



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
October 4, 2016
7:00 PM

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, Deputy Mayor Bill Phillips, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas, Councilman Jeff Starkey and Councilman Chopper Davis.

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, and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of Minutes for September Meetings and Work Sessions

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Judy DeBella Thomas and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

5. Swearing-In Ceremony: Firefighter Randall Briggs

6. Recognition of New Port Richey Main Street for Awards Received at the Florida Main Street Conference

City Manager Manns introduced Bob Smallwood from New Port Richey Main Street who came forward to speak about the awards received at the Florida Main Street Conference in Deland that was held in August. The City was presented with the Business of the Year Award which went to Dulcet and the Secretary of State Merit Award for Outstanding Main Street Improvement Award which went to the

Sims Park Improvement Project.

7 Audit Presentation by Clifton Larson Allen LLP

This item was withdrawn from the October 4, 2016 agenda and rescheduled for the October 18, 2016 agenda.

8 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.

9 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - August 2016

b Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

10 Public Reading of Ordinances

a Second Reading, Ordinance #2016-2086: Shopping Carts

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the matter that needed to be addressed by the Dept. of Agriculture has been resolved. The intended goal of the ordinance is to eliminate the abandonment of shopping carts throughout the city. The ordinance outlines a shopping cart retention and retrieval plan.

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas asked Chief Bogart for clarification regarding when a shopping cart is located somewhere in the city. Chief responded by saying that the ordinance calls for the business owners to have a plan in place to retrieve wayward carts. The ordinance allows for a ten day grace period for the retrieval of the cart(s). If failed to pick up within the allotted time the carts will be disposed of. Chief stated that he has had mostly favorable responses from the stores that he visited to discuss the ordinance. The goal of the ordinance was not to harass business but partner with them to help end this issue.

Councilman Starkey stated he was pleased at how staff worked with the businesses on the ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Phillips stated the ordinance did not give a specific timeline that the signage needed to be posted. City Manager Manns stated the ordinance states that businesses have 120 days to comply.

Councilman Davis stated that he liked how the staff partnered with the businesses. He stated he was not sure if the ordinance will make a difference or not due to those in need who use the carts as a means of transportation. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas reiterated the fact that stealing is stealing no matter what the circumstance.

Motion made by Judy DeBella Thomas and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 4-1. Ayes: DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey Nays: Davis

11 Business Items

- a Request for Council Approval to Accept a \$20 Monetary Donation

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

- b Request for Council Approval to Accept a \$500 Monetary Donation

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

- c Request for Council Approval to Accept a \$380 Monetary Donation

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

- d Non Emergency Resolution #2016-18 - Abatement and Removal of Unsafe Structure at 5052 Tangelo Drive

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the structure at 5052 Tangelo drive was damaged due to fire. Development Director Fierce made a presentation to Council. She stated that the owner has not taken any responsibility for the property. She stated the structure is due to be demolished on October 24, 2016. Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for comment but no property owner or substantially affected person came forward to speak. Mayor Marlowe then closed public comment. Deputy Mayor Phillips stated that he knows that staff followed all the protocols but it seemed that this has been facilitated quickly. City Attorney Driscoll then read the resolution by title.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

- e Fee Resolution for Parks and Recreation

City Manager introduced Parks and Recreation Director Smith who then made a presentation to Council. She stated the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the recommendations by the Sports Facility Advisory Group and proposed the increase of fees in some areas. Ms. Smith then read the resolution by title. Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for comment, no one coming forward Mayor Marlowe closed public comment and returned the floor to Council. Councilman Starkey raised concerns over the group rate and Mayor Marlowe agreed. Councilman Starkey stated that it was quite a difference in dividing the group rate by six people versus an individual rate. Councilman Davis suggested changing the group from six to four. Deputy Mayor Phillips asked how many times the rates have changed since 2012. Ms. Smith stated this was at least the third time. Councilman Davis suggested that the fees be reviewed each year.

City Manager Manns made the suggestion to defer this agenda item until the next regular meeting on October 18, 2016. Council agreed to defer the item until that date.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Other. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

- f Three Minute Report: Finance Department

- g Three Minute Report: Fire Department

- 12 Communications

Councilman Starkey stated he felt that the Tyler Technology Project needs to be implemented. He read out of an article from FRPA Journal written by Elaine Smith. He complimented her on a well written article and how it stresses how we are working to take back the city. He asked if someone could get the plants pulled out of the side of the buildings from Main Street Landing. In the old art gallery location there is a new store called Sip and is a welcome addition. He wished a happy anniversary to his wife, Amber.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated she was downtown and there is a new store called Vintage Chickabees and said the owner has a friend who is looking to get into the downtown but there is no open space. She stated it looked like the new Beef O'Brady's looks as if it will open any day and is excited at all the new opportunities.

Mayor Marlowe stated that it is urgently important for residents to report anything that looks suspicious. He stated his wife noticed some open windows at Main Street Landings and Chief reported that there was a burglary. He stated that Bikefest was this weekend in the Park.

Deputy Mayor Phillips stated he was going to wait until the next Council meeting for most of his comments. He stated that he would like to know the estimated date that the new Beef's will be open so he can put it on his calendar.

Councilman Davis said he was happy to see the fence down around Beef's but was hoping that they would have been open for Bikefest. He stated he received some pictures from Delaware and asked that staff take a look at them. He reminded that a marketing plan for the new video screen still had not been presented. He stated he would like to receive a monthly update from the new city attorney.

13 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, Interim City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____