



**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

May 7, 2024  
6:00 PM

\*Please note the meeting times for regular city council meetings has been changed to 6:00 p.m. effective for all meetings after April 1, 2024.\*

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**ORDER OF**  
**BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Chopper Davis at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Deputy Mayor Matt Murphy, Councilman Peter Altman, Councilwoman Kelly Mothershead, and Councilman Bertell Butler, IV.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie L. Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Finance Director Crystal Dunn, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Police Chief Bob Kochen, Library Director Andi Figart, Technology and Innovations Director Robert Greene, Assistant City Manager Gregory Oravec and Human Resources Director Arnel Wetzel.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of April 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Kelly Mothershead and seconded by Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

5. Oath of Office - Matt Murphy

6. Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Councilman Altman made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Kelly Mothershead to serve as Deputy Mayor. Motion seconded by Councilman Matt Murphy. Motion passed. 5-0.

Motion made by Pete Altman and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman,

Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

- 7 Citizens Academy Graduation
- 8 Proclamation - Municipal Clerks Week
- 9 Proclamation - Day Of Remembrance
- 10 Proclamation - Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day
- 11 Utility System Overview Presentation

Assistant Public Works Director Colin Eichenmuller presented the Utility System overview.

- 12 Vox Pop for Items Not Listed on the Agenda or Listed on Consent Agenda

Mayor Davis opened the floor for public comment. The following people came forward to speak:

- Donald Cadle, 6820 River Rd., NPR spoke regarding boat traffic on the river and better signage for manatees.
- Judith Allen, 5940 Grand Blvd., NPR spoke regarding her code violation for her dead tree and the CDBG grant.
- Ronald Becker, 6822 Grand Blvd., NPR spoke regarding the Day of Remembrance proclamation.  
Marlowe Jones, 6141 Pine Hill Rd., PR spoke about his acquittal last year.
- Shinikki Whiting, 5755 Indiana Ave., NPR spoke about Councilman Murphy.
- Kate Spurloch, Asst. State Attorney, introduced herself as she is a candidate for judge.

With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Davis closed Vox Pop.

- a Speakers must identify themselves prior to speaking by stating their name and full address for the record. Speakers shall address the City Council as a whole and refrain from addressing individual members of the City Council or the City staff. Speakers shall afford the utmost courtesy to the City Council, to City employees, and to the public, and shall refrain at all times, from rude and derogatory remarks, reflections as to integrity, abusive comments, and statements as to motives and personalities.

- 13 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the consent agenda.

Motion made by Bertell Butler and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

- a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

- 14 Public Reading of Ordinances

- a Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2024-2287: Amending Section 10.06 of the City Charter RE: Corporate Boundaries

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a second and final reading of an ordinance to amend Section 10.06 of the City Charter pertaining to the boundaries of the city and providing for revised city boundaries. She stated there have been 9 annexations since 2005. This ordinance will bring the legal description of the city up to date as several annexations have occurred since 2005. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its second and final reading.

Motion made by Pete Altman and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

15 Business Items

a Request for Approval of Extended "Wet Zone" for Taste of New Port Richey Event

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to approve an application submitted by NPRMS for an extended "wet zone" for the Taste of New Port Richey event on May 16, 2024. He stated that the event is scheduled from 5:00pm to 10:00pm and will span the areas identified in the site map included in the application packet. The Taste of New Port Richey event does not plan to sell beer and wine and only requests to establish a "wet-zone" so that attendees can consume alcohol while attending the Taste of New Port Richey event. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Kelly Mothershead and seconded by Bertell Butler. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

b ITB24-016 Grand Blvd. Multi-Use Path (MUP) Phase 1 Project Bid Award

City Manager Manns introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then presented the item to Council. He stated the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the bid submitted by Augustine Construction in the amount not to exceed \$1,733,106.56 for the 2023 Grand Blvd. MUP Phase 1. This phase will connect with the City's existing path on Marine Parkway and head north to Gulf Dr. Design elements include the asphalt milling and the paving of the existing roadway surface. The construction of a 10' wide concrete path, decorative street lighting, landscape and irrigation areas that will include trees, shrubs, and ground cover. Finally, stormwater improvements will be installed along the MUP to improve current drainage activity. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Bertell Butler and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

c 2022 Main Street Sidewalk Project Change Order No. 1

City Manager Manns introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then presented the item to Council. He stated the purpose of this agenda item was to approve Change Order No. 1 in the amount not to exceed \$197,153.03 submitted by SC Signature Construction, Inc. for the 2022 Main Street Sidewalk Project. The change order includes the construction of approximately 2,730 linear feet of five (5') feet wide sidewalk, the striping of six (6) pedestrian crosswalks, and the installation of approximately 1,288 square yards of Bahia sod in the southern area of the Heights neighborhood south of Marine Parkway and approximately 170 linear feet of five (5') feet wide sidewalk on the north side of Main Street between River Road and the Main Street Bridge. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Matt Murphy and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

d Resolution No. 2024-07: Re-Appointment of Members to Florida Small Cities CDBG Citizen's Advisory Task Force

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to re-appoint five (5) members to the Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Citizen's Advisory Task Force (CATF). She stated that on January 15, 2019, the City Council created the CDBG CATF and duly appointed six members to serve. City Council then re-appointed six members to the CATF via

Resolution No. 2020-11 on April 7, 2020 for a term of three years. As the terms have expired, it is necessary to re-appoint at least five new members to the CATF. The proposed five new members are as follows:

1. Stephen Blanchard Sr., 5100 Providence Circle #4, Income-restricted
2. Tammy Pumphrey, 5823 Delaware Ave, Income-restricted
3. John B. Martin, 60309 Oak Ridge Ave, Income-restricted
4. Dora Cantwell, 5829 Delaware Ave, Non-Income-restricted
5. Jeff Olds, 7341 Jasmin Drive, City Employee, Non-income restricted

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Pete Altman and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

e Consideration of Appointments to Intergovernmental Committees

Motion was made by Councilman Altman to make the representatives as follows:

- Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization - Matt Murphy with the alternate being Bertell Butler, IV
- Pasco County Tourist Development Council - Kelly Mothershead
- Suncoast League of Cities - Bertell Butler, IV
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council - Peter Altman
- Tampa Bay Water - Chopper Davis

Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Mothershead. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council.

Motion made by Pete Altman and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

16 Communications

Deputy Mayor Mothershead spoke regarding helping some of our struggling businesses and directional signs to help locate businesses in the downtown area. She stated she agreed with Dr. Cadle's comments about the traffic on the river. Councilman Altman stated we are looking forward to the new boat ramp area out on US 19. Councilman Butler asked if the police boat goes out regularly. City Manager Manns stated it does go out on a schedule. Mayor Davis suggested putting uniformed signs on docks. Mr. Rivera stated that we do provide signs. Councilman Murphy stated that manatees do not have much place to go during low tide. Deputy Mayor Mothershead thanked Shinikki Whiting for reaching out to her for Narcan. Councilman Murphy thanked the citizens for his re-election. He stated there is a MPO Board meeting this Thursday and they will be going over several projects some of which are in the city. Councilman Altman stated the overpass project may be a CRA project. He spoke regarding the coast-to-coast trail and what it could do for our area. He stated ecotourism is the top of the line right now. He stated our city deserves to be part of the trail. Councilman Altman spoke regarding Mrs. deChant's letter regarding the LDRB. He spoke regarding the sign at the cigar bar. He is sympathetic to assist in any way we can. He is going to the resiliency summit later this week. Councilman Butler spoke regarding Mrs. deChant's letter. He also spoke about board applications and the process. He also spoke the Patriot Stogies sign and the ordinance. He also spoke about changes to the mural ordinance. Councilman Butler spoke about clarifying questions. Mayor Davis spoke regarding displaying maps. City Manager Manns stated she wanted to correct the record regarding the CDBG grant and she stated we have not lost money and we have activated the task force in order to administer the program and that Ms. Allen is number one on the list for help.

17 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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

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

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