



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

April 3, 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 arrived at 7:04 pm.

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 and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Approval of March 20, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes 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

5 Proclamation - Water Conservation Month

Joel Brown from SWFMD accepted the parchment from Mayor Marlowe.

6 Proclamation - PowerTalk 21 Day

Chrissie Parris from Bay Care accepted the parchment from Mayor Marlowe.

7 Proclamation - Donate Life Month (By Title Only)

8 Swearing-In of New Firefighter: Andrew Ramer

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Chip Wichmanowski came forward and stated that this Thursday one of the business owners is going to be evicted due to a tenant and landlord issue. Mayor Marlowe stated he had sent a letter to the landlord stating what a quality tenant Sugar Darlings is and how important it is to the downtown.

John Kane came forward and stated that he was here to follow up on the issue he spoke to at the last Council meeting. He thanked the City Manager and Chief Bogart for their quick response with the matter.

Steve Schurdell came forward and wanted to encourage Council to remember that event organizers market the city through events. He asked Council to think out of the box regarding the shade structure use in Sims Park for event organizers. With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

10 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. 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 First Reading - Ordinance No. 2018-2138: Amending Chapter 17 - Pensions and Retirement

This agenda item was tabled until a later date.

12 Business Items

a Board Appointment: Kaitlin Connolly, Cultural Affairs Committee

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the application of Kaitlin Connolly as second alternate to the Cultural Affairs Committee. If approved, Ms. Connolly's term will be for two years and will be up for renewal on April 3, 2020. 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 Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

b Board Appointment: Alfred Renedo, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the application of Alfred Renedo as second alternate to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. If approved, Mr. Renedo's term will be for three years and will be up for renewal on April 3, 2021. 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 Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

c Alcoholic Beverage Special Event - 2018 Cotee River Seafest

City Manager Manns introduced Parks and Director Elaine Smith who then presented the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve an ABSEP for the Cotee River Seafest. The organizers wish to sell beer and wine in Sims Park as follows: Friday, April 20th from 5-11 p.m., Saturday, April 21st from noon-11 p.m. and on Sunday, April 22nd from 1-6:00 p.m. She stated an updated map will be available before the event.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Deputy Mayor Starkey asked if it would be a ticket system again this year and Mr. Schurdell stated yes. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated there would also be a Hurricane Expo at the event. Councilman Phillips asked about the grass restoration and whether it will take place between this event and KIAFest and Mr. Rivera stated staff would monitor it as there was not that much damage done by Chasco. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

d Ratification of International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), Local 1158 Contract

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was for Council to ratify the 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, 2017 through September 30, 2020. City Manager Manns thanked Keith Bauer and Micah Short for their participation in the negotiations this year. In regards to the contract three main issues were wages, pension benefits and Chapter 175 premium tax monies. There were other changes made but on a smaller scale including grievances, holiday pay, promotional examinations, layoff and recall procedures, use of medical leave, substance abuse policy, tuition reimbursement and language added for promotions to Captain. 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 Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

e Resolution No. 2018-06 - Imposing & Assessing Cost of Abatement and Removal of Unsafe Structure at 6821 Garden Drive

City Attorney Driscoll read the resolution by title only. 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 assess the costs of abatement of the unsafe structure at 6821 Garden Drive. Ms. Fierce stated that the total cost was \$3,490.85. 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. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

f Special Event Guidelines

City Manager Manns introduced Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith who then presented the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to establish guidelines for special events. Councilman Phillips suggested postponing this item until the new Council had been sat.

Motion was made to table this item until the May 1, 2018 City Council meeting.

It was the consensus of Council to allow public comment from event organizers since they were in the audience. Upon opening the floor to public comment, John Gilliss came forward and stated that he was approached to sponsor the fireworks about ten years ago. He sings every year at KIAFest. He had a tent in the park before the shelters were put up. He would have to re-evaluate sponsorship next year if he had to move his tent to the back of the band shell.

Chip Wichmanowski came forward and stated that thanked the city for taking the steps to protect their investment in the park. As an event organizer and you rent the park you should be able to rent the park including the shelters. He appreciated the five foot instead of ten foot setback on the sidewalk. Asked to reconsider the spacing between the non-food tents. Have to have certain ways to thank the sponsors of the events.

Deputy Mayor asked for clarification regarding reserving shelters. Ms. Smith stated that people can reserve shelters on-line and can coincide with events going on with the park. Councilman Davis stated if you are renting the park you should be able to rent the shelters and shade structures. Councilman Phillips stated he wanted clarity which was why he suggested postponing this item until the new Council is set. Mayor Marlowe suggested that larger events need to start thinking about park-and-ride options.

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

g Amended Request to Purchase Three Harris DM-M78B Mobile Radios

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to re-approve the purchase of three new police radios. When Council approved this item back in November, there was an error with the vendor that was listed. 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 Judy DeBella Thomas and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

h Consideration of Salary Adjustment for City Manager

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was for City Council to consider a salary increase. Council performed the performance appraisal on March 20, 2018. She has reflected on all the comments made and am very grateful to be City Manager. She is not seeking a salary increase this year. Motion was made to accept the City Manager's request that no salary increase be given at this time.

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

i Three Minute Report: Public Works Department

13 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated that Sugar Darlings had complaints for handing out brown bag lunches to those in need. He has referred people there. It's our obligation as a community. He stated that he hopes the landlord has a change of heart. Mayor Marlowe stated that it has been a pleasure to serve with Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and Councilman Phillips. He stated that he would never forget the day Councilman Phillips and himself toured the Hacienda and because of Sunshine Law couldn't talk during the tour but had similar thoughts. He stated that Councilman Phillips was an integral part in

making the Hacienda revitalization happen. He stated that Councilwoman DeBella Thomas has always been conscience of making New Port Richey a better place and it is because of their service.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated that you know you are good when you run for council and no one runs against you. He stated that it has been a privilege to serve with both Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and Councilman Phillips. He stated that being on Council is a tough job as we are the first to get yelled at. He commended Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and Councilman Phillips for their upmost professionalism and wished them the best.

Councilman Phillips thanked everyone for the kind words. He stated he gets emotional when it comes to his city. You are defined by where you grow up and people you associate with. He thanked Mike DeVito as he has always gone above and beyond. He sets an example for us. He presented Mr. DeVito with a gift certificate to the East Main Coffee Shop and a certificate for dinner.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas thanked everyone for their comments and stated that she is keeping her comments until April 17th. She stated this afternoon she received an email from the Florida League of Cities with the State of the Cities report. One thing stuck out that municipal population has outgrown other areas tremendously. She stated that there is online training for youth councils to get them started. Florida Main Street is a technical assistance program and we can tap into them for consultants. Would like to see some strategic lighting around the Hacienda.

Councilman Davis stated that we work as a team. Council did not always agree but it has been pleasure working with each of you. He thanked Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and Councilman Phillips for their service.

City Attorney Driscoll thanked Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and Councilman Phillips for their service. City Manager Manns echoed the comments made by City Attorney Driscoll.

14 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____