



**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY**  
NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA  
December 6, 2016  
7:00 PM

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**ORDER OF**  
**BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Marlowe at 7:00 pm. Those in attendance were, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas, Councilman Jeff Starkey and Councilman Chopper Davis. Deputy Mayor Phillips was excused.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Chief of Police Kim Bogart, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Development Director Lisa Fierce, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Mario Iezzoni, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Susan Dillinger, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran and Assistant to the City Manager Martin Murphy.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Approval of November 15, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

5 Vox Pop for Items Not Listed on the Agenda or Listed on Consent Agenda

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. None coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

6 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Judy DeBella Thomas and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes:

Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

- a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - October 2016

- b Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

- a First Reading, Ordinance # 2017-2099, Land Use Plan Amendment & Ordinance # 2017-2100 Rezoning - 6705 Jackson Street

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Ms. Fierce who then presented the item to Council. Ms. Fierce stated that the property for rezoning is owned by Morton Plant North Bay Hospital. There is currently a single family dwelling on the property which the hospital will be demolishing in order to create additional parking. The applicant is asking for a change in land use and zoning in order to complete the project.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve ordinance 2017-2099 upon its first reading. Mayor Marlowe then opened the floor for public comment for ordinance 2017-2100. No one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its first reading.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

8 Business Items

- a Appointment of Barrie S. Buenaventura, Esq., as Alternate Special Magistrate

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of the agenda item was to appoint an alternate Special Magistrate to help with the overwhelming caseload and also to serve in case there is any conflict of interest that arises with our current Special Magistrate. She stated Ms. Buenaventura is certified in local government law and has served previously as a Special Magistrate. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

- b Annual Membership Drive - Recreation and Aquatic Center

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of the agenda item was to request that memberships for December and January be discounted in order to incentivize memberships during the holiday season.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Davis requested a breakdown of memberships renewed of city resident vs. non-resident. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas asked how people can purchase the memberships. Ms. Smith stated that the software was still being installed and if completed in time people could purchase them online. If not, they can come to the Rec Center to purchase them and receive a gift certificate to be given to the recipient. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0.

Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

c Agreement for Professional Services for James E. Grey Preserve Improvement Project

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated earlier this year the city was notified they received a recreational grant. The grant was for \$485,000 with the restriction that only 15% of the amount may be spent on professional fees. Since the city already has an established relationship with Kimley-Horn, it is in the city's best interest to partner with them on this project. Improvements include the establishment of a parking lot, biking trail, walking trail and bridge.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas asked if signage will be incorporated into the project and what the timeframe would be. Ms. Manns stated that new signage is part of the wayfinding project. As far as the timeline the grant funds have not been released yet but most likely will be disbursed in the summer time. Once the funding is approved then the project will be let for Bid. Councilman Davis stated he is against this item as he felt that it should have gone out for bid. Ms. Manns stated there is nothing in Florida Statutes or the City's Charter that states this must be competitively bid. Mayor Marlowe stated he had a phone interview with a boy scout and the question was raised about service projects and the mayor stated that this project would provide the opportunity for service projects. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 3-1. Ayes: DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Nays: Davis Absent: Phillips

d Duke Energy Utility Easement Request (Gloria Swanson Parking Lot - Consideration of Approval

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated this item was to establish a utility easement for Duke Energy in order to move forward with the LED lighting in the parking lot. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Judy DeBella Thomas and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

e Invitation to Bid 16-018, 2015/2016 (CDBG) Circle Blvd. Improvements Project - Bid Award

City Manager Manns introduced Mr. Rivera who then presented the item to Council. Mr. Rivera stated the purpose of the agenda item was to approve the low bid by Augustine Construction for the Circle Blvd. Improvement Project. Augustine Construction has performed similar projects for the city in the past and have come in under bid. CDBG grant funding will go toward this project.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Starkey asked how this will coincide with the Residences at Orange Lake. Mr. Rivera stated that he has worked with the developer and this project will be completed before the construction begins. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

f Utility Service Truck with Crane Purchase - Division No. 107 Water Distribution

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. The purpose of the agenda item was to purchase a new utility service truck with crane. The truck would be used in the stormwater department. The request included a reserve of \$3,000 for outfitting equipment. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0.  
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

g Water Service Truck Purchase - Division No. 107 Water Distribution

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of the agenda item was to replace an eleven year old vehicle. The request included a reserve of \$3,000 for outfitting equipment. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0.  
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

h Pickup Truck Purchase – Division No. 110 Ground Maintenance

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the truck will be used by the parks and grounds maintenance division. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0.  
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

i 2016/2017 Roadway Striping Project - Consideration for Approval

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of the agenda item was for the application of roadway striping along Main Street from US19 to Congress. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

j Tribute to Triple Threat - Alcoholic Beverage Special Event

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of the agenda item was to conduct an alcoholic beverage special event entitled Tribute to Triple Threat in Sims Park on December 17, 2016.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Steve Ferrell came forward to thank Council for approving this event. Tina Ferrell stated Triple Threat was a nickname for Mr. Cartwright. With no further public comment, Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Davis stated this event was for Robert Cartwright who was killed last week in a motorcycle accident. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas thanked organizers for this event. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 4-0.  
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Starkey Absent: Phillips

k Three Minute Report: Economic Development Department

Mr. Iezzoni gave an update on several city projects including Main Street Landings. He stated that he had been in contact with Mr. McGurn and that he stated that construction is anticipated to start in January and would be complete within sixteen months. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated she is very hopeful the project will be completed before her term is up on Council in April 2018.

9 Communications

Councilman Davis complimented how well the medians on US19 look. He asked Ms. Fierce to look at

the old Argus building as the siding is falling off the building. He asked that voting on the RAC bid be the first meeting in January.

Councilman Starkey felt the Christmas tree lighting and the holiday card lighting was a very nice event and was complimented by the art show at the Rec Center. The boat parade was a great event as well and was amazing to see how many people filled the park for the parade. He complimented the decorations in the city and in Sims Park. He asked Mr. Rivera to look at the upkeep of the new landscaping along US19.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated that today is the feast of St. Nicholas and the hospital is hosting their tree lighting this week. She is excited for the wreath contest that is going on in the downtown area and she encouraged everyone to log onto the Chamber's website to vote. She also highlighted Seussical the Musical in Sims Park and brunch with Santa this weekend. The street parade will be this Saturday night with entertainment in Railroad Square after the parade. She encouraged everyone to donate to one of the many Toys for Tots boxes around the city. She stated a robotics group who placed third in the world in a recent competition will be coming after the first of the year to share their experience.

Mayor Marlowe thanked Councilman Starkey for providing his boat for the parade. He was very impressed with the event. The Christmas tree lighting was a first for the city. It was nice to see our city becoming a nice place live. He thanked Mario for taking the owner of the Cat Tours under his wing and sharing his expertise.

#### 10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Meyers, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Initialed: \_\_\_\_\_