



**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**

**February 6, 2018
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 Jeff Starkey, Councilman Bill Phillips and Councilman Chopper Davis. Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas was ill with the flu and excused from the meeting.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, 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 Police Lieutenant Lauren Letona.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of January 16, 2018 Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

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

Mayor Marlowe and Councilman Davis recognized Jessica Davis for her efforts of collecting trash around the city. Councilman Davis presented her with a t-shirt and day passes from the Recreation & Aquatic Center along with a gift card for her efforts.

Mayor Marlowe then opened the floor for public comment. Dr. William Dulaney came forward to speak about motorcycle profiling. He is the national club's regional spokesman. He stated Florida ranks number three in the nation for motorcycle profiling. The people who are drawn to motorcycle

clubs are comprised forty percent of veterans. Motorcycle clubs step up to help when the need in communities arise.

Raymond McPeck came from Colorado and stated he is also a retired combat veteran. He referenced comments made over the recent motorcycle incident that were negatory in nature by an outside elected official. They are like brotherhood. He stated that we cannot blame the victim in this incident.

John Morrale stated biker profiling is real. Christian bikers get profiled and it impedes their ministry. He stated a few years ago his club was pulled over in Daytona for no apparent reason. He closed his comments with a prayer to Council.

Councilman Davis stated he understands what profiling is all about because he goes by Chopper. Mayor Marlowe stated that his pastor rides a motorcycle along with his son who is currently serving in the Navy.

Kelly Hackman came forward and stated that this Friday evening some of the merchants are hosting a shop and sip event from 6-8pm. She stated a total of seven businesses are participating. She invited Council to attend the event. She also thanked the police department for the recent traffic enforcement along Grand Boulevard.

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

6 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

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

a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

a Second Reading - Ordinance No. 2018-2132: Amending Chapter 17 - Pensions and Retirement RE: Police Officers' Retirement System

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns stated the majority of the changes were due to IRS code requirements and collective bargaining. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Phillips asked for clarification on the definition of spouse. City Attorney noted the definition was in section three. Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

b First Reading, Ordinance No. 2018-2133: Code Amendment - Regulating Donation Bins

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns stated this agenda item was brought forward at the request of Deputy Mayor Starkey. City Manager Manns stated we wanted to establish standards regarding donation bins. City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Lisa Fierce who presented the item to Council. Ms. Fierce began her presentation by showing some locations around the city that have excessive dumping around donation bins. This ordinance will require that the owner get a permit and be responsible that their bins remain junk free. This ordinance mirrors the county ordinance already in place. The provision for signs to be attached to the bins was added after LDRB approval. The ordinance will go into effect after 180 days.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Henry Fernandez came forward and stated that donation bins are used to help people in the community. Excessive dumping creates an eyesore. He then highlighted the requirements of the proposed ordinance. He urged Council to approve the ordinance. With no one else coming forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council.

Mayor Marlowe asked if there was any requirement that we had to have them. City Attorney Driscoll stated no. Councilman Davis asked if we start having a nuisance one how long to get rid of it. City Manager Manns stated there are current tools in place to address nuisance properties.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated these bins do not work in New Port Richey. There is a serious problem with illegal dumping. This ordinance will provide the regulation that is needed.

Mayor Marlowe stated there are places where people can take things to drop them off instead of having bins everywhere. His concern is if someone does get cited it will just migrate across the street and we will be right back to where we were before.

Councilman Phillips stated it is a slippery slope. Obviously we want to regulate it. The larger problem is Pasco County requires taking large items to the county dump. We have been proactive by having two days a year that have community clean up. We are trying to regulate it. Wish we had a place where our citizens can get rid of items. This is a good first step. He had issue with regulations on private parking lots. He stated should not ban outright without further analysis. He suggesting putting directions on signs where people can take large items.

Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its first reading.

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

8 Business Items

a Appeal of Order to Demolish - 5451 Marine Parkway - Ali & Triggiano Property

City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Lisa Fierce who then presented the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to appeal an order to demolish for a property located at 5451 Marine Parkway. Ms. Fierce reminded Council this was a quasi-judicial hearing. Each Council member stated that they had no ex-parte communications on the matter. Ms. Fierce began her presentation by stating that the house was built in 1962 and has numerous code violations over the years. Met criteria for slum and blight. Property owner filed an appeal and included a scope of work and building plans. Staff is recommending approval of the appeal with two conditions; that permit be issued in thirty days and work required within 180 days. The property owner, Mohamed Ali came forward and provided a timeline to Council.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Don House came forward and stated that we are trying to improve Marine Parkway. Mr. Ali stated he could meet the timelines. Mayor Marlowe then closed public comment and returned the floor to Council. Councilman Phillips stated he appreciated all the extra work that has been done. He is good with the permit side. Substantial completion targets. He stated he did not know if the property owner can make the six month timeline. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated the property owner sounds like he wants to improve the home. He clarified that the house is not in A zone just the land. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

b Appeal of Order to Demolish - 4943 Cactus Drive - Keough Property

City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Lisa Fierce who then presented the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to appeal an order to demolish for a property located at 4943 Cactus Drive. Ms. Fierce reminded Council this was a quasi-judicial hearing. Each Council member stated that they had no ex-parte communications on the matter. Ms. Fierce began her presentation by stating that the home was built in 1957 and has several code violations over the years. Condition met criteria for slum and blight. Property owner has applied for appeal and provided scope of work and building plans for property. Staff is recommending approval of the appeal with two conditions; that permit be issued in thirty days and work required within 180 days. Property owner, Christine Keough, came forward and stated she bought the house for her family. She tried to apply for a grant to aid in the repairs. She was told she needed to live in the home for a year before she could apply. She applied for a roofing permit in mid-April. She has met with staff to address what all needs to be done.

Upon opening the floor for public comment, Don House came forward and stated the plans were drawn in June in order to get the estimates complete. Finally have all estimates. Mayor Marlowe closed public comment and returned the floor to Council. Councilman Phillips stated maybe we need to be more clear on the parameters on our side. Ms. Fierce stated she begged to differ and that we are very clear on grant provisions. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he is glad they are going to renovate it. Two years has been too long for the house to be sitting in the condition it has been in. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

- c Emergency Resolution No. 2018-05: Abatement and Removal of Unsafe Structure at 6013 Madison Street

City Manager Manns stated this item was being withdrawn as the structure has already been removed by the property owner.

- d Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project Close-Out Phase 2

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve a final pay request in the amount of \$21,700 and a deductive change order in the amount of \$105,638.73 to HD Supply Waterworks, Ltd. as closeout the AMI Project-Phase II. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Phillips asked if this included everyone in the city. Mr. Rivera stated this covers all customers in the utility. Councilman Phillips asked how does it deal with turn on/turn offs and alarms if someone has a spiked water element. Mr. Rivera replied that is an item available that will be implemented in the next phase. Alarms can be set off now and information is handled manually. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

- e Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Storage Garage Project Bid Award

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the bid award for the WWTP Storage Garage Project to Peak Power Services, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$66,237. There was a fire at the garage last March. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Phillips asked for clarification on the undetermined designation of the fire. Chief Fitch stated that they were able to determine point of origin for the fire but there was too much damage to determine a cause. Councilman Phillips asked if we had history with Peak Power as there was a sizable difference in bids. Mr. Rivera stated he talked with Charlotte County and they were quite pleased with the work done by Peak. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

f Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Influent Bar Screen Bid Award

City Manager Manns introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then presented the item to Council. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the bid award for the WWTP Influent Bar Screen Project to Lakeside Equipment Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$54,707. Mr. Rivera stated that all bidders were eager to get their product into the plant. The company has good history with the products they have manufactured. 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 Bill Phillips and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Davis, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey Absent: DeBella Thomas

g Three Minute Report: Fire Department

9 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated he was happy with the increased traffic enforcement over the last few weeks along Main Street and Grand. He had the opportunity to go over to My Network One for the Legendary Blue Notes meet and greet and encouraged everyone to attend the concert in the park this Saturday. He noticed the dredge for Orange Lake was being disassembled and asked Mr. Rivera if any interesting items were found. Mr. Rivera replied mostly just golf balls were found.

Deputy Mayor Starkey asked if there were any lights at Boulevard Park. City Manager Manns stated staff would look into the matter. Went to Arbor Day at Frances and stated that there is no access to river except through the kayak launch. He suggested he would like to see perhaps an elevated dock or floating dock overlooking the river. He asked police to crack down on people who don't have their dog on leash. He asked when the new website will be up and running. Mr. Weed stated the departments have submitted their revisions and it should be up and running in the next few weeks. He stated it was encouraging to see projects underway and businesses opening downtown and thanked Council for working together to moving the city forward. He reminded everyone that the election is coming up and people have until noon on February 20th to file paperwork.

Councilman Phillips noticed there is a lot of outdoor advertising and seating. He is all for it and encourages it but it hasn't been dealt with as a Council. There have been no discussions on safety. He understands that it promotes but need to understand what we are doing. May have risk if injury. He noticed advertisement for officers on Facebook. Lt. Letona stated three positions open. He asked City Manager Manns asked to look into the lone light in the middle of Frances Avenue Park. He stated he did want to talk about the City Manager's review. There are a number of benchmarks and if manager is held to standard then it will flow through. Last year did not do good job setting parameters and expectations. He asked if the Ms. Feast could define the key areas the audit went through and how it came to conclusion. Ms. Feast stated that after presentation by audit team, staff went through final draft of the CAFR and submitted to state. He asked about the annual evaluation of contracts and wanted to know what audit element is done and what oversight is done on the p-cards used by each department. How they are being used and what is being charged. He wanted to make sure they are not being used to fast track projects that should be going through the bid process. Ms. Feast stated that the auditors test transactions to make sure processes are being followed correctly. He reminded everyone about the Open House at Rec Center on February 17th and the Bertie Higgins concert at Richey Suncoast Theatre.

Councilman Davis stated he wanted a continued report of dates and times on audit. This year's audit should be done more timely. He would like to have an update at Council meetings so they can discuss it rather than the update given in the City Manager's report. He stated he has been working with Mike Speidel and Bryan Weed about putting rabies info on the website. He asked if the crosswalk will be done by Chasco. He also requested a more detailed spreadsheet from the Rec Center.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____