



**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 17, 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, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas and Councilman Chopper Davis. Councilman Bill Phillips was excused.

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, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Mario Iezzoni, Library Director Andi Figart, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran and Assistant Public Works Director Barret Doe.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of April 3, 2018 Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

5. Presentation to Outgoing Council Members Bill Phillips and Judy DeBella Thomas

6. Administration of Oath of Office to Newly-Elected Council Members

7. Election of Deputy Mayor

Motion was made to nominate Jeff Starkey as Deputy Mayor. Deputy Mayor Starkey graciously

accepted the nomination.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

8 Proclamation - Rotary Club of New Port Richey Fruit Tree Peninsula

Brent Simon and Marilyn deChant accepted the parchment from Mayor Marlowe.

9 Proclamation - Volunteer Recognition Day (By Title Only)

Mayor Marlowe read the proclamation by title only.

10 Presentation by The Gibbs Planning Group RE: New Port Richey Retail Market Analysis

Robert Gibbs from the Gibbs Planning Group made a presentation to Council regarding the results of the downtown retail analysis.

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Wendy Brenner came forward and stated that she was proud of the city and the candidates that ran for office. She attended another forum where there was divisive candidates. Our candidates were all positive. It was a welcome sight in this day and time. She also thanked the Gulf High School students who helped with campaigns.

Paul Black came forward and stated he appreciated the Madison Street road work that has recently been done. He noticed the height of the road is higher than the manholes. Assistant Public Works Director Doe stated contact was made with the contractor today and those problems are being addressed.

Ruth Ann Jackson came forward and wanted to bring attention to the amount of vehicles being parked on Montana and Wyoming. Councilman Davis asked if there was a certain distance they could not park from the corner. Chief Bogart stated there is a sight triangle. Assistant Public Works Director Doe stated he believed it was thirty feet. Chief Bogart staff will look into the matter further. With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

12 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Jeff Starkey and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - February 2018

b Cultural Affairs Committee Minutes - February 2018

c Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

13 Business Items

a Consideration of Appointments to Intergovernmental Committees

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was for City Council to appoint a member to serve as the City's representative on each of the following intergovernmental committees: Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization, Pasco County Tourist Development Council, Suncoast League of Cities, Tampa Bay Regional Planning

Council and Tampa Bay Water and to appoint a member to serve as an alternate on the Pasco County Metropolitan Planning Organization. The appointments are as follows:

- Tampa Bay Water - Mayor Marlowe (Motion made by Councilman Davis and seconded by Councilman Altman)
- Metropolitan Planning Organization - Deputy Mayor Starkey with Councilman as alternate (Motion made by Councilman Altman and seconded by Councilman Davis)
- Tourist Development Council - Councilman Davis (Motion made by Councilman Altman and seconded by Deputy Mayor Starkey)
- Suncoast League of Cities - Councilman Murphy (Motion made by Councilman Altman and seconded by Councilman Davis)
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council - Councilman Altman (Motion made by Councilman Davis and seconded by Deputy Mayor Starkey)

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 Pete Altman and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

b Proposed Parklet Program

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve guidelines for a proposed parklet program. City Manager Manns stated that since the work session on March 27, 2018, staff has worked on proposed guidelines as follows:

Placement - on streets with posted speed limit of 25mph or less, only one per block, not to obstruct utilities

Design - include seating and vegetation, 18" from travel lane, flush with curb or ADA accessible, build with light colored materials

Operation - 18 month period of time, cleaning and maintenance to permittee, must remove in extreme weather events.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, Lisa Bolster came forward and stated she would like to discuss the prohibition of food and alcohol. She stated that parklets are public spaces. There are provisions for alcohol in public spaces. City Manager Manns stated that there is no prohibition of food only food service. Patrons would have to carry their food out. Do not necessarily need a prohibition of alcohol in parklets but to make sure they have insurance and proper license.

Bob Langford came forward and stated the experimental parklet was a good thing as it was a new and fresh idea. It will benefit the city.

Deb Morris came forward and asked for clarification on service of alcohol. If you buy your drink inside and take it out does that qualify as service.

John Kane came forward and stated that as he understands there was criteria in the past for outside food and alcohol. He does not think the object of this is for anyone to be slighted.

With no one else coming forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Mayor Marlowe stated he believed there will be a discussion on alcohol in public places on sidewalks in the near future. He suggested leaving alcohol portion silent for now.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he did not want to table alcohol too long. He is for someone purchasing food and alcohol and taking it across the sidewalk to the parklet. He asked the City Attorney should we address the alcohol now or one in the same. City Attorney said look at one in the same and one

comprehensive. Ordinance would need to be changed. This extends further than sidewalk and into the street. Truly public space anyone can bring in their own alcohol from outside sources. He asked about having it anchored. Building Official Evetts stated that if remain in inclement weather should be anchored. City Manager Manns stated that the guidelines as set forward do not have to be anchored only movable to safe location in inclement weather. Lisa Bolster came forward and stated that her parklet weighs more than a car and prohibits movement in itself.

Councilman Murphy stated that inclement weather should be clarified. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated maybe if area is under a hurricane watch or warning.

Councilman Davis stated we have to lease the sidewalk and parking spot to them as the license will have to be an extension of premise. Look at how wide sidewalk has to be. Need to work out lease with those who want parklet and maintain sidewalk accessibility. He has some concern about it being tied down. Look at outside of Fitzgerald's as it is similar to a parklet.

Councilman Altman stated the suggestions Mr. Gibbs gave in his presentation last night and to expedite this parklet would follow Councilman Davis' plan to lease. Make parking spot part of the sidewalk. Safety will be a factor. Staff should review the corrective measures suggested by Mr. Gibbs. Favor of approving parklet guidelines and look into leasing the space.

Deputy Mayor Starkey asked Mr. Gibbs to come down and address parking concerns. Based on current retail space we have Mr. Gibbs stated currently there is 6 cars per retail space. Parking standards are more appropriate for a non-walkable place. Most walkable towns have about three spaces per retail space.

City Attorney stated this was intended to be an open space to anyone. This is intended to be a pilot program.

Councilman Murphy stated to move forward with pilot program and implement other areas as we move forward.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated we have to decide whether parklet or dining deck.

Mayor Marlowe stated staff is looking at Grand south to narrow road and expand the sidewalks. Set up dining deck for a trial period.

Councilman Davis made a motion to move forward with a dining deck with SIP. Deputy Mayor Starkey seconded the motion.

Bob Carroll came forward and stated his concerns with the conversations are allowing structures to be built. Glass in his building and the codes it has to meet. Unfair advantage with completely different code for someone to expand their business.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated the downtown is changing. Ordinances need to change as city evolves. What current codes are and what we can do to adapt them.

Councilman Altman stated to generate lease and determine how to lease the space in a parking area. So parking lot can still be functional.

City Attorney Driscoll clarified the motion on the floor to move forward allowing dining decks with alcohol. See what measures need to be taken and may be a specific agreement for a specific space through a use agreement and may include an ordinance for alcohol. Mayor Marlowe called for the vote and motion passed 5-0.

Second motion was made to by Councilman Altman direct staff to come back with a proposal from the Gibbs Planning Group. Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Starkey. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0.
Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

- c Emergency Resolution No. 2018-08: Abatement and Removal of Unsafe Structure at 5620 Virginia Avenue

City Attorney Driscoll read the resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. On there property there were two dwellings. The accessory structured was damaged by fire on March 16th. The property owner has hired a contractor and obtained a permit to handle the demolition. Staff recommends that Council move forward with the emergency resolution in the event the contractor fails to demolish the property within the three week time span indicated. Mayor Marlowe stated this was a quasi-judicial proceeding. The property owner came forward and stated that she hopes the contractor will have it done when he says it will be. Building Official Evetts stated the fire destroyed 85-90% of the structure. Property owner is not fighting demolition. She wants it to be removed. 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: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

- d Orange Lake Improvements Project Bid Award - Consideration for Approval

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to award the bid for the Orange Lake Improvement Project to Augustine Construction in the amount not to exceed \$1,297,796. This is for Phase II of the project. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman asked where the funds are coming from. City Manager Manns stated the funds are available in the City's CIP Budget. Councilman Altman stated the drawing does not lead much to be desired. City Manager Manns then displayed conceptual drawings of the two boardwalks and canopies. She stated that she would be happy to pass along additional photos in the City Manager's report. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he would like to see nice and classy deck lighting. 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: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

- e Cultural Affairs Committee Funding Request - West Pasco Art Guild Art Show

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the Cultural Affairs Committee recommendation of funding to cover the rental of Peace Hall for an art show hosted by the West Pasco Art Guild. The amount of the request is \$300. The art show is this Saturday, April 21st. 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 Pete Altman and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes:
Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

- f Three Minute Report: Library

14 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated the old First Baptist Church property has officially been sold and Frank Starkey's project should be up and running. He is looking forward to great times ahead working with his new colleagues.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he will miss Councilman Phillips and Councilwoman DeBella Thomas but he concurs with Mayor and is excited to work together. The new members will bring new and awesome ideas to Council. Continue to move the city forward. He congratulated Mayor Marlowe for being recognized by the FLC for receiving the Home Rule Hero Award.

Councilman Davis stated he enjoyed working with Councilman Phillips and Councilwoman DeBella Thomas and is looking forward to working with Councilman Altman and Councilman Murphy.

Councilman Altman excited to work with Council. Difficult years getting momentum going and train is running. Going to other conferences and not lot of City Council attending annual conferences. Go to conferences and find things we were not even looking for. Something is really working right now. Momentum is key word.

Councilman Murphy stated he is honored to be here and that the voters have trusted him with this responsibility.

City Manager Manns stated she spoke to Councilman Phillips and expressed her appreciation for what he did during his tenure. She stated she wanted to publicly thank Councilwoman DeBella Thomas for her leadership and her tenacity.

15 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____