



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

July 16, 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.

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 Kelly Mothershead, Councilwoman Matt Murphy, and Councilman Bertell Butler, IV. Councilman Peter Altman arrived at 6:02 p.m.

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 Solutions Director Mike Miller, Assistant City Manager Gregory Oravec and Human Resources Director Arnel Wetzel.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of July 2, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Bertell Butler and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy Absent: Altman

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

City Attorney Driscoll read aloud the rules governing Vox Pop. Mayor Davis then opened the floor for public comment. The following people came forward to speak:

- Judith Allen, 5940 Grand Blvd., NPR spoke regarding her Special Magistrate hearing earlier today, elder abuse and the Attorney General.

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.

6 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

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

- a Cultural Affairs Committee Minutes - March through May 2024
- b Library Advisory Board Minutes - March through May 2024
- c Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

- a First Reading, Ordinance No. 2024-2303: Amendments to Chapter 22, Code of Ordinances RE: Flood Damage Prevention

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a first reading of an ordinance which amends Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances regarding flood damage prevention. She stated that the City participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and participates in the NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS), a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities in order for resident's insurance policies to be eligible for premium discounts. In order for the City to satisfy the prerequisite and for maintain its current CRS rating, all manufactured homes installed or replaced in special flood hazard areas must be elevated to or above at least the base flood elevation plus 1 foot, which necessitates modification of the existing requirements. She stated there were also changes to foundations for one-family and two-family dwellings in flood hazard areas. The Land Development Review Board discussed this item at their meeting on June 27, 2024 and unanimously recommended approval. 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 first reading.

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

8 Business Items

- a Appeal of Order to Demolish: Heino Luts, 6220 Maplewood Drive

City Manager Manns requested this item be postponed but reserve the right to put this back on the agenda and reinstate it if a real estate closing does not occur by the end of the month.

- b Board Re-Appointment: Kelly Smallwood, Cultural Affairs Committee

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the re-appointment of Kelly Smallwood as first alternate member to the Cultural Affairs Committee. She stated that Mrs. Smallwood has been a valued member of the Cultural Affairs Committee since 2016. Her current term expired on June 7, 2024. Mrs. Smallwood has submitted an application seeking re-appointment to the Committee however she is requesting that she be re-appointed as first alternate member instead of regular member. If approved, Mrs. Smallwood's term would be for two years and would up for renewal on July 16, 2026. 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

c Board Appointment: Vincent Gaddy, Cultural Affairs Committee

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the appointment of Vincent Gaddy as a regular member of the Cultural Affairs Committee. If approved, Mr. Gaddy's term will be for two years and will be up for renewal on July 16, 2026. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Vincent Gaddy came forward to introduce himself. With no one else coming 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 Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

d Consideration of Disposal of Surplus Property for Auction

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve staff's request to identify vehicles/equipment and declare the vehicles/equipment "Surplus Equipment" and authorize staff to process the vehicles/equipment for auction using the services of The Public Group, LLC. Mr. Rivera stated that all of the vehicles are between 10-25 years old. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Judith Allen, 5940 Grand Blvd., NPR came forward to ask what vehicles are for sale and address of the auction house. With no one else coming 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

e Public Works Operations Center HVAC Project Close Out

City Manager Manns the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve a final pay request in the amount not to exceed \$41,250.00 and a deductive change order in the amount of \$3,750.00 to Air Mechanical and Service Corporation (AMSCO) for the Public Works Operations Center HVAC Project. Mr. Rivera stated this replacement was part of the deficiency analysis that was conducted. 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

f Ratifying IAFF Contract

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to vote affirmatively in favor of ratifying the proposed collective bargaining agreement between the City of New Port Richey and the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), Local 1158 for the period spanning from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026. She introduced Human Resources Director Arnel Wetzel who then presented the agreed upon terms and conditions as follows:

Language:

There is the clean-up and updating of language where such throughout the agreement was outdated or no longer relevant to practice.

Grievance Procedure:

Provide consistent language and increase the number of business days in which to respond to a grievance at each step by 5.

Holidays:

Officially list the addition of Juneteenth as a holiday in the contract.

City Fire Safety Inspection Program:

The City will establish a pilot Fire Safety Inspection Program in consultation with the Union. Firefighters eligible to participate in the program will be paid time and one-half their regular rate when conducting off duty inspections under the program. The City may discontinue the program at its discretion, and the discontinuation shall not be grievable.

Personnel Practices:

Employees hired on or after October 2, 2023 must obtain State of Florida Paramedic Certification within three years of their date of hire. The Fire Chief may grant an extension of up to one additional year at their discretion; however, denial of an extension shall not be grievable.

Seniority, Lay-Offs and Recall:

Consistency of lay-off and recall notice language to reflect the same number of days for each (10 business days).

Leave of Absence:

Increase designated Union representative time off to deal with Union business, conferences and training from 24 hours to 72 duty hours per fiscal year.

Uniform Issue:

Fire Chief may allow a member who achieves normal retirement to keep their City-issued helmet upon retirement.

Wages:

Step Increases

For each year of the agreement, bargaining unit members will be eligible for step increases. Each bargaining unit member is eligible for no more than one step increase per fiscal year.

1. For Fiscal Year 2023-24, effective the beginning of the first payroll period of the fiscal year, the steps reflected in Appendix A shall be increased by 5.5% from the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 steps.
2. For Fiscal Year 2024-2025, increases to each step, if any, will be established through reopener negotiations.
3. For Fiscal Year 2025-2026, increases to each step, if any, will be established through reopener negotiations.

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 Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy

9 Communications

Communications were deferred until the end of the CRA meeting.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____