

**TOWN OF COTTAGE CITY  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, August 26, 2020  
5:00pm**

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Amarche, Wheatley, Young, Urey, Givens  
Town Manager: Consuella Barbour  
Chief of Police: Anthony Ayers Sr.  
Public Works Supervisor: Gregory Pinkney  
Office Manager: Brittany Gabriel

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Commissioner Young.

2020 Cottage City Scholarship Nomination and Selection – We had two candidates, Regie Santos and Sovereignty Waldron. The Commission discussed awarding both candidates and splitting the scholarship amount to each.

The Commission decided to award \$1,500.00 to Sovereignty Waldron and \$1,000.00 for to Regie Santos.

The Commission discussed the Cottage City Garden Ordinance 2020-03. Ms. Guelespe and Commissioner Young made some revisions to the document. Commissioner Young had no problem with the revisions made by Ms. Guelespe. Commissioner Young had edited some grammatical errors; some wording in section 17-4. The main thing she had a thought about was the deletion of the requirement to secure to lock up the garden at night; she does not have a preference for the specifics of that, but she saw traps in the garden and is concerned about children in the garden. She feels anyone can come in and traps can be anywhere that could harm someone. She wanted to get people's opinions on this. Diana Guelespe asked if Commissioner Young would feel more comfortable if there would be a clause put in to say the gardeners will not use traps. They have mainly used traps because they have been waiting on repairing the garden fence. The gardeners prefer that the garden not be locked. Commissioner Young would be fine with just not using the traps. The Commission discussed different ways to treat the garden so there wouldn't have to be traps put out. Ms. Barbour discussed that by not having a lock, it negates the point of having the liability release. Ms. Guelespe discussed having some master gardeners that have worked with them but she is happy to look into the – Ms. Guelespe is not in agreement with locking the garden, but the gardeners wants to make sure the garden is not an exclusive place or club. The Chief discussed the idea of doing a word lock, which would help keep children or random people out of the garden. All the gardeners and Town of Cottage City staff would have the code to get in. The attorney and insurance company strongly suggest having a waiver and liability release for all the gardeners to sign, releasing the town of any liability.

Commissioner Urey joined the meeting at 5:40pm.

The Commission discussed locking the fence or not locking the fence. They will take some time to think about it a little more and it will be tabled. The revised document will be sent to Mr. Best for now.

Electric Vehicle for Code Enforcement – Chief Ayers sent out a proposal document to the Commissioners about he believed would be the best arrangement for the Code Compliance Vehicle.

The Chief is suggesting to allow the use of the code vehicle for services, in the Town of Colmar Manor for a monthly fee of \$200.00 (annual amount \$2,400). The Commission discussed they are all in agreement with what the Chief presented of Colmar Manor giving us a monthly fee. Dan Baden from Colmar Manor discussed that when the two towns entered into the joint agreement for the code enforcement position, they discussed the different fees that would be included the joint cost. Colmar Manor has purchased the car in the past and the employee was a Cottage City employee. The cost \$300 was a reasonable amount of a lease payment and agreed that each of the town would pay that cost. The credit of \$150.00 that is currently billed is equated to a lease amount. Mayor Barrow stated that there would not be dual ownership for the vehicle. The only one item that has been difficult to cost was one of the insurances, we had to come up with an estimate. Mayor Barrow would like more understanding for the numbers when it comes to the charging stations. If there was a proposal made to Colmar Manor, Cottage City did not know about it. It was the Commission's understanding that Cottage City was not going to ask for half of the additional cost, Cottage City would absorb the full amount of the additional cost of the car, with the understanding that the vehicle would be in their ownership and be billed a leasing fee. The Commission and Mayor Barrow discussed making sure that all information that pertains to them sharing services be discussed together.

Bleachers – Last meeting there was a presentation on the trail lights, and bleachers was brought up. A staff member from PG Parks talked to Ms. Barbour about the bleachers, and that she can put in a request to put the bleachers put back in the Cottage City Park. The entire Commission came to a consensus to put in an application to put back the bleachers in the Cottage City Park. Commissioner Givens also stated he would like to put in a request to put in two goal posts so it could be a soccer field.

Motion to go into a closed session at 6:26pm to discuss personnel issues.