

## **CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2005**

Mayor Johnston called the meeting to order at 6:00 p. m.

Members present: Mayor Johnston, Vice Mayor Denham, Councilman Brown, Councilman Jennings, and Councilman Rothman.

Councilman Brown gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance

### **Status Report regarding Hurricane Wilma:**

Ms. Zimomra gave the following report:

- City Council apprised of Hurricane Wilma since Tuesday
- All vacation cancelled
- City employees placed on on-duty status
- City Hall phone open until 9:00 p.m.
- All contractors working on City project were demobilized
- All construction sites being secured
- City fuel tanks topped off
- Established check list accomplished
- Bell Tower secured and would be opened Saturday
- City Council called for a voluntary evacuation on Wednesday (residents could come and go off island)
- Advise Special Needs, the need for the very young and old leave the island
- Residents should implement the personnel hurricane plan
- Ask residents to empty freezers and refrigerators
- Extra dumpsters at the boat ramp
- Normal collection Friday and Saturday
- Remind residents take prescription medication, identification, personnel insurance and financial paperwork
- Governor Bush had signed an Executive Order due to predicted extreme weather conditions
- All job sites with port-a-johns visited and port-a-johns placed on the ground for safety
- Public Works would collect the port-a-johns left
- There would be partners meeting at 10:00 a. m.

Chief Tomlinson gave the following report:

- Staff prepared to take any action necessary to update the public
- Hurricane Wilma currently a Category 4
- Winds currently 150 mph
- Currently traveling NW at 6 mph
- Projected east/northeast turn
- Landfall unclear and predicted Sunday to Monday morning
- Expected extreme weather conditions as early as Sunday morning
- Shelters would be opened as needed
- School closed Friday
- Staff continued to recommend continuation of voluntary evacuation
- All Recreation programming cancelled
- Recommend City Council convene a Special Meeting Friday, October 21, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.
- Temporary City Hall would be at Holiday Inn at Bell Tower
- If necessary 60 rooms were on hold in Orlando for staff

**Public Comment:**

Judy Hex asked if the Causeway be closed

Chief Tomlinson stated the control of the Causeway was Lee County Department of Transportation and would not actually closed, but may become dangerous to cross with sustained winds of 45 m.p.h. or more.

Mr. Cuyler stated that Lee County had takes the logical move in warning people not to travel the Causeway.

Discussion ensued regarding heavy traffic on Highway 75 at this time, garbage pick-up schedule would continue as scheduled, very good compliance with the new waste schedule, and if the storm remains a Category 1 o2 the recommendation for evacuation would hold.

Mike Valiquette spoke to voluntary evacuation and going to mandatory, and asked if port-a-johns should be removed.

Chief Tomlinson stated that if mandatory evacuation were called police officers would be posted at the Toll Booth not allowing entrance to the island.

Ms. Zimomra stated that the reverse 911 was used, and port-a-johns should be place a under shelter or Public Works would pick them up.

Discussion ensued regarding concern about the rapid movement of the storm once it reaches land, focus was protecting life, residents should not be outside during the approaching of the storm, gas lines long, one of the island stations ran out of gas and had fuel delivered, advise was to keep gas tanks full and be prepared, and 20% increase in emergency room visits due to stress related problems due to the hurricane.

Councilman Jennings made a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Denham, to call a Special Meeting Friday, October 21, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.

The being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Pamela Smith, CMC  
City Clerk