



**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**

**September 19, 2017**

**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 7:03 pm. Those in attendance were, Deputy Mayor Jeff Starkey, Councilman Bill Phillips, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas 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 Andi Figart, 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 August 29, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes and September 5, 2017 Special and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

5. Proclamation - Boulevard Beef & Ale 20th Anniversary

Joe Norton accepted the parchment from Mayor Marlowe. He also thanked the City and the community for their patronage over the last twenty years.

6. Swearing-In of New District Chiefs: Robert Gupton and Scott Burford

7. Presentation by the Library Advisory Board RE: Long Range Plan

Library Director Andi Figart began the presentation by providing current statistics for the Library. Then members of the Library Advisory Board presented recommendations from the long range plan to Council. Library Director Figart stated the plan needed to be approved by Council and submitted to the State no later than October 14th.

Deputy Mayor Starkey thanked the group for their presentation. He is all for the applying for the grant funding but was concerned about approving the report as is with the recommendations. City Attorney Driscoll stated that Council could vote to approve the report as an advisory plan.

Councilman Davis asked if the advisory plan would be okay with the grants and Library Director Figart stated yes that Council could approve the plan as an advisory tool.

Mayor Marlowe asked the item to be placed on the October 2nd Council agenda.

Councilman Phillips stated he would like it to be clear when the plan is presented as an agenda item what the parameters are that trigger or don't trigger the funding. If it doesn't meet protocols and is rejected we will look foolish. He asked that the agenda item for October 2nd include what the plan does and what it allows you to do from grant perspective so we can make the best business decision possible.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated that some of the items in the plan are more of a wish list and asked to have the items separated before the plan is presented for approval.

8 Presentation of Florida Recreation and Park Association Award

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. No one came forward to speak therefore Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

10 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 Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

11 Public Reading of Ordinances

a Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2017-2118: Brewpubs and Microbreweries

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that staff has taken considerable time researching the different types of breweries relating to brewing and distribution. Development Director Fierce stated that additional terms were added, along with a table of how businesses are permitted and staff met with perspective business owners and met their concerns.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Brian Hackman came forward to thank staff for all of the hard work they have done. With no one else coming forward, Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to

Council. Mayor Marlowe asked Mr. Hackman about wanting to operate a nanobrewery and he stated he believes he can operate well under microbrewery or a tap room capacity. Mayor Marlowe asked Mr. Iezzoni about the other owners who are interested in operating a brewery downtown and he stated the other interested owners are alright with the ordinance as presented.

Councilman Phillips stated he appreciated the broad definition of what a beer garden is. Glad staff was able to pull this together and engage this new industry.

Deputy Mayor stated he believes this fits 100% into the way we're trying to get the downtown dynamic to go. He encouraged people to visit a microbrewery if they have not been to one.

Mayor Marlowe stated this will add a significant boost in the class of the downtown.

Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

## 12 Business Items

### a 2017 Report on Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the 2017 report on Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan as required annually for credit under the National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System. Development Director Fierce stated by filing this report it helps to lower insurance premiums. 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 Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

### b Three Minute Report: Parks and Recreation

## 13 Communications

Mayor Marlowe thanked staff especially Public Works and the Library staff for their cleanup efforts. Staff was doing what needed to be done to get us back up and running. Everyone went the extra mile. He is looking forward to Monday night's budget discussion but is leery about getting the millage down without drastically cutting city services. He referenced a newspaper article that discussed a community in Florida that did not lose power or traffic lights as they had solar for backup power. Something to think about in order to keep essential city services up and running.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated we dodged a bullet with this storm and that it was an eye opening experience. Thanked staff across the board and commented that our presence was known. He thanked all the volunteers who came out to cleanup the parks.

Councilman Phillips congratulated staff for their outstanding performance last week during and after the hurricane. He stated the Cyclovia event is a quiet element now and we have a few weeks to get the word out. It will be a new and different event than what people are used to as it will require different traffic patterns. He is anxious to see how that will slow the traffic on Grand Boulevard and how it will tie into the trails program. He stated he once again wanted to challenge his colleagues to take millage rate and get it down into the 7's as it is the right thing to do for our businesses and residents. Re-engage at moving the city forward.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated that everyone has their own story with the hurricane experience. She wanted to thank who was in charge of the City's Facebook page as it was very timely and good information that was being posted. She was very impressed that there was not a lot of damage throughout the city as was anticipated. She was in the insurance industry for over thirty years and always stressed to her clients to have a plan. She stated there was the reality of thinking you may be coming back to no home. There is a sense of what we all went through. She stated she was impressed on things were handled at sandbag locations. She will be out of town for Cyclovia and is disappointed to miss it.

Councilman Davis commended staff for the great job that was done. He stated that Public Works crews are still out cleaning up.

City Manager Manns thanked Council for the kind words about staff and also thanked city staff for all of their hard work.

14 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

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

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

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