



**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 16, 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 Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, Deputy City Clerk Joyce Haasnoot, Police Chief Kim Bogart, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Andi Figart, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Development Director George Romagnoli, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of October 2, 2018 Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. With no one coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

6. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

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

- a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

- a First Reading - Ordinance No. 2018-2147: Amendments to Police Pension Ordinance (Memorializing Contract Changes)(To be heard after Item 8C)

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

8 Business Items

- a Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalitions Sea Level Rise Memorandum of Understanding

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition. The purpose of the MOU is to affirm the City's commitment to participate in efforts to prepare, adapt and mitigate for the effects of sea-level rise and climate change on a regional level. Staff has reviewed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding and has determined that the content is appropriate. 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 Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Starkey

- b Alcoholic Beverage Special Event - 2018 Freedom Fest

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve an ABSEP for the upcoming Freedom Fest event. The organizers wish to sell beer and wine in Sims Park on Friday, November 9th from 2:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., Saturday, November 10th from 12:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 11th from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. City Manager Manns recommended beer and wine sales from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, November 9th rather than the proposed 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The reason is to keep the time concurrent with the event. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Davis asked for clarification on what will happen between 5:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The Veterans Alternative representative stated the vendors will set up during those hours and they will sell beer or wine. Motion was made to approve the item.

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

- c Ratification of the Agreement between the West Central Florida Police Benevolent Association and the City of New Port Richey

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

- d Three Minute Report: Parks and Recreation Department

9 Communications

Mayor Marlowe summarized his recent meeting with Tampa Bay Water and explained the TAP project in the City of Tampa. In regards to Pasco Pride Fest and Bike Fest, he feels it shows the city's

progressive nature. He does not know how the Pasco Pride sponsor didn't know or understand that certain vendors are not allowed at the festival. Mayor Marlowe stated that some groups that protested were known agitators and in general sponsors followed the rules. He stated he would like to have a workshop to discuss the size of events and the frequency we have events. He would like to discuss the parking situation during large events. Mayor Marlowe pointed out that the extra parking at Circle Boulevard will be lost once the new owner begins development on the lots. He received a comment from someone that directional signage at Main Street and Grand Boulevard is blocking the crosswalk and requested the city look into removing or moving the sign.

Deputy Mayor Starkey commented on feedback he has received from citizens regarding the Pasco Pride Festival and Bike Fest. He does not see any issues when the city hosts their own events in the park, such as family movies and concert. However, he has received negative feedback from people in regards to both non-city sponsored events. He feels event sponsors need to realize if you are renting our park, you are not taking it for the weekend. They are being allowed to use it by the city. Deputy Mayor Starkey again referenced feedback he received and was appalled at some of the comments. He clarified he is not against the events, just against some of the behavior that goes on at these events and does the city want to represent themselves in a negative way. He feels the event sponsors are using the event for advertising for their own personal business and are taking advantage of the city. Vendors need to realize that the city is not obliged to allow them to use our park. He stated he would like the city to do a better job vetting events in regards to who is renting the park, what behavior is acceptable and what advertising and signage is allowable. He would like a report presented to Council from the Fire Department, Police Department and Parks and Recreation after every large event that is not sponsored by the city with the event coordinator in attendance to address any issues and questions. Deputy Mayor Starkey also wanted to remind fellow council members that when they speak to the media or press to remember that unless the Council has discussed and agreed on a subject, they are only representing themselves and their own opinions. They are not speaking on behalf of Council.

Councilman Davis attended both events. He felt the police addressed any issues that came up immediately when they were made aware of any situations. He commented on the size of the crowd at the Saturday night concert during Bike Fest and noted that many of those people did not stay longer than the concert. He asked when the audit will be presented. He proposed a detailed report be submitted on the current audit to include when it started and a regular report that will inform Council of the current audit status. Councilman Davis believes the city has not given the auditors requested information in a timely manner and is causing some issues. City Manager Manns informed Council that Finance Director Crystal Feast was not in attendance at the meeting because she was working on the audit. She also stated that the city did provide some documentation late, however, the Tyler conversion has caused issues with the audit completion and documents getting to the auditors in a timely manner. She understands there is frustrations on all levels and the audit should be complete by the end of the month.

Councilman Altman stated his interaction with both events was minimal and he hopes the City Manager can advise all of Council on any issues that come up. He stated that Council needs to work together as a group of five that he agrees with Councilman Starkey that all discussions need to occur at meetings and publicly in order to represent Council. He stated he met a new resident in town and she told him she moved here because of its charm. He stated we are a progressive city and that certain activities will not always be appealing to everyone. He stated he thought we had rules on banners and advertising signs during events. Councilman Altman stated he feels before beginning our capital improvement projects, we need the audit report. The city needs to know how much money was in the bank at the end of 2017 and 2018. Once the audit is presented and settled, going forward, Council should receive quarterly financial reports. Councilman Altman referred to three developments in the city, The Wilds, Sunnybrook Condominiums and Briar Patch in regards to extending our CRA. We should not include them in our CRA extension as those areas are privately managed communities with private roads and we may not envision capital improvement projects in those areas. He informed Council that while at Dulcet, in Cavalaire Square, the fountain that the city had custom made years ago was covered in lime

deposits and some of the brick work in the park was in need of improvement. He would like to see it repaired. Councilman Altman suggested with the loss of the Circle Boulevard parking imminent, event sponsors can work with local schools, churches, PTA's to raise funds and offer parking at their locations.

Councilman Murphy stated it is up to the vendors to vet what is proper conduct and not proper conduct and we need to address it with the sponsors before events. After Bike Fest, he volunteered with other volunteers to clean up after the event and it went well from that perspective. He recently attended the National Alliance on Mental Health dinner and wanted to acknowledge Police Detective Karen Norris who received the Crisis Intervention Team award.

Councilman Davis asked if the lease Dulcet has with the city for Cavalaire Square covers maintenance. City Manager Manns said it did not cover the maintenance.

Councilman Starkey wanted to add that he doesn't take the emails he receives word for word but focuses on the main issue regarding the email and that some things should be common sense that for an event sponsor to be aware of.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

(signed) _____
Joyce Haasnoot, Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____