

The Clermont Town Council met on May 5, 2015. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Kristi Crumpton gave the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council members, John Brady, Lynn Adams, Seth Weaver, Kristi Crumpton, and Eric Thomas. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

PUBLIC HEARING: CHRIS NONNEMAKER-DE-ANNEXATION: Mayor Nix said there were many wishing to speak and please keep your comments short. Mayor Nix told the citizens he had asked Attorney David Syfan if he would conduct the public hearing. He asked the ones wishing to speak to do so by raising your hand. He also asked them to state their name and address for the record.

Open Public hearing: Attorney David Syfan opened the public hearing at 7:05pm.

Attorney David Syfan began by explaining how de-annexation is the process by which the property owner request his property to come out of and no longer be a part of a city that is located within a county, and basically moving your property out of the incorporated city limits and into the county. He stated a public hearing is not legally required and therefore the Mayor and Council are doing more than what is legally required because they want to hear from the citizens about how they feel concerning the proposed de-annexation. He said he would limit everyone to three minutes each. He asked them to please refrain from making repetitive statements and that personal attacks are inappropriate. He stated doing this was a poor way to convince the city council that your side is right and to do so is a disservice to yourself. He said for those wishing to speak in favor will be permitted to speak first. After they have spoken the ones wishing to speak in opposition would then be allowed to speak.

Chris Nonnemaker asked the attorney if he could take a couple of extra minutes to address the Mayor and Council. Attorney David Syfan said he would allow him some extra time and to speak first since he was the applicant.

Chris Nonnemaker said he wanted to quiet some rumors. He stated he has given back to the community in many ways over the past 12 years. He gave the Council and Mayor a map of his property and the surrounding property. He stated it was a property rights issue and stated the benefits of de-annexation from the city would be additional revenue to the city, increase property values, create jobs, would draw interest to the area. He said the restaurant would have good food with a good concept. He asked to de-annex his property out of the city.

The names of the citizens that came forth and spoke in favor of allowing Chris Nonnemaker to de-annex his property were;

Ellen Schlossberg, Marie Hood, Jordan Hood, Michelle Kelly, and Bruce Johnson.

Some of the main points made by those who were in favor of the de-annexation were; it would provide jobs for people in the area, it would provide additional revenue for the Town, it would be a place to stop and have a glass of wine in between Cleveland and Gainesville.

The names of the citizens who came forth and spoke against allowing the de-annexation were; Warren Weaver, Danny Head, Joe McGoogan, Sherry Lawson, Jo Duke, Shannon Mooney, Jason Walls, and Kevin Woody.

Some points made by those who were opposed to the de-annexation were, the city would lose the option to decide what type of business could be opened there, it would set a precedence about de-annexations in this town, and several comments about not allowing alcohol sales in Clermont.

Close Public hearing: Attorney David Syfan closed the public hearing at 8:08 pm.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 82-2015-04-01: AN ORDINANCE DE-ANNEXING PROPERTY BELONGING TO CHRIS NONNEMAKER SITUATED ALONG 6483 CLEVELAND HIGHWAY:

Mayor Nix called for a motion to approve the de-annexation. With there being no motion to approve, he then asked for a motion to deny the de-annexation. Kristi Crumpton made a motion to deny the de-annexation. Seth Weaver seconded. Mayor Nix asked if there was any discussion. Council member Lynn Adams said she wanted to refer to our community vision statement in the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Clermont. After having read through the vision statement, she said she felt this was not the time to move forward with the de-annexation. Mayor Nix called for the vote and all Council present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Kristi Crumpton asked if she could make a statement. She said she would like to see the Clermont citizens patronize these businesses whose owners choose to do business in the Town of Clermont. She asked that we support them and let them know we appreciate them.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the April 2015 Minutes. Eric Thomas seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the March 2015 Financial Statement. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

REPORT: ORDINANCE 97-01 PLANNING AND ZONING: The Council reviewed the report.

PURCHASE OF LAWN MOWER: Seth Weaver made a motion to purchase a SCAG SWZT36-14FS walk behind mower with velkie-sulky and blade blocker. John Brady seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Mayor Nix announced the work session two weeks from tonight on May 19, 2015.

ADJOURN: Seth Weaver made a motion to adjourn at 8:19pm. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Sandra Helton, Town Clerk

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____