into the police department and the NCIC, FCIC computers there, that's why you also have to have that background done. IT is also giving me a quo on relocating it to see if it's possible, we can relocate it. But, regardless, because we do have sensitive other computers, we still need to have everybody done with their backgrounds.

Mayor Cubillos: By everybody, you mean everybody who works here?

Chief Hufnagel: Everybody who works here and the council also.

Councilperson: When do you need that by?

Chief Hufnagel: Well, that's what we are working on. They are trying to verify our OIR number because it seems to be having a little bit of problem, but FDLE has been notified. Officer Baron is also helping me with this. It's the three of us; Corporal [Sharp], Officer [Baron] and myself; we are all working on getting this done as soon as possible.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

Mayor Cubillos: I'm sure, Vice Mayor Nickerson, I don't know if they do it the same way. But my school, everybody has to be fingerprinted. I do with FDLE and its live scan. I can send you mine if that works. I've to do it again, its fine, but I'll send you mine.

Chief Hufnagel: Okay, all right.

Chairperson: Madam Mayor, yes, the public schools, we have to. We can't be employed by day public schools and be around children without having a background.

Chairperson: I just renewed mine since I haven't for five years. I just renewed my FDLE. I'll email it to three of you so you're having it. That's efficient. It's not, I'll do it again. That's fine.

Chairperson: I'll do it again, no problem.

Chief Hufnagel: Also, we are getting a program for our inventory since. We've never actually had inventory done in the property room since we've been here. We are finally getting a program for that. It's not only going to work for the police department but also for the city hall. Everything that comes in and out of the police department and city hall is going to be inventory.

Mayor Cubillos: Excellent. Yes?

Chairperson: On the background check, is that annually or?

Chief Hufnagel: Well, since this is the first time that I'm coming across this because we were supposed to be years. We were supposed to have this all done. I'm going to find out especially when you people coming in to see if everybody has to have it done yearly. Every two years, the council changes or stays, then, yes, we're going to have to do it. I will confirm with them also on that.

Mayor Cubillos: Okay. Thank you. All right, that's it. Code Enforcement Chairperson Roman. Thank you.

Chairperson Roman: Good evening, everyone. For Code Enforcement, as the manager mentioned, we've received some quotes to cut someone to the lawns of those houses that are abandoned, or owned by the bank, or into for closure. Hopefully, we'll be moving forward and making a decision soon, and trying to start to clean up some of those homes to help our village look better.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

I'm looking to move the Code Enforcement workshop and the Recycling Workshop to Saturday, November 4th. I should be confirming this with our Recycling--

Councilwoman Vimari Roman: Representative by tomorrow but so far, she confirmed she was available every Saturday. We need to reconfirm that that date is still available for her and if that's so, we're looking to do it at 9:30 in the morning. That would be it for code enforcement, right now.

Mayor Claudia V. Cubillos: Okay. Planning and Zoning, I have a couple of things here. Planning and Zoning. In November, we will see, I believe, a resolution for the marijuana dispensaries, medical marijuana dispensaries. I know that I have Megan here. Councilperson Roman, I know, had sent an e-mail with regards to where we're at with the schedule of fees. I know that was sent to us but that's something, as I mentioned to you, items that are received by the Wednesday before so I can get an agenda and have enough time for all of us to review, as well as, be able to provide it to our residents. That will go in the November agenda.

The attorney did review the PlusUrbia [sic] contract. There's no problems with it. We'll be moving forward with that. The next thing is before Hurricane Irma hit, Tishla Bice [sic] was scheduled to fly in and talk at the P&Z meeting. We're probably not going to be able to get him in until probably January but what I'm going to do in the interim, is set up a conference call. At least, the manager has the opportunity to have a discussion with him. They can bring her up to speed. We're working on that.

The Manager and I did have a meeting with the owners of the church just to brief us on where they're at with the process and they're going to probably be coming into the Planning and Zoning Board I would say, probably, January. I know that that definitely is moving forward. That's exciting. If you see them, don't forget to thank them because they donated their parking lot so that we can have our staging site and it really made them part of the community and it really helped the process, because we had nowhere else. The manager turns around and she says, "What are we going to do if we have a hurricane next year? The building's probably going to be built out." I'm, "In January, we're going to start to negotiate a new place. We're going to start finding a place and put that in our book, as far as our emergency preparedness book."

Then, one thing I wanted to add was that, at the special Admin and Finance meeting, when we did Attorney Geller's reviews, one of the things that we said that we were going to move forward, and I want to actually say, we actually did it, is have weekly meetings with the attorney. We had a weekly meeting with the attorney last week, where him, the manager and I

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

met and we were able to discuss all of this and get a lot of things done. It really allowed us to move forward and get these resos [sic] done and get answers questioned when we dedicate a good hour of closed doors, having that conversation. It allows us to have more effective meetings.

I want to thank the attorney for making himself available and that's something that we're going to hopefully commit to do on a weekly basis or monthly basis, at least to start off with. The other thing I wanted to say was, I think that was it. That concludes my report for Planning and Zoning. Next, we have Admin and Finance Chairperson Councilperson Mathis.

Councilperson Harold E. Mathis Jr.: Administration and Finance. The next coming meeting is going to be a pretty hefty meeting. There's a couple of resolutions that need to be passed. I'd also like to look at the quarterly audit if we're capable of doing that. Also, there's conferences coming up for [unintelligible 00:03:36] municipal financing and I'd like to attend that. I'd like to discuss it at the committee meeting and that concludes my report.

Mayor Cubillos: Attorney Geller.

Attorney Joe Geller: I usually do have a couple of items, though. I try not to but-

[laughter]

Attorney Geller: -since we're moving so quickly. First, I just want to comment on something that you mentioned, Mayor, about the preemption that's taking place at the state level. It's really getting bad.

Mayor Cubillos: It's bad.

Attorney Geller: One heads up is, they are now, for those of you who may have a concern with this issue, there's a real push for a bill on preemption.

Mayor Cubillos: For tree trimming? Is it tree trimming?

Attorney Geller: I'm sorry?

Mayor Cubillos: I thought it was a tree trimming on--

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Attorney Geller: I'm sure that's out there, too but I'm going to talk about the local regulations of puppy mills and things like that. The pet store industry is making a real push to have the state preempt that, so that all of the local regulations that control despicable practices, would be wiped out. The state will be the only one, whatever the state law is, that's all you could do about it. That's just a heads up.

I actually spoke at the [unintelligible 00:04:54] Association Counties Meeting as moderator of the seminar on home rule. It was someone present from that group that the Republican Party [unintelligible 00:05:08] called, Alec and they're just, for what it's worth, not to get too far in the weeds on this, but they support what's called, Dillon's Rule and they're actively out there advocating for it. It's something that basically says, there is no home rule, that only those things that are absolutely, specifically delegated by the state, specifically to the counties and the cities, would be things that they can legislate on.

Now, home rule says, unless the state grabs it, you're free to do it. Dillon's Rule that they advocate, just the irony of it is, it's named after the former Chief Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court in the 1840s and that's the model that they are trying to push on our state because what could contemporary, 21st century Florida be more like, than 1840s Iowa?

The notion that cities and counties can't-- I'll just close that with a comment that I made in debate on this last year.

I pointed out to my esteemed colleagues that the same voters, the same constituents who have the wisdom to send all those people to Tallahassee, are the very same voters who elect the city and county officials and school board members. The same people. They don't get any smarter when they walk into that capital building once elected official, that capital building.

You walk into it, you're no smarter in the capital than you were before. It is on everything from taxation to local regulation of everything from auto repair to bottled water. It's a full on assault and it's going to get worse this year. The newest speaker designate, who won't take office for another five years, just announced a full on assault at the city's [unintelligible 00:07:32]. You hit it spot on, Mayor. It's a huge problem. I wanted to just comment that the manager and I held the first bargaining session with the PBA. We've received quite a list of things that they would like changed and we'll be discussing those but I'm going to use this opportunity to place on the record, that we may need to have an executive session.

Now, as you know, again, not to get too far in the weeds, everything we do is in the [unintelligible 00:08:17] but there are two exceptions to that. One is, if we are actually a

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

defendant in litigation and we want to discuss our litigation strategy. Obviously, doing that with the other attorney or party sitting in the room while you talk about, "Maybe we should offer them this but if they don't take it, go up to this,"-

[laughter]

Attorney Geller: -would not be a really good idea for cities. We are permitted to have executive sessions. Some people will use the term, shade session. I really don't much like that. A court reporter is present and they take down every word that's said but the tape is turned off. When the matter is resolved, that transcript from the court reporter becomes public. The public does get to see who said what, who took what position, but the other side doesn't get to see it until the matter is concluded.

The other one is for pending labor negotiations. At some point, the manager and I will have a presentation for you on that but in order to have that kind of executive session, the attorney has to ask for guidance from the Council. We don't vote at those sessions but what we'll probably do is, to try and set one up either a night of committee or more likely, we would just schedule one, maybe 30 minutes before a regular scheduled council meeting. Whether we'll be ready for, if November is actually the 14th, I'm not sure we're quite going to be ready for that. When did we set December? Do you know Madame [unintelligible 00:09:56]?

Mayor Cubillos: December meeting?

Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi: 19th.

Mayor Cubillos: The 19th.

Attorney Geller: The 19th. That's the third Tuesday?

Village Clerk Jacobi: Yes.

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Attorney Geller: Possibly, by then but at some point, to get some guidance from you. I want to just put that on the record. The good thing is that we're in negotiations and it was, at least, as I think, maybe the Chief will tell you, it was, at least, a very cordial session. There's something to be said for civility in government.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

[laughter]

Attorney Geller: The third thing I wanted to talk about, just for a moment, and I'm glad that PlusUrbia is represented here. I will be bringing back an ordinance on marijuana. I understand this was discussed at a committee but this is my opportunity to talk to all of you. My marching orders on it, at least from the committee, are to follow the staff recommendation.

Now, understand the staff recommendation is that the only locations where there can be, what they call, an MMTC dispensary is more than 1,000 feet from, not only schools but parks and couple of other categories. The state law only requires that it be more than 500 feet from schools. Our proposal is significantly more restrictive, which we certainly can do. In fact, the law does give local government to right to ban it outright. Whether that's constitutional, in my opinion, is highly debatable. I don't know that you can give permission to ban something that 71% of the voters have approved.

The result of the ordinance that we would pass is that, there are no locations in the village that qualify. It is possible that, as is pointed out in the staff report, that at some point in the future, uses would change and that might open a little window some place. That would basically mean that the schools shut down or that we close parks, and both are unlikely. Let's say that. Just understand that if that's what we go forward with, you will, in fact, be saying that there is no place in the village that can be a dispensary.

I try not to comment on policy as much as I can. If that's your intention, I don't understand why we're not just passing something that says you can't have one, which would, at least, be a lot more transparent and everyone could understand it or cut back and allow them. I'll draft it if that's what everyone in Council wants but I just want you to understand, what it is, is something that says you can but really you can't. If anybody wants to hear your comment on it now or individually to me or you have any other thoughts, but that's what I'm planning to bring back because that's what I've been told to bring back. Just all be clear on that. Let me ask, if I might, Mayor, if there's anyone who has anything to add on that and if there are not, I'll move on to my final point.

There was a matter that came up at a meeting over the summer. It was one I was not present and I've had the opportunity since to consult with PlusUrbia and see the staff report. I will remind you, it has to do with a driveway. The resident's name is Mihan [sic] and it was, apparently, quite lengthy and quite controversial. As I understand that issue, and I've spent some time and I've talked to Council for the other side, I don't want to, particularly, get into

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

the issue of whether or not the approvals that were given by the village were confusing to the resident because I don't think the village, I'll say for the record, I don't think the village did anything wrong.

Having said that, apparently, the issue is that in our new code, there is simply nothing that permits artificial turf. It's not forbidden. If it was prohibited, that would be easy to understand because it says, "You can't do this." We're saying, apparently, "There's nothing that allows it and therefore, you can't do it." That may, in fact, be our position. There are issues that go to things like pervious area and whether or not artificial turf is, in fact, pervious.

My understanding is that, the resident is prepared to construct using a checkerboard that will have patches of artificial turf. Some areas that will be pervious, pervious area won't be a problem. To try to get this, too, ahead, my intention would be to work with the applicant, with the resident, to seek a variance. It doesn't mean that we abandon the code position and frankly, it doesn't necessarily require us to take such an action in any time in the future, because every situation is different.

What I'm going to do will be, to work with the applicant, with the staff and with our planners and prepare a variance application. I don't mean to imply by that for a moment that the Council needs to improve that variance. As far as how to present it to you, so that the Council can consider it and just-- Right now, the resident is [sic] been frozen and it's gone on for too long. My plan is to have, work with her to have a variance presented, go to P&Z. P&Z can do what it will and will come to you. If you think it's not something we should grant under the circumstances of this case, then you vote it down and the resident knows they can't go forward.

If you think that allowing it in this case would be okay under all the circumstances, that would be your privilege. I do want to tell you that the notion that, if we do it once, we must do it all the time, in my opinion, is not true. That's why they are called, variances. You don't have to grant them and every case, in my opinion, is different. Unless someone has a problem with that approach, that's the solution, at least, to be able to bring it in front of you and let you vote up or down. Again, unless there's somebody who has a different thought or an objection, this is my opportunity to get some guidance from you and I'll proceed on that front. Unless there are other comments or questions, that can go to my report.

Mayor Cubillos: I have a question. The variance you're going to propose is the variance allowing her the AstroTurf?

Attorney Geller: Yes.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Vice Mayor Omarr Nickerson: The variance that she will be applying for, she has to pay for?

Attorney Geller: Yes, of course.

Village Clerk Jacobi: Madam Mayor, may I make just an addition to that? There are two issues with that particular permit. One is that, the driveway itself doesn't meet the zoning code. We had advised the applicant that a variance was one of her options.

Attorney Geller: I thought she had already agreed to narrow it, right? Wasn't it? It was too wide and she agreed to narrow it?

Village Clerk Jacobi: It doesn't meet the zoning code in any way, shape or she perform. That's a result of some of the permitting process issues. Because of that situation, we had discussed with her that, because of the situation she was in with the village, we would support a variance application to legalize the driveway. That's one issue and that still stands. She did reduce the size of her driveway, but it still doesn't meet the zoning code.

Attorney Geller: In what manner, if I can ask?

Village Clerk Jacobi: The dimensions and the layout. The driveway currently takes up the entire width of her front yard, which is almost 80 feet long. The code says that your driveway can only be 12 feet wide.

Attorney Geller: What was the reduction that she agreed to?

Village Clerk Jacobi: It used to be about 30 feet wide by 80 feet long and she reduced it to be about 20 feet wide by 80 feet long.

Attorney Geller: Those would be two separate variances. One for the dimensions and a separate variance for the AstroTurf.

Village Clerk Jacobi: The AstroTurf, there were two issues with the AstroTurf, as well. One was that, her driveway is these poured concrete pieces with AstroTurf in between and we've had numerous requests for this AstroTurf strip in between. It's not, specifically, allowed by the code. The code is very specific about the materials allowed for a driveway and AstroTurf is not one of them. However, we understand, just in terms of practical maintenance of these tiny strips in between, that it probably makes more sense to do AstroTurf than regular sod that dies

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

quickly. We did discuss with her and said that that would be okay in this case. However, separately, the applicant proceeded to roll out AstroTurf over the entire front yard. That was never part of any permit application. The driveway, we had resolved with her and agreed on the variants moving forward. It was the AstroTurf that got us frozen.

Councilperson Mathis: That's because the driveway stops at a certain portion coming up to the house. Then, there's all this AstroTurf.

Village Clerk Jacobi: There's still yard. [crosstalk] She has maybe 30 feet of yard between the house and the driveway.

Attorney Geller: Nothing, in my discussion with them was that, the village would contemplate allowing a driveway that's the entire front yard. They can apply for it if that's what they want to ask for but I certainly am not going to be in support of that. As far as the AstroTurf, my understanding was that, it would be in the strips that PlusUrbia has raised or talked about. If that's not what they seek, again, that'll be commended to your sound of judgment. I think, that also raises an issue, in terms of pervious area and that is a very important issue while our engineer is here, for water recharge and things like that.

It's one thing to permit that checkerboard pattern but it's a completely different thing to say that there's no water that's going to be able to penetrate the entire front yard. We'll work with them together with our planners. Ultimately, they'll choose what they're going to ask for. My inclination, at least, would be to recommend to you that, allowing a variance-- I'm not suggesting, at this point, that you change the code to start saying that anybody can use AstroTurf as they see fit.

There are some unique circumstances here and if the checkerboard design is one of them, then perhaps, you may be willing to accept that. If they choose to ask for more than that, I think, they'll be requesting that of you without staff or legal support for it. The bottom line is, neither staff nor the attorney votes on those things. That'll be up to you. I'm going to certainly urge them to do something that can, hopefully, get staff and legal support but either way, let them ask for what they're going to ask for. We'll get it to the committee, we'll get it to a vote. It won't be in limbo any longer. It'll come to you and you could dispose of it as you see fit.

Councilwoman Roman: May I ask?

Attorney Geller: That concludes my report.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

Mayor Cubillos: Thank you, Attorney Geller. Yes, councilperson.

Councilwoman Roman: What's the state of it right now? Is that-- What do you call it?

[crosstalk]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Limbo

Attorney Geller: They were cited.

Councilwoman Roman: They were cited.

Attorney Geller: The only thing that's happened is-

Mayor Cubillos: The driveway.

Attorney Geller: -that they were cited because what they were doing is against the code. That's true but there was really nothing to come in front of you; that's why there was no vote. There was just, apparently, a very lengthy discussion that didn't have a resolution because the only official action after issuing permits, was the they were cited by code enforcement. If you legalize the code violation in this one circumstance by granting a variance, whatever that variance is, then, that will solve the code problem and they can complete their construction.

If you decline to grant a variance, then, whatever the consequences are to them, they have to comply with the code, unless and until they file suit against us and seek a determination that under the facts and circumstances, here, including the permits that were issued to them, that the village cannot enforce that code against them. They're privileged to file the lawsuit if they want to. It's one of the wonderful things about this country is, we have an independent judiciary and people have the right to go to court and have an impartial arbiter decide whether they're right or wrong.

They may choose that option. If we can reach a middle common ground with them that will allow them to move forward with some parts of it and bring it to conclusion, that would be great. Again, that depends on what variance they seek and how the Council decides to dispose of it. Right now, there's not really been a variance application. What there is is, they got certain permits.

Councilwoman Roman: Was the artificial turf down?

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: No.

Village Clerk Jacobi: No. It as laid down. They were cited because they did not have any permit for the artificial turf, the whole yard. They rolled it back up as soon as they were cited.

Councilwoman Roman: It's been rolled back. [crosstalk]

Attorney Geller: I've [unintelligible 00:26:15]. Still, the situation is out there. One way or another, it has to come to the Council. We have to give you something to vote on. Whatever that outcome is, they can either comply with it, or they can seek redress in the courts.

Mayor Cubillos: Any other questions for the Attorney?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes, Madame Mayor.

Mayor Cubillos: Yes.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I just want to be certain that-- Because in the past year, sometimes, when people apply for a variance, they apply for it with an understanding in their own personal mind. Applying for the variance is their first step to approval. I remember, with years going pass, it started to become a problem. Every once in a while, I don't know, I think the Mayor might remember some of this, Councilperson Mathis, that people would apply for the variance, pay for the variance. It was something that was against what we would allow and therefore, we would deny it. It was getting to a point where, sometimes, people were getting upset.

Then, "Why the hell did you guys make me go through this whole thing and pay for this variance, if you guys knew [clears throat] it was totally against what you guys wanted, anyway." We started to come up into that. That's when we were, "Man, sooner or later, we're going to have to find somebody or a company or something like that, that knows our best interest," and therefore, can tell them, "Look, this is not what we want to do. This is not in our code. This is not what we want to do," so that, they don't even have to waste their money and time applying for the variance because we already would have told them. I just want to make sure that they know that this variance is not the first step to approval. This is a gamble and they're taking the chance with this.

Attorney Geller: A, that's why we have-- [crosstalk]

Mayor Cubillos: That's why we hope-- [crosstalk]

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Vice Mayor Nickerson: That's what I'm saying.

Mayor Cubillos: Exactly.

Attorney Geller: B, let me say,- [crosstalk]

Village Clerk Jacobi: That's how we advise them.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: That's what I mean.

Attorney Geller: -that in this case, they are blessed with extremely capable counsel. I know their lawyer very well. He knows his way around. I'm sure that the advice he's going to give to the client is going to be accurate advice in this case.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: That brings clarity. You see, that's why. It was something missing here.

Attorney Geller: It may still be a problem for other people.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I got you.

Attorney Geller: In this case, they've got very capable counsel. Hopefully, they're capable counsel will also advise them to accept a reasonable solution that allows them to do some of what they want to do but doesn't turn everything in our code on its head, allowing the AstroTurf, which is not prohibited, though, it's not specifically permitted, in some reasonable configuration as PlusUrbia has also recommended, is one thing. Making the entire front yard non-pervious, is quite a difference.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I got you, which now, it brings a little bit more clarity. That's what I was saying. I was going through that story to say, "We hire PlusUrbia just for this and now it's, we're going back into the same weeds." That was confusing for me, a little.

Councilwoman Roman: Because I think that people are still, can come up and present a variance. We have the opportunity to look at it.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: For sure.

Councilwoman Roman: I think, we looked at a couple of variances a couple of months ago and each case is different.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Different. I just wanted people to understand exactly what a variance is because before, it didn't seem like were really people clear what a variance was all about.

Attorney Geller: Professional planners properly advise people that there's no guarantees of what action the Council ultimately takes, whether staff approves or opposes. That's one of the reasons you have professional planners instead of, simply, a clerk who tells people, "Fill out these papers," and takes them without clarifying.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you.

Village Clerk Jacobi: Also, to clarify for this particular application, we never would have advised this particular case to come forward for variance. The reason they're coming for variance is because they were issued a permit without zoning review. That's the issue and those [crosstalk] dimensions never would have been approved, but they were.

[crosstalk]

Attorney Geller: It leaves the potential problem for the village in litigation, though, I will say again, for the record, I believe the village did nothing wrong and we're prepared to defend that position should that prove necessary. Hopefully, it will not prove necessary.

Mayor Cubillos: Before closing on this topic, just real quick, she lives in a short block and just about every single resident on her block is really-- They will be here as it relates to anti-AstroTurf. Just something to note, as you're going to be there with her, speaking with them. Let's move forward. Thank you.

Attorney Geller: Mayor, may I just ask, I'm sorry, when you say anti-AstroTurf, anti, having them cover the entire front yard or anti, having in between? [crosstalk]

Mayor Cubillos: In between.

Councilperson Mathis: They don't want it.

Mayor Cubillos: Just the presence of AstroTurf-

Councilperson Mathis: They don't want it.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18

Mayor Cubillos: -takes away from being [unintelligible 00:31:45] USA, who we are. She lives in a little corridor. She lives right across from Arlene Whitaker [sic]. Thank you so much for your full report Attorney Geller. Although, there is no unfinished business and new business, there's three points I want to close on if the Council will give me the pleasure. Number one, I will be emailing the clerk at some point this week. We will have a turkey giveaway; I don't have the exact date, yet.

This is the time, generally, that I email the clerk and ask the Council what committees they would like to serve on for the new year. Committees do change. The thought has crossed my mind to, potentially, leave them the way they are. If you really want a change and chair another committee, email the clerk and she'll forward it to me and I'll review it for consideration. My thought process, potentially, to keep them the way they are with one minor change. Again, if you are anxious to serve on a particular committee as chair, please, email the clerk.

The last point is, since Hurricane Irma, one of the things I really wanted to do was a town hall, a town hall where the Council would be the panel along with the acting chief, interim manager and our clerk and have open forum and allow the residents to come in and ask questions. When they come to meeting, we talk, talk, talk, and we have an agenda and we're not able to have that dialogue in an open sunshine format.

While Hurricane Irma brought the best in so many people, Hurricane Irma has also brought out a lot of anonymous letters and I want to address all of them at that town hall. I don't have the date yet. I'll be emailing the clerk, but it's one that I want everyone here as it relates to who's sitting on this Dias, right now, because I want the public to be able to come in and ask any of us any questions in an open forum.

I will be looking at some dates. I didn't think that the clean up would go all the way into the end of November, but I believe it's very important as we move into a new year. We have a lot of things going on and we can't allow these distractions that are ridiculous, at best, to get in the way of the progress that we've made. Because I believe we've made a lot of progress and we have so much more to do in 2018. With that said, I will be sending some dates to the clerk. At this time, if anybody in good welfare would like to come up, this is the time to go over anything on the agenda that has been discussed.

Marilyn Brooks: Marilyn Brooks, 400, North East, 98 Street. It's just a quick question. At one of the committee meetings, I made a recommendation about the rent. What are we doing about it, if so? The handicap rent.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th ST Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622



**Village of El Portal
Regular Council Meeting
Date: 10.24.17
Meeting Start: 7:02 pm
Meeting End: 8:27 pm
Meeting Length: 01:25:18**

Mayor Cubillos: You want to dedicate it to the former Mayor Black?

Marilyn: Yes.

Mayor Cubillos: Absolutely. At the public affairs admin and finance, we can bring it up. I thought we talked about that, that it was something that we can do in conjunction with the 80th anniversary. I don't remember if that was said, but an idea that I was going to bring to the committee. I know Councilperson Mathis wants to have a special committee, talking about the 80th anniversary that we'll make public. Then, we'll bring it up to be able to identify a plaque and put the plaque on the ramp and dedicating to Mayor Black.

Marilyn: Make a dedication?

Mayor Cubillos: Yes, ma'am.

Marilyn: Thank you.

Mayor Cubillos: You're welcome. Any public comments go to welfare? Hearing none, may I have a motion for adjournment?

Councilperson Mathis: Move the motion.

Councilperson Werner E. Dreher: Second it.

Mayor Cubillos: Councilperson Mathis has moved for adjournment. It's been seconded by Councilperson Dreher. All in favor, signal by saying, "Aye."

Councilperson Mathis: Aye.

Mayor Cubillos: Any nays? Hearing none, our council meeting on Tuesday, October 24th adjourns at 8:27 PM. Thank you.

Transcription service provided by



10001 NW 50th St Suite # 202 Sunrise, FL 33351
www.fullmooncreative.com
(954) 742-2622