



Village of El Portal Meeting

Date: 3/26/19

Meeting Start: 7:05 PM

Meeting End: 8:30 PM

Meeting Length: 01:25:36

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney, you want to get started?

City Attorney Powell: Yes, I'm ready.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: How is everybody doing? Good to see everybody tonight. [laughs]
The full council meeting for Tuesday March 26, 2019 will begin at 7.05 pm. We are going to have a silent meditation and we are going to have the pledge of allegiance.

All: 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.

Councilman Mathis: Now can we please have roll call.

City Clerk Jacobi: Roll call. Mayor Cubillos will not be in today, she's on some city business.
Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Here

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Present.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman.

Councilman Roman: Present.

Clerk Jacobi: Also present for the record Yenise Jacobi, village clerk plus the Alou village manager and Powell village attorney.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much it's good to see everybody here once again. Do I have approval of the agenda? Is there anything that anybody wants to delete? Anything that anybody wants to add? Let me know now.

[background conversation]

Councilman Mathis: Swearing of [unintelligible 00:01:41]

Councilwoman Roman: Yes, Congress Harris.

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Vice Mayor Nickerson: Congress Harris. Wonderful. Anything else anybody wants to add or delete? Following that, do I have the motion to approve the agenda as it is? I need an approval. Who will second?

Councilwoman Roman: Second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Motion to approve, motion to second. All in favor say, "Aye."

Some: I.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Motion to approve the minutes. I went over the minutes myself. They look okay from what I saw. I did not get into it too deeply. I just skimmed over them. I don't think anybody had a chance to take a look or not.

Councilwoman Roman: Yeah.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: So, do I have the motion to approve the minutes?

Councilwoman Roman: Motion to approve the minutes.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion. Do I have a second?

Councilman Mathis: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Motion has a second. All in favor say, "Aye"?

All: I.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Very good. We are going to move right into the next section. This is the acknowledgment visitors and/or special presentations. We have swearing in of few officers seated in the back. How are you guys doing back there? It's always good to see you all. First, we are going to have the swearing in and acting chief if you want to come on up very, very quickly. How are you doing, acting chief Shaw?

Acting chief Shaw: Never better.

[laughter]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: It's always good to see you, my brother. How have you been?

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Acting chief Shaw: I'm okay.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes, good. I'll let you take it from here.

Acting chief Sharpe: Okay. I'm going to be swearing in all these three officers. Reserve Officer Thomas Harrison, Alejandro Martinez, and Mark [unintelligible 00:03:27]. You do it all at one time.

Officer: Yes.

Acting chief Sharpe: Raise your right hand. As I say, "I", you all call your names. I-

Alejandro Martinez: I, Alejandro Martinez-

Acting chief Sharpe: -a citizen of the state of Florida-

All officers: -a citizen of the state of Florida-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and the United States of America-

All officers: -and the United States of America-

Acting chief Sharpe: -do hereby solemnly swear-

All officers: -do hereby solemnly swear-

Acting chief Sharpe: -or affirm-

All officers: -or affirm-

Acting chief Sharpe: -that I will support-

All officers: -that I will support-

Acting chief Sharpe: -protect-

All officers: -protect-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and defend the constitution of the United States-

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All officers: -and defend the constitution of the United States-

Acting chief Sharpe: -of America-

All officers: -of America-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and the state of Florida-

All officers: -and the state of Florida-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and that I will-

All officers: -and that I will-

Acting chief Sharpe: -in all respects observe-

All officers: -in all respects observe-

Acting chief Sharpe: -the provisions of the charter in accordance-

All officers: -the provisions of the charter in accordance-

Acting chief Sharpe -of the village of El Portal-

All officers: -of the village of El Portal-

Acting chief Sharpe: -I also solemnly swear-

All officers: -I also solemnly swear-

Acting chief Sharpe: - that I will perform-

All officers: -that I will perform-

Acting chief Sharpe: -the duties of a police officer-

All officers: -the duties of a police officer-

Acting chief Sharpe: -to the best of my ability-

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All officers: -to the best of my ability-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and will faithfully-

All officers: -and will faithfully-

Acting chief Sharpe: -discharge the duties of a police officer-

All officers: -discharge the duties of a police officer-

Acting chief Sharpe: -on which I am about to enter.

All officers: -on which I'm about to enter.

Acting chief Sharpe: I do further swear-

All officers: I do further swear-

Acting chief Sharpe: -or affirm-

All officers: -or affirm-

Acting chief Sharpe: -that-

All officers: -that-

Acting chief Sharpe: -as a law enforcement police officer-

All officers: -as a law enforcement police officer-

Acting chief Sharpe: -I will faithfully serve and protect-

All officers: -I will faithfully serve and protect-

Acting chief Sharpe: -to the best of my ability-

All officers: -to the best of my ability-

Acting chief Sharpe: -all citizens regardless of race-

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All officers: -all citizens regardless of race-

Acting chief Sharpe: -color or creed.

All officers: -color or creed.

Acting chief Sharpe: I accept by the law enforcement code of ethic-

All officers: I accept by the law enforcement code of ethic-

Acting chief Sharpe: -of the International Association of Chiefs of police-

All officers: -of the International Association of Chiefs of police-

Acting chief Sharpe: -as my standard-

All officers: -as my standard-

Acting chief Sharpe: -conduct while on and off duty-

All officers: -conduct while on and off duty-

Acting chief Sharpe: -and swear to faithfully abide by and defend the same.

All officers: -and swear to faithfully abide by and defend the same.

Acting chief Sharpe: Congratulations.

All officers: Thank you.

[applause]

[background conversations]

[applause]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: That was wonderful. I appreciate it and acting chief Shaw, I appreciate that also. Back there also for standing like you guys are doing. Good to see you all [laughs]. Take care, man. Okay, so we are going to move right in on to the next thing which is good and welfare. So right now if anybody has anything that they want to say about anything

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on the agenda, you guys can feel free to come up right now and talk about it, so you don't have to wait until we get to agenda (i) or wait until the end of the meeting.

There will be another good and welfare at the end of the meeting. If you don't feel comfortable coming up and saying anything now but if you are, come on up. Come to the podium and say your name and address for the record and go ahead.

Speaker 2: [unintelligible 00:07:30] 89th street. This is regarding the complete care of IT contractors. I actually read it and I had just two concerns. Why is the fee that this consulting firm, the complete care, is this usual and customary? The fee that they are actually charging for this and what was this costing the city before? And just the concern that if these companies come in and they do this as a business, this is their business, why they don't have the software.

So, they are wanting the city to pay for software. What is the cost of that? Because that can be excruciatingly the expensive. What's the cost of that? It says they are going to be contributing \$12,000 but why don't they already have software available for you all to review or choose from? They should come to you with you know three packages and show them to you and just make sure it's user-friendly and you don't buy something that won't work for the city. That's a huge expense.

This is just something that's ongoing that I talk to you guys all the time about the septic tanks and the sewerage of lines coming down Northeast 2nd avenue. I'm a little, little tiny, tiny pediatric office. Okay. I'm not a plastic surgeon so having expenses really affects my business and I pay \$15,000 putting that septic tank that I knew was going to come out somewhere the next five years or six years. We had sewerage backing up into the building about two weeks ago on a brand-new septic tank.

The contractor which I won't get into details did something that's excruciatingly horrible which led to that situation that cost my business \$5,000 to get it functioning so we could use the building and I've got another \$3,000 quote for the electricity that's going to be needed for the septic tank. So, this is a real issue to get businesses in here, that's a horrible expense to take on. So, I'm in like 20 to 25 thousand dollars on a septic tank. On a 2500 square foot space. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: So, her question is for the care. I don't know if want the contractor to come up.

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Village Manager Alou: The contractor that's before is really just what was already in place you just didn't have a copy of it but [unintelligible 00:10:03] never negotiated that contract I don't know what it's compared to in the past or we can certainly go back to it.

Councilman Mathis: I think we [unintelligible 00:10:11] some specialty on [unintelligible 00:10:13] but I think that's the first step [unintelligible 00:10:15]

Village Manager Alou: Well, let me have a look at answers to that [unintelligible 00:10:19].

Councilman Mathis: I think [unintelligible 00:10:22] the software that we had to buy, I think that's what it is. [crosstalk] Yes, [unintelligible 00:10:29] it was really [unintelligible 00:10:31] I think it was but she will look into it.

Village Manager Alou: I'll let you know the answer to that.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: If I'm not mistaken the complete care has been the IT company that there may be [unintelligible 00:10:50].

Village Manager Alou: Yes, I wouldn't say 15 years [unintelligible 00:10:54]. [crosstalk]

Councilwoman Roman: Do we know how long?

Councilman Mathis: No [unintelligible 00:10:58] it was [unintelligible 00:11:02] talk to me about how [unintelligible 00:11:07].

Councilwoman Roman: When was the last time you sent it up for non-payment?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes. If that's the issue because right now to explain to everybody out there what's going on for a lot of things. No necessarily blame to anybody or anything in the past. Right now we believe in doing especially since the [unintelligible 00:11:34] jobs since the manager came on is that we've been going back. A lot of times the way that things worked in the past years ago and years ago was just that things were just here and we had these companies that were doing these services for us.

It was just continuous non-stop. What we've been doing is we've been first of all finding the actual contracts that just never existed and that for so many years the way it worked around here was that-- We're talking about decades ago, the way it worked around here was that it was they would do the hire, it wouldn't be a contract and then it would just be the company would

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services would be renewed just year after year, after year, without a contract to follow those renewals.

Now what we're doing is we're taking these companies that have been dealing with us for well over a decade and we're buying the contracts under the leadership of Mayor Cubillos. We're starting to find old things that have just been here now we're bringing them up today, we're bringing them up for review, that's what you see. Even though this company that has been with us for many, many years now we're finally getting the contract to be able to look over it, to be able to roll in [unintelligible 00:13:05] then from there to take it and look for other companies to either foresee that, to use services that [unintelligible 00:13:13].

That is what we're doing. In short what I'm trying to say is a lot of what you see up here is us catching up and officially making things correct as far as the process, if that makes sense because we have to make these contracts [unintelligible 00:13:28] the process before we then put them in play officially and then we can look for other companies and things like that to bring up for competitiveness in the price. We have to fix it before we can extend and do the new stuff [laughs].

We have to first fix it officially. That is what that is. Is everything all good and welfare? All right. Like I said, there's another good and welfare at the end, you guys will all have another chance and usually when we get to each individual topic we'll stop and I'll allow you guys to speak on that particular topic since this it's the hot topic at that particular time. Moving right along we're going to the first agenda item we're in the H section right now, H1 is the cap government contract. Madam manager is going to talk about that.

Village Manager Alou: This is another example of what you just spoke about Vice Mayor Nickerson on the contract that was out of date and we had to bring it up to speed just so we can have something to measure it by. We have Jose--

Jose: Jose [unintelligible 00:14:32] 3.3 [unintelligible 00:14:35] how are you Vice Mayor? Good to see you again, members of the council [unintelligible 00:14:40], good to see you, everyone.

Village Manager Alou: We reviewed this in committee just describing these services that cap government is providing us and will continue to provide. It's a three-year contract with three one year options for renewal. We did discuss in committee that we will remove any language related to code enforcement officer. That isn't done and that will be done for [unintelligible]

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00:15:10] the contract forward so that we can start measuring and **[unintelligible 00:15:16]** on these **[unintelligible 00:15:17]**.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Absolutely, I appreciate you being here once again, thank you for that madam manager, thank you very much. Does anybody up here on the dais have anything comments or questions for either the manager or our cap representative? **[unintelligible 00:15:37]** Right now I'm going to ask if anybody from the audience, anybody here has any questions for either the manager or our cap representative about the contract or cap government as a whole.

You can come up to the podium, say your name and address for the record and ask whatever questions that you would like. Seeing none, back to the council one last time before I ask for a motion to approve this contract. Councilperson Roman anything you can say or add?

Councilwoman Roman: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Manager.

Village Manager Alou: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney.

City Attorney Powell: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Clerk.

City Clerk Jacobi: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Do I have a motion to approve the cap government contract? **[unintelligible 00:16:17]** approval, I have a motion to approve, do I have a second.

Speaker 5: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: A second, Madam Clerk would you please give us a roll call.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman. **[unintelligible 00:16:24]**

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Councilwoman Roman: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk.

Speaker 7: [unintelligible 00:16:33] very much good seeing everyone.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: All right, have a safe drive home. Take care.

Speaker 7: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Moving on to H2, this is the [unintelligible 00:16:41] lobbyists contract and Madam Manager if you want to [unintelligible 00:16:46].

Village Manager Alou: Yes [unintelligible 00:16:49] contract on [unintelligible 00:16:51] committee last week pretty much consolidates our lobbying efforts in Tallahassee to just one firm which is [unintelligible 00:17:01]. We still have certain strategies and increments. We've committed to one firm now and eliminated the [unintelligible 00:17:07] strategies team that would be the cost savings to us at this moment.

Again very try to lobby as far as a team that is help us to get finance or get funding in the past. Last year we were not able to get any funding due to the [unintelligible 00:17:25] shooting, and priorities changing in the State in terms of funding projects that were related to safety and policing for schools. This year we are at it again that our mayor has been in Tallahassee we'll be meeting with him tomorrow. Those were legislators and our [unintelligible 00:17:43] team. We are just memorializing the change [unintelligible 00:17:47] in the contract.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Manager. Does anybody up here we have a group in the dais who have any questions or comments about [unintelligible 00:17:58] these contracts for the manager or just in general?

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Speaker 1: No, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Anybody up here or in the audience do you have any questions or comments about the contracts [laughs]. The [unintelligible 00:18:13] lobbying contract for either one of us in the dais you can come on up and say it right now, come up to the podium state your name and address for the record and it's all yours. There are none, back down here, back up here to the dais Council person Roman do you have any questions about it?

Councilwoman Roman: No

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Manager.

Village Manager Alou: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney.

Attorney: No, sir.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Clerk.

City Clerk Jacobi: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: The [unintelligible 00:18:39] contract do I have a motion to approve the contract.

Councilman Mathis: [unintelligible 00:18:42].

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion to approve the contract, do I have a second.

Village Manager Alou: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion I have a second madam clerk roll call please.

City Clerk Jacobi: Council person Roman.

Councilwoman Roman: Yes.

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City Clerk Jacobi: Council person Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much madam clerk. Moving on to H3, this is the complete care IT contract [unintelligible 00:19:02].

Village Manager Alou: Just again this memorializes something that we were already working with complete care on. I agree that perhaps we need to revisit. I didn't know the length of the contract, no one could find it, it wasn't terribly long, but it's long enough that we perhaps need to review and consider doing an RMP [unintelligible 00:19:25] and I will be doing in the month of April. So I will consider [unintelligible 00:19:31] complete care [unintelligible 00:19:33]. This will memorialize the services they do provide and definitely provide [unintelligible 00:19:39] to measure the performance with.

[silence]

Village Manager Alou: For a term of one year for the community base so this is the one year contract.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: What does this mean? Is this a one year contract so what do we have to review? Options. [unintelligible 00:20:28]. All right. Does anybody else up on the dais have any questions or comments about the Complete Care IT contract department or at this particular time? Anybody from the audience have any more questions or comments about the complete care IT contract? State your name and address for the record and it's all yours.

Jennifer Darcy: Jennifer Darcy, 20 Northwest 89 Street. I do have a question. You mentioned that the Complete Care IT contract Ackerman and Cap have all been previously contracted with us. When you reconsidered the renewing of their contracts are you guys also requesting for new proposals from other companies or is it staying with the same company?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Okay. I got it. There's two things. When the contracts are coming up for renewal, what we do is that we go out for other companies. We do a RFP. We get other

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proposals and other companies like that. What we are talking about though, what's been happening now is that we're playing catch up and finding contracts of businesses of things that are already in place is active now.

To where in the past, those individuals, their services would be renewed, or just be carried on without a contract showing the length of time or things like that. What you're saying now at the time these contracts are coming up, is for services that are already active.

Jennifer Darcy: They're not up for renewal. They're just up for review.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Exactly. We're supposed to for example-

Jennifer Darcy: [unintelligible 00:22:24]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes, exactly. For example, the Mayor just got finished saying for the Complete Care IT contract, it's for a year. There's a year to that remaining on that contract. For example with that in a year we'll be able to put out the RFP, bring other companies.

Jennifer Darcy: Maybe I should have done that before but for Cap and Ackerman, the Ackerman one, there were two companies, we dropped one of them. Now, as of now. We kept Ackerman. Did we look to see if any other law firms were interested in participating or giving a proposal for that? No, because it wasn't a matter of renewing the contract. Correct?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Jennifer Darcy: Okay. Then same with Cap basically. Cap was an old-- We didn't have a contract with Cap.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes. Cap was servicing-

Jennifer Darcy: Wouldn't that mean that we could also then do a renewal? If we don't have a contract with them we should be able to just request for proposals point blank if we don't have a contract with them? It's not like a review, it's more of a renewal.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Village Manager Alou: With the lobbying contracts we did review those I think it was two years ago where we sent that out for an RFP. We decided to move forward with Ackerman

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because they are doing a good job. With the lobbying it's a lot about relationships and so that is a little bit different than a typical contract because they've been negotiating for us and-

Jennifer Darcy: So they know what's happening obviously.

Village Manager Alou: Correct.

Jennifer Darcy: They know [unintelligible 00:24:11].

Village Manager Alou: They know what's happening, and that was-- This is almost like an extension to last year. I think it was either the Vice Mayor or the Manager that mentioned that last year due to shootings we weren't able to-- No one actually, no city, to receive funds. We're hoping that Ackerman will continue the work that they started last year for us.

Jennifer Darcy: Got it. Okay.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Now with that, the year before prior to last year money was brought in, a large amount of money was brought in from the lobbying firm. That actually was just because of the shooting, it wasn't there.

Jennifer Darcy: Perfect. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Good to see you. Anybody else out there in the audience wants to come up-

Village Manager Alou: The lobbying contract is only six months. Just not a year contract and it's something that we would review in the future.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I would like that everybody keep in mind, we have committee meetings, and committee meetings is where we do the bulk of the work that you see here at the regular council meeting. Here at the regular council meeting, after all the work's been done, the debate, the conversations and all that's done at the committee level. The council meeting is where we come to ratify, verify or have those last thoughts and comments about what's in front of us.

If you want to see the meat and potatoes and have your voice heard at the meat and potatoes at that time, I strongly advise everybody to attend the committee meetings. [unintelligible 00:25:43]. Anybody else from the audience have any other questions or comments about the IT contract? [unintelligible 00:25:53]. Back up here in the dais Councilperson Mathis.

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Councilman Mathis: Nothing.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Roman?

Councilwoman Roman: Nothing, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Mayor are you happy? Mr. Attorney? Madam Clerk. Thank you very much. Do I have a motion to approve the Complete Care IT contract? [unintelligible 00:26:11]. No. We're Complete Care [unintelligible 00:26:14].

Speaker?: Yes. [unintelligible 00:26:16].

Speaker?: I wonder if we could have a discussion first?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

Councilwoman Roman: I'm thinking with the IT one, just because I don't think it's urgent, perhaps, and this is just a discussion and suggestion if we can maybe put that off since we haven't had a contract with them and send that out for RFP. That's just my opinion.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Sure. Madam Manager, as far as dealing with the IT company with their contract is there any way that if we delay the approval of the contract, their services, everything will be effective?

Village Manager Alou: I don't think so. We've been operating without it, and it's fine.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I don't know if we even had a conversation with them recently-

Village Manager Alou: I'm sure they would prefer to be covered under a contract, and I would too because we need to measure by something. I do understand your point and respect it. Let me talk to them, but I'm going to be asked for it. I can find-

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I respect what Councilperson Roman is saying. If I have no problem with postponing the approval of the IT contract. Councilperson Mathis what's your take on this?

Councilman Mathis: Do we have any [unintelligible 00:27:38]?

Village Manager Alou: Yes. We have a monthly quote of service. Remember too they also do security, because we were interlinked with our police department they do a lot of that system

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work as well and they are all security cleared. Not to say another company couldn't be, but just that that's a process that's going to maybe join that course. We have 12 months, we can look into that but also I understand that RFP processes are [unintelligible 00:28:11] process for me anyway since I'm the only one doing it. I'm also doing waste management and some others right now. Like you said it wouldn't be a need but we could all get to it [unintelligible 00:28:22].

Vice Mayor Nickerson: This contract within a year from?

Village Manager Alou: March 1st.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: March 1st. Councilperson Roman, what you've just heard is [unintelligible 00:28:46].

Councilwoman Roman: I still don't see why we wouldn't be able to send an RFP and continue the work, I guess it's [unintelligible 00:28:54] at the moment what we've had with them until we review what else is out there because it's been a long time since we've sent out that RFP. Things change, technology changes, more companies are out there. I'd like to see how competitive they are and review that.

Councilman Mathis: With all due respect.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes of course.

Councilman Mathis: I hear what's going on and I agree with it in part. My suggestion is just we can move forward with this tonight. Mostly contract, in my understanding it's the purview of the village manager and let her make that decision and bring it back to the council later. I don't think that it's something that we should be-- It certainly should be negotiated for. That's her day to day task, and she would be working with them more than we would so I think it's something more on her plate, that should be done if she's ready to go off or not.

I understand that where we're at, we're catching up, but we've had them in place. They're doing their job. It's the manager's job to oversee that.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I totally hear what you're saying. I agree with both Councilperson Roman and Mathis. They both have very great points. I think a middle ground may be, Councilperson Roman I don't know if you would be purview to this, but I think a middle ground may be-- Let's say we approved the contract or not approved. I'm not saying [unintelligible

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00:30:38] Let's say you type the contract tonight. Then after you type the contract, we put out for RFPs and start to look for other companies that would start on March 1st, 2020.

Councilwoman Roman: What does this contract represent again in terms of dollars?

Village Manager Alou: I didn't find it [unintelligible 00:31:02]

Councilwoman Roman: Because we do approve the budget. So the manager does the day-to-day and she manages, but we as a council, we approve a budget.

Councilman Mathis: Right, and the budget's already been approved.

Councilwoman Roman: It has been approved. That doesn't mean that we can't look at cost savings or better services.

Councilman Mathis: I just think micromanaging the managers [unintelligible 00:31:24] That's just my thing. [unintelligible 00:31:26]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: For me to ask this, let's say tonight we don't approve the contract and we are month to month. Would you say that we were, maybe, saving, maybe, half a year? Besides, we didn't do the RFP process with going through that detail and making sure we're finding the right company and things like that, with taking it through the committee, which means every other month. It doesn't meet every month the committee. If we go through that process-- I guess what I'm trying to get at is, how much time will we actually be saving by approving the contract and still starting to look for other companies to start in March of 2020, or not approving the contract and looking for other companies to start.

Village Manager Alou: I really don't know the answer to that, because I don't know what we'll get. We need to have a good contract or good [unintelligible 00:32:29] I don't know. I wouldn't know the answer to that, because this was in-- This relationship was in place when I came here, so I don't know what we're measuring it against, but I did want these contracts in place so that we would have something to measure what comes next.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: You just answered my next question. My next question was going to be, as the individual who is here in the office on a day-to-day basis and deal with these companies, what would your recommendation be as the village manager?

Village Manager Alou: Complete care does a fine job for us. I don't have any complaints with them. They are very responsive when we need them, they come help. They handle our needs.

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We do have some limitations because of the building itself, but they try to render and work with what we have. I don't have a complaint [unintelligible 00:33:19]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much madam manager. Councilperson Roman do you have anything else [unintelligible 00:33:26] Councilperson Mathis, is there anything else you want to add?

Councilman Mathis: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: No? Going back to the audience, because we just had dialogue. Is there anything that you guys might want to add? Questions or comments you might want to come to the court and speak about? No? Mr. Attorney? Madam Clerk? No? I don't know how this is going to go, but just in case, Mr Attorney, I wanted to ask, because I know a lot of times the individual running the meeting usually does not do a-- Does not first or second approval of an item. We can wait to see what we get.

City Attorney Powell: Fundamentally because only [unintelligible 00:34:20] here, so in order for any item to pass [unintelligible 00:34:23] there's nothing [unintelligible 00:34:28] to prevent the chair from making a motion or seconding a motion. That's been the practice. There's nothing to [unintelligible 00:34:36]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: All right. Before we go to the motions, anything else from anybody here [unintelligible 00:34:47] Councilperson Roman? Madam Manager, Mr Attorney? Councilperson Mathis and Madam Clerk? Do I have a motion to approve the complete care IT contract?

Councilman Mathis: I approve.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion to approve, do I have a second?

Councilwoman Roman: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion to have a second. Madam Clerk can I please have a role call?

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman?

Councilwoman Roman: No.

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City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes. The measure, does it fail? Because we are--

City Clerk Jacobi: It does not pass, because you need [unintelligible 00:35:16]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: We need three out of five persons. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. What we'll do from here, from this point on, Madam Manager, if you will begin to look at RFPs or other companies, maybe. But, this is what I want to say. Usually those types of decisions we do through committee, now that we do not have a year contract in place, we are essentially month to month in-- We're essentially where we were--

?Speaker 3: Before [unintelligible 00:36:02]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Already before [unintelligible 00:36:03] I see no reason why at this point in time being that the annual contract did not pass, that we do not start to slowly look at other companies. That's where I'm at. Councilperson Mathis, what do you have to say?

Councilman Mathis: A motion to be brought back to the next council meeting.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Do you want it to be brought into the next council meeting or the next committee?

Councilman Mathis: Next council.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Next council meeting? There's a motion on the table that this IT contract is brought back to the next council meeting. Do I have a second on that motion?

?Speaker 2: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion that it's brought to the next council meeting. I have a second. Madam Clerk can I get a roll call, please?

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman?

Councilwoman Roman: No.

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City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: No.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion fails.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: It does not pass. Again, Councilperson Mathis and Roman, I would like to hear both of you as far as what your idea is now not having a contract-- Annual contract, in place, what would you like to see? Your opinion should be the next move from this point on? I said that I think that we are essentially back on a month-to-month contract where we were before, and that maybe we should take RFPs in the meantime. Councilperson Mathis or Roman, feel free to jump in with what you think should happen.

Councilman Mathis: I think we should let the manager do her job.

Councilwoman Roman: What I'd like to see is the RFP go out for this and then stay as a month-to-month, that's what we've been on for God knows how long, and review the RFPs and if this is a company that we need to stay with, this is a company that we need to stay with, but we should evaluate that.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: [unintelligible 00:37:54] Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: I understand what you're saying, Councilperson Roman, but we don't even know if they want to go month-to-month. My suggestion is we let the manager do her job.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: We are at a standstill to bypass, which is politics and government. This is good, we have different opinions and we're up here, like I always say, continuously we all want what is best for the village, but we all have different ideas on how to get there. That's all this is. I understand what you're saying, Madam Clerk, pursuant to the charter, which the manager runs day-by-day when it comes to the charter, but we do--

The reality is right here at this very moment that the contract failed and that's the reality that we have to go through that point. Will we address this as we're at a standstill we'll just deal with how we have been dealing with and we'll readdress this at the next committee meeting.

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Okay? Next committee meeting we'll address this. Moving right on, the next thing we have are the resolutions.

?Speaker 2: [unintelligible 00:39:02]

[crosstalk]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Okay, [unintelligible 00:39:08] . Yes, sorry about that [unintelligible 00:39:11] Very top. High [unintelligible 00:39:12]

?Speaker 2: [unintelligible 00:39:13]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I know, up there high. We have H4, Craig A. Smith contract and Madam Manager, if you would like to explain this.

Village Manager Alou: This is an extension of our existing contract with Craig A. Smith, who's our engineering firm. We had fallen to some default, or some noncompliance with our [unintelligible 00:39:40] filings and annual report on water testing and storm water maintenance. With that, this extends Craig A. Smith's service to the village to include that, so that we have that covered every year we were out of compliance for seven years. They did a contract with us last fiscal year for \$17,000 to get us all of those annual reports, but we still need to do them every year. We need to do it this year as well. This just extends the contract for \$4,000 more every year than what we're already paying them to do that service as well. So this is what our contract extension is.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Manager. Anybody from the dais have any questions or comments about the Craig A. Smith contract for the manager, or just in general? Now, going out to the audience, anybody up here in the audience, if you have any comments or questions about about the Craig A. Smith contract, come up to the podium, say your name and address for the record, and it's all yours. Seeing none. Back over here on the Dais, Councilperson Mathis, any questions or comments?

Councilman Mathis: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Roman, any questions or comments?

Councilwoman Roman: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Manager?

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Village Manager Alou: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney? Madam Clerk?

City Clerk Jacobi: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Do I have a motion to approve the Craig. A. Smith contract?

Councilwoman Roman: Motion.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion from Councilperson Roman. Do I have a second?

Councilman Mathis: I second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion of a second, Madam Clerk, and after you-

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman.

Councilwoman Roman: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes three to none.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. The next we have is the I section on resolutions and ordinances. The first ordinance is to repeal the Sergeant Charter. This is the first reading ordinances. They have two readings, you guys, to be approved. This is the first reading, so it will come back again. Mr. Attorney, if you would please read the ordinance in for the record, and we'll go from there.

City Attorney Powell: Okay. An ordinance of the El Portal Village Council repealing Chapter 18, Article 2, Section 18-16(a), (b), and (c), entitled Public Safety Department of the Village of El Portal, Florida, code of ordinances and providing for an effective date.

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Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney, if you would please-- just for everybody watching-- tell us what this is for and is about.

City Attorney Powell: This is going to accomplish a couple things. One, the code section that we're repealing has not been revisited since 1965, when it was actually adopted. The two issues that are being addressed here, one, the collective bargaining agreement with the police department provides for a different procedure for hiring and firing staff [unintelligible 00:42:34]. The other issue is that we do not have a public safety department. We have a police department.

So, to the extent that these provisions are inconsistent with a lot of the actual structure of the El Portal police organization, and also the collective bargaining agreement, it would be better to just repeal the antiquated provision, and then in the future revisit amending several parts of the code as a matter of fact that would be consistent with what's contemporary.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. Again, for you all out there, this is another example of how I really appreciate all the work that's being done up here because there are things that we have in our code, just like that contract that-- we have services that we have contracts for-- There are things that are in our code that were written 50 years ago that just don't pertain to the way things are ran [sic] now today in the village.

So, this is one of those examples that we're starting to bring things up to date, refine, and things like this. It's another one of those examples. Thank you very much, Mr. Attorney, for reading that for me. Is there anybody up here in the audience that would like to come up and say-- have any questions or comments about this ordinance? Come up and say your name and address for the record and so on. None? Back to the dais, Councilperson Roman, have you got any questions? Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: None here.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Manager?

Village Manager Alou: None.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney?

City Attorney Powell: I don't.

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Vice Mayor Nickerson: We'll wait really quickly for the clerk to come back so we can do-- What I'll do in the meantime, do I have a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance?

Councilman Mathis: So moved.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I have a motion. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Roman: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Second. We will wait for [inaudible 00:44:27]. We need a roll call. We won't rule without you, sister. We'll always bring you with us.

City Clerk Jacobi: No, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: We'd never leave you behind.

City Clerk Jacobi: With all due respect, no, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: So the motion was motioned by Councilperson Mathis, and it was seconded by Councilperson Roman.

City Clerk Jacobi: Thank you. Roll call. Councilperson Roman.

Councilwoman Roman: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much.

City Clerk Jacobi: So we'll be doing a second reading in April.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

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City Clerk Jacobi: Yes. I have to advertise it.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. Moving on to the next ordinance, this is the flood plan-- floodplain first reading, and its ordinance. Mr. Attorney, if you would read it into the record for us, please.

City Attorney Powell: Yes, Vice Mayor. An ordinance by the village council amending the Village of El Portal Code of Ordinances to appeal Chapter 7.5 Flood Damage Prevention of the Village of El Portal Code of Ordinances; to adopt a new Chapter 7.5 Flood Damage Prevention; to adopt flood hazard maps, to designate a flood plain administrator, to adopt procedures and criteria for development in flood hazard areas, and for other purposes; providing for applicability; repealer; severability; and an effective date.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Mr. Attorney. Mr. Attorney, for those watching on TV, those who may not understand, can you just [inaudible 00:46:03] some of that for us.

City Attorney Powell: In a nutshell, this is basically a repeal of the existing floodplain provisions in our code so that we would come into compliance with two things: the national floodplain maps and also that we comply with the Florida Building Code. Just so the public understands, there's a process the department actually [unintelligible 00:46:26] the adoption of the Floodplain Damage Prevention provisions to each individual county and municipality. So this is pretty much their recipe for our village, which is consistent with our zoning.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. I appreciate it. Is there anybody from the dais that has any questions or comments for the Attorney or just in general about the floodplain first reading?

Councilman Mathis: I do have.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: I do know it's the first reading, but do we have the graphics of the new floodplain-- the drawings of the new floodplain?

Village Manager Alou: No, we haven't received them yet.

Councilman Mathis: We haven't received them?

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Village Manager Alou: I met with the state the last few times for training on floodplain and for the assessment of the Village of El Portal. We are pretty much in compliance. We just had one or two questionable addresses, but we worked those out, and we are awaiting our map for our village.

City Attorney Powell: I just want the residents to make sure that they take a look at that map because that map is very detailed. It will tell you if you need flood insurance or not. As we know, hurricanes are a big thing here. A lot of people think that the wind damage is what causes all the problems. No, it's the flooding, and if you don't have flood insurance, you're not covered.

Councilman Mathis: Thank you very much.

?Speaker 3: I won't motion.

City Attorney Powell: I could just add one thing, just for the public's convenience. There is a PDF that summarizes what this does for the village. I think we should post that. It just has answers to frequently questions. The [unintelligible 00:48:07] code [unintelligible 00:48:09] that they sent is annotated. So if anybody wants to take a look at it, they can do that also.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much for that Mr. Attorney. Right now, what we're going to do is, I want to go to the audience. If anybody in the audience has any questions or comments about the floodplain ordinance, the first reading of it, you can come on up to the podium, say your name and address for the record, and say what you would like.

Going back up here to the dais, Councilperson Mathis, do you have anything-- last questions or comments that you have?

Councilman Mathis: No, just [unintelligible 00:48:47].

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I'll come back there. Councilperson Roman?

Councilwoman Roman: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Madam Manager?

Village Manager Alou: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Mr. Attorney?

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City Attorney Powell: No, sir.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: And Madam Clerk?

City Clerk Jacobi: No, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Do I have an approval, a motion to approve the floodplain first reading? Councilperson Mathis motions. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Roman: I'll second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Councilperson Roman. I will refer that the motion has a second. Madam Clerk, if you would please roll call.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Roman.

Councilwoman Roman: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Councilperson Mathis.

Councilman Mathis: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Vice Mayor Nickerson.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Yes.

City Clerk Jacobi: Motion passes, three to none.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, Madam Clerk. I appreciate that. Right now, we're going to move to mayor, manager, committee, and attorney reports. You'll have only committee reports tonight, and attorney reports. The first report is going to be J1. This is by our mayor, Mayor Claudia Cubillos. Her husband, Mr. Pace is out there. How are you doing my brother?

Mr. Pace: Fine. How are you?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: [inaudible 00:49:46] how are you doing, my brother? Always good to see you. I just want to say for the record, into the camera, Mayor Cubillos, you are missed at this particular moment. It's always better when you're up here with us, but we appreciate

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you being in Tallahassee and doing that great work with our lobbyists to get them all the time. Thank you very, very much.

She's working hard, you guys out there until the last week, she's there this week, she'll be over the next week, so she's working very hard to try to get things done here for the village. Mayor Cubillos' report says at the last council meeting I talked in great length about the following points, the three areas of development; little farm, sanctuary, et cetera. The role of the El Portal communities, the councils, and administration succession plan, and building communities with Miami Shores. Here's an update.

Good evening, everyone. My apologies for not being here this evening. I'm currently in Tallahassee working for you and working for El Portal and the Florida state legislature session with our **[unintelligible 00:50:53]** team and team of advocates. With that, here's the 2019 legislative update. Since 2015, El Portal two legislative priorities have and continue to be; one, Northeast 2nd Ave, septic to sewer conversion, and two, the El Portal stormwater outfall improvement.

In terms of septic to sewer, we have been unsuccessful in having the state appropriate funds for this project. However, since this year, septic to sewer conversions is a state-wide priority and we are hoping our million dollar ads to commence designs will be favorably looked upon this session in El P area. Fortunately, 2017, El Portal was successful and received a little over half a million for a phase of this project-- For all you guys, we talked a lot this earlier that we receive half a million in 2017, so we are doing great work for us. The statutes of school shootings, all those were products got put aside for school **[unintelligible 00:52:07]** as an example.

Fortunately, in 2017, El Portal was successful and received a little over half a million for a phase of this project and which the design is complete and end of coming weeks, we will solidify an easement location. Before the project starts, we will host an informational town hall for the community. El Portal development. The three areas of development in El Portal are the sanctuary, little farm, and the annex area, which is 83rd and 84th streets.

The sanctuary. Earlier this month, the sanctuary second septic system designs submission was denied by Miami-Dade County again. I've now asked the office of our County Commissioner, Chair Edison, for assistance. Without a Miami-Dade County septic system design seal of approval, they cannot move forward with this project. As such, this is where septic to sewer makes sense to start on Northeast 2nd Ave and the little farm, which will attract businesses as

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sewer is really necessary for substantial commercial projects, which would greatly increase our tax base and service capabilities.

The annex area. On March 8th, Won from the Serbia, and I met with property owners, the Barrington brothers, and their team. They shared their preliminary design that included two apartment buildings, potential ground level retail and a green space. Won recommended some tweaks to design, our follow up to our design. Our follow up meeting is Friday, April 12th.

In the interim, I scheduled a conference call with our internal administration team, manager, finance, planner, and attorney to work along and having placed by Friday, March 29. The financial impact this development will pose on police staff and et cetera will be brought up in this meeting. Our goal is to host a resident town hall meeting to meet the owners and view renderings before they are presented to the PNZ committee in May.

Little farm. Kate and Cyrus, project manager and engineer, respectively, have been linked with the Barrington brothers, their parcel's border and connect. The goal is for them to want to work together to ensure cohesiveness and a shared vision for El Portal- El Portal's council committees. As we know, El Portal's council has six committees and generally before a voting item vote before the entire council is placed on the agenda to the appropriate El Portal committee. You guys, all work is done at the committee level, so it's good to be there.

At committed level, this not only provides opportunities for the committees to workshop and discuss in depth each proposed voting agenda items, but it also allows the residents to learn and know a possible agenda voting items before it goes to the full council. What does this mean? It means our El Portal committee meetings are important, very important. Bottom line, proposed projects, resolutions, ordinances, and other potential voting items start here at the committee level first and it is progressed and tracked on the community level.

Committee meetings and tracking reports. The tracking report is a tool to track streamline and allow for a better project management and continuity no matter who the chair is and especially resourceful for new members of the council. If consistently updated and used, this report provides the village manager, department heads, and clerk a tool to track a priority each committee has set for them to follow through on.

This tracking process should mitigate the ladies, achieve historical key points on projects, assist the manager in working through multiple projects, provide the clerk a way to track an item from committee to council meeting and a sleuth of other healthful benefits. As such, at

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the last council meeting during my mayor's report, I asked each committee chair to kindly update their committee tracking report, so it reflects up to date projects.

Also, to recap in a brief summary, their committee meeting highlights, both of these items will be placed on our news website. Example, on the navigation bar, click meeting and the drop menu committee meetings will be added. When you click that drop down menu, it will include the six committees. Since March, committee meetings are now over. I'm hoping each of them will work on this and email it to the clerk.

Bridging communities. Miami Shores. Continuing to work with Miami Shores on the three areas of opportunity I mentioned last month, sheriff police dispatcher enable El Portal residents to gain access to the Miami Shores Aquatics Center and in Miami Shores trolley stop in El Portal, which goes to the train station, as well as encouraging the council to support and attend their events.

I also want to mention the large mark park area, adjacent community south of el portal. Acting Chief Corporal Sharpe coordinated my meeting request and we met with the Miami police commander oversees and is responsible for the large mark park area. This meeting took place last week. We met with Major Cummings and Captain Chapman from an Intracoastal Police station and they were fantastic. It was a productive meeting. They provided us with a wealth of information and may resources immediately available to our police department. As we move forward, one of our police officers will now attend monthly northeast corridor strategic and intelligent meetings and become part of their wolf pack. More to come on this.

Meeting with our County Commissioner, Audrey Edmonson. On March 12, I met with our county commissioner, briefed her on the potential development septic to sewer needs and other public work needs we have throughout our community. The commissioner and her office have been diligent with the follow-ups since our meeting. More to come on this. Proposed charter amendment. I requested the village attorney to draft the proposed change to our charter for a committee review.

Currently, if a council member resigns from his or her seat and there are six months or less left on their term, the council appoints by a minimum approval vote of three, the new council members. However, if there are more than six months left on the term, the village must have and bear the extra cost of this special election like we are hosting right now, where Election Day is Tuesday, April the 2nd.

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With that, it is my recommendation to amend the charter so it reads, that no matter the time left in the current term, the council should have the option to appoint the new member or have a special election if a council member resigns or is removed. The cost that we are bearing now of an unperceived special election in a small town is prohibited. This is a referendum as such if council passes the proposed change properly worded, will be on the ballot for El Portal registered voters to vote on in November 2020.

In closing, I hope each of you has received our Peacock Express Newsletter. I want to thank Vice Mayor Nickerson and his assistance in hand-delivering this newsletter and thank everybody else up here also. Lastly, every aforementioned point presented above is with a mindset of implementing a succession plan. Again, I want to thank you for your attention and support and I am sorry I cannot be here tonight. Sincerely, Mayor Cubillos.

Thank you, Madam Mayor, we appreciate it. All your words, you are very eloquent as always, it didn't surprise me. Everything that you said was very appropriate to where we are at in the village and we miss having you here and I appreciate the personal shout-out also. Thank you for everybody who stuck with me while I was reading through that and I appreciate it, thank you, guys. Thank you also for listening to me say that. I'll never be as good as the mayor, but I try to come as close as possible. [laughs] Thank you, Mayor Cubillos, we miss you. Come back soon. [laughs] We're moving on to the manager's report. This is Madam Manager, Christia Alou. It's all yours, thank you very much.

Village Manager Alou: Thank you. Just to get right into it, I wanted our community an update on the hiring of our new police chief. We started receiving resumes and application packages on January 8th of this year and we've received over 35 resume packages and applications for the position. I had announced that we would be including some members of our community to review the resumes and actually assist me with the interviewing process. I also had police chiefs from three other municipalities review application packages to vet those qualified candidates and high-level candidates that we could work with.

We conducted the interviews on March 21st, this last Thursday, and we had to bring community members in with me assisting with the interviewing and we had some fantastic interviews. We will be narrowing that down very shortly and an announcement will be given to the council and we'll move from there. Coming in to a close and again we have some fantastic applicants. It was very difficult to make the decision, but we're practically there so that is moving along and we're expected to have that answered for April. Having a new chief, I'm very excited about that and I'm sure our staff is or our police department.

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We have been under the leadership of acting Chief Bernard Sharpe, he's been doing a **[unintelligible 01:03:59]** job but we want to get to a stable place where we can then start addressing other needs in the department. Until then, **[unintelligible 01:04:07]**. Also, I want to mention just on our disaster monitoring and administrative services, RFP as well as debris hauling. I did an RFP at the end of February and reviewed the responses and proposals. I awarded RFP to Disaster Program and Operations Incorporated, which is the current management team that we have whose handling our FEMA reimbursements and administrative services contract.

They got this award, they were the only ones who applied. We are happy to have them again because they've done a very good job for us. Also, we have quite a few of our categories are already obligated, which is tremendous. We are at about \$200,000 are already obligated, we have a long way to go but about 175 of the cities don't even have that much. I think we're ahead of the curve when it comes to our reimbursements and we're looking forward to getting our reimbursements back as quickly as possible. Again, to address that line of credit/loan that we have out, which will be coming due in June.

[inaudible 01:05:25] CFO to address that because if those funds aren't coming in, then we will extend our line of credit for another 12 months and then start paying **[unintelligible 01:05:35]** those funds are given to us from FEMA. We are on track, things are moving along and I'm happy to report that. I know the vice mayor mentioned, through the mayor's report, that there's work to be done on Northeast 2nd Avenue especially for sewer conversion.

I, too, are presently exploring cost in installing a sewer line on Northeast 2nd because it really comes down to that, we have to see what it costs. I know that that has slowed up so much development from the owners that live at the sanctuary and any other businesses coming in there. We just need to know what's going to cost. I did get a quote just before our meeting tonight and I haven't had a chance to dissect it but it is not going to be cheap but we are into that. We're going to have to think of something, think of some ways to address that but **[unintelligible 01:06:26]** mayor in our efforts to address our legislators and then try to bring them back around.

The way I sell it is we're a small little town, this is an easy win for a legislator, this session, let's strive for that until all of the zeal and fire that we need to hit that Northeast 2nd Avenue develop because that's going to help us in the long run, financially. **[unintelligible 01:06:55]** increase. We do speak about, of course with the mayor, the report about that and we're looking forward to getting those areas developed as quickly as possible. We are meeting on April 12 with the owners to discuss the impact of **[unintelligible 01:07:13]**, zoning, police roads, all of

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those things. The finance team, Erwin [unintelligible 01:07:20] because his staff are coming up with that [unintelligible 01:07:24].

Looking over some things that we need to address and have addressed by that development. We'll be ready for that on Friday with a follow up with the mayor and with our attorney. let's see. I'm not going to read everything because mine is even longer than theirs, so I apologize. I talked about the line of credit. Yes, the mayor and I, acting Chief Sharpe, and Officer Borrell attended our meeting that was coordinated by acting Chief Sharpe prior to large mark park issue. It was just a time for us to sit down, they've changed leadership at the park. We haven't had the opportunity to sit with him for over a year.

Finally, Chief Sharpe was able to handle it very quickly and we had a very good meeting. We're looking forward to working in a closed door, Miami-Dade police, and addressing large park and any other issues in terms of backup and support that they can give the Village of El Portal police staff as well. I do want to make mention of this, on March 10th, I met with Miami-Dade County engineers and staff about the bridge on North Miami Avenue between 84th, 86th. They'll be replacing the bridge over the C-7 Canal. That's going to affect our traffic.

They're not going to close the streets but they're going to close one lane on both side, so we're going to have some traffic issues, police issues. They will do a town hall with us to talk about that with our community to try to do the least intrusive way of handling this bridge. I don't know how it's going to take for them to repair that bridge but just know that that's coming up and they will have a town hall in our community before that starts.

[unintelligible 01:09:27] they're calling a change on that, they're county-owned not village-owned. There's going to be some change with the way they look but we will stay on top of the County in ensuring that they're beautiful and they are well maintained because that is our entry to our village so we're trying to work with them on that as well. In the public safety department, we've hired two full-time officers who you've met today or you've met before but now they're full-time officers.

We're very happy to have Officer Alphonso Martinez and Officer Mark Tynes. We're also happy to have new Reserve Officer, Mr. Thomas Harrison. We will be conducting interviews for more reserve officers next Wednesday. I think that's April 3rd. We will be interviewing six more reserve officers and as you all know, we do rely on our reserve officers to fill in for blank spaces and to have coverage.

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They are essentially volunteers. They are coming out of earning hours. That helps us tremendously and so you will be seeing more officers. I'm happy about that as well. I'm sure you are as well. Let's see if there's some more with that. I'm going to try and wrap up because I have so many things. This is a busy month. I will say that I've been active with the Miami-Dade City and County Managers Association and I've gone to two trainings this month.

One is for mindfulness in your government. I will be implementing some of those things as an HR matter here within the Village of El Portal. Also, we talked in another training about water and sewer projects and the county's priorities. They did state in that meeting, actually it was Dr. Doug Yoder who is a deputy director of Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer told the group that they understand that we have needs, small municipalities and even larger ones, but the county too has a \$2 billion need to improve their water treatment facilities as they stand now.

They are not considering putting in new ones, they're trying to fix the old ones. When it comes to \$2 billion for that and the reality of it being very difficult to bring in sewer lines to existing development- new development. It will be a lot easier for that trailer park and the annex areas to have sewer lines, but for us it's going to be more difficult. That's why it's really important that we work together to address the legislators and if you have any ideas I'm open to them. Because I think this is going to be important to our survival and us moving forward. With that, there's a ton of other things. If you have any questions, just call me, or text me, or email me. Otherwise, I'm going to turn it over. Thank you, vice mayor.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much, thank you very much. Before we go to the village attorney's report I just wanted to say she says there were a ton of other things left. Her report is humongous. She does so much work, you guys, and like she said that have a safe trip. She's going to be joining the mayor tomorrow in Tallahassee. Councilperson Mathis is going to be joining them next week. He will be in Tallahassee. We're fighting on all fronts.

Of course, we can't all fly to Tallahassee because if, God forbid anything happens, there will be nobody left, but me and Councilperson Roman. We're going to stay behind here and make sure there's designated survivors. Designated survivors and make sure that everything runs perfectly until we get our better halves back. [laughs] It's a joke. Given that, that's the case we are going to go first of all to the next to the village attorney report. Village attorney.

City Attorney Powell: Yes, reminds me of [unintelligible 01:13:47] complementing all of the work that Chris has done. This is a small portion of it. Just reviewed some of the contracts so I can't take any credit for that. I will say that we have not really moved any further with

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[unintelligible 01:14:02] given the fact that the charges to secure a easement site for the project. Once we do that, we'll be able to come back, finalize the agreement with [unintelligible 01:14:17] septic to sewer. We do have some positive progress going with the added site.

The mayor and Chris talked about concerning the potential project skill, which will require negotiating the government agreement with the developers and also setting up a trust with the development for the benefit of the village. In addition, we've been delaying the adoption or the consideration of the procedural resolution, which I think we'll bring back in April once we have a full council. We'll have a new councilperson and mayor will be here so I think that would be the best time to consider it. That will come back in April. That's it.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very much. I appreciate it. Councilperson Mathis or Roman, you don't have community reports on here, but if you guys, either one of you, would like to say anything about your committees or anything that's going through your mind as far as like the village, you can go ahead and do so.

Councilwoman Roman: I'd like to remind everyone of the upcoming events for public affairs. We have the next event is April 20th 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM right here at the top lot. That's the Easter Egg Hunt. That happens annually. Then on April 27th at 7:00 AM at Forest Man we're celebrating Earth Day with the annual Operation Cleanup. That takes place with a collaboration of our police department and again that's April 27th at 7:00 AM. Our 5th Annual Arm Forces 5k will happen on Saturday, May 18th at 7:00 AM. That should be set up shortly for the links so that you can sign-up to walk or run this 5k through our website.

?Speaker: It's the 10th?

Vice Mayor Nickerson: 11th.

?Speaker: Yes, 10th or 11th.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: It's the 11th.

Councilwoman Roman: What did I say?

?Speaker: You said 15th.

Councilwoman Roman: Or 18th.

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?Speaker: No, you said 5th annual. It's the 11th annual.

Councilwoman Roman: 11th annual. Sorry. I get confused with the 5k. 11th annual, Saturday, May 18th, so correction, 11th annual. We will be having that out as always outside of here in the village hall. That's always a fun event so if you don't want to run, you can walk it. Please mark your calendars. Flyers for all of these events will be going out via email from the village clerk and will be posted everywhere. Please, join us for these events.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Mathis, do you have anything that you want to brush on or--

Councilman Mathis: Well, I have meeting scheduled in Tallahassee. Everything that I have is built towards this specific project. Code enforcement. Carlos has done a fantastic job. I never met someone so eager about code enforcement like I am.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I'll go and say it. [unintelligible 01:17:22] leadership, man, and you're very eager about code enforcement and you're doing great at that also.

Councilman Mathis: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: For me, nothing really. Midterm budgets. Midyear budgets are--

Village Manager Alou: It's coming. It's forthcoming. I met with our CFO today and we had a very long meeting. We are in the process of setting our budget here in Dane and all that. We will have some things prepared and we'll alert you within the next few days about your budget. We're looking good, by the way, on new year budget.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I want to point out I met with CFO was it last week. I was like, "Look at this." Another good thing, madam manager, is that slowly, but surely we'll be allocating that money that we got from FEMA, which makes everything.

Village Manager Alou: Yes, that's right.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: I appreciate all your hard work. Also, you and the manager. I mean you and the mayor you would take the bull by its horns. I really appreciate that. With that being said, you guys, moving on to the next thing. Good and Welfare is [unintelligible 01:18:34] but we need guys who want to speak. Before we get to Good and Welfare we have to go through unfinished business in general order. I think it just got to business in a way. Is there anything else that you guys would like to say? Yes.

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Councilman Mathis: I did speak with Seth about the outstanding cease and desist and they're going to assist.

Village Manager Alou: Very nice. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Anyone else with unfinished business?

Village Clerk Jacobi: Yes. I want to remind the residents. I know Mayor Cubillos touched on it that the special election is coming up. It's a week from today. It's next Tuesday from 7:00 to 7:00. This is the precinct here. Not to forget to come out. It's April 2nd the special election. There are two candidates, so, please. It's just a reminder.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Definitely come out for that. We have two wonderful candidates and if you guys can reach out to them and if you have their contact information, it can be viewed all up there in the village. Hope you guys seen them around and had a chance to talk to them. We're looking forward to whoever makes it up here with us. Maybe, we'll feel sorry for them for joining our crazy family up here, but they'll be more than welcome to come here and join us. Moving to the next thing. We're looking for new business. Is there anybody out there that would like to discuss anything new you want to bring up?

Councilwoman Roman: No, thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Hearing none. We're moving to the Good and Welfare. Just the opportunity to last out to the important code [unintelligible 01:20:13] if you can come and talk about anything at all, come and state your name and address for the record.

Village Clerk Jacobi: [unintelligible 01:20:22] in court.

Village Resident: A couple of questions. When is the remarks to the item I resolutions or [unintelligible 01:20:31]? I thought that any changes to the charter have to be voted on by the residents. Am I right? Am I wrong? I don't know. That goes to Mr. Powell.

City Attorney Powell: It's not a change of the charter to choose the ordinance. It's a change in the code.

Village Resident: Basically, it's repealing a charter. It's repealing a--

City Attorney Powell: Code section.

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Village Resident: Basically, you're getting rid of that section?

City Attorney Powell: Correct.

Village Resident: That is the change to the charter?

City Attorney Powell: A change to the code.

Village Resident: What is the difference?

City Attorney Powell: The charter would require a referendum. As you mentioned at the beginning, whether it's a change to a code or an order which is an ordinance. It only requires two readings and advertising.

Village Resident: Okay, okay. In that house that took place?

City Attorney Powell: We just have the first reading and then, madam clerk, know the second reading.

Village Clerk Jacobi: April 23rd would be the second reading.

City Attorney Powell: The second will be April 23rd.

Village Resident: Okay. There's a second reading. Okay. Got it. Understood.

City Attorney Powell: What was the second question?

Village Resident: No. To give you the second question refers to the village mayor report. You mentioned the development that is in-- It isn't anything-- The possibility of a development of an apartment building. Where is that located?

City Attorney Powell: In the annex section.

Village Resident: That's where the trailer park.

?Councilman Mathis: The trailer park back here.

Village Resident: Back here.

City Attorney Powell: 86th or 84th.

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Councilman Mathis: You go down-- You know Don Carpet? Don Bailey's Carpet?

Village Resident: Yes.

Councilman Mathis: If you turn down that road further down there's-- You think it's a trailer park but it's not a trailer park. It's a [unintelligible 01:22:14]

Village Resident: Cool. Is that part of the hotel? I have no idea.

Councilman Mathis: Yes, exactly. [inaudible 01:22:20]

Village Resident: Okay. All right. By coming to the public to try to get understanding of the building apartment, which is scary, to be honest.

Village Manager Alou: We're still on workshop on that. Just keep an eye out for the date but there won't be a workshop.

Village Resident: Awesome. Thanks. The other one is regarding the report, regarding the good news that the chief police officer process is going well. You have a rate like 35 or [unintelligible 01:22:55]. I'm happy about that. You mentioned that there is a committee reviewing them, correct? There were members of the committee that they were chosen. Can we know who they are and how they were chosen based on?

Village Manager Alou: I asked each member of the council to identify someone they think would be interested in and had something valuable to contribute to the process. Each of them identified someone. I asked them. Some people said, "No." We asked another person that they recommended. It was through that.

Village Resident: Can we have the names of this?

Village Manager Alou: Yes. Christine McLane.

Village Resident: Hold on. Christine McLane.

Village Manager Alou: PJ Mills.

Councilwoman Roman: Patrick Mills.

Village Manager Alou: Patrick Mills, I'm sorry. Courtney Kirk and Mr. Orbi Bransen was asked but he put at the last minute could not attend.

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Village Resident: Okay.

Village Manager Alou: Those were the-- [unintelligible 01:23:50] The rest are all-- That's it.

Village Resident: Okay, okay. All right. I think that's all. Yes, that's all. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you. Good to see you. Is there anyone else for Good and Welfare? Before we close the meeting, who would like to say anything at all? Hearing none. Coming back to the council one last time. Anybody up here want to say anything? Councilperson Mathis?

Councilman Mathis: Thank you for supporting me going up to Tallahassee and making it back. I appreciate that.

[laughter]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Nothing but love for you, my brother. Nothing but love for you. Thank you.

Councilman Mathis: I'm a sole survivor.

[laughter]

Councilwoman Roman: I guess I--

Vice Mayor Nickerson: We have the--

[crosstalk]

[laughter]

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Councilperson Roman, you have anything you want to say?

Councilwoman Roman: No, it's nice to see we have a little bit of an audience today. Thank you for coming.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you, everybody, for coming out. Madam Manager?

Village Manager Alou: No, nothing more. Thank you.

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Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you. Thanks for the work that you do. It's a lot of work. Mr. Attorney?

City Attorney Powell: No, that would be all.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you. Good to see you as always. Working hard also with this is election coming up, running all over the place, [unintelligible 01:25:14], I appreciate. Madam Clerk, any last up?

Village Clerk Jacobi: No.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Thank you very, very much. With that being said, do I have a motion to adjourn?

Councilman Dreher: Set moved.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Have a motion. Do I have a second?

Councilwoman Roman: Second.

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Second. All in favor say, "Aye."

All: "Aye."

Vice Mayor Nickerson: Aye. The full council meeting for Tuesday, March 26th will be adjourned at 8:30 PM.

[01:25:36] [END OF AUDIO]

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