



**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**  
**CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY**  
NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA  
September 24, 2019  
5:00 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 5:00 p.m. Those in attendance were, Deputy Mayor Jeff Starkey, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy. Councilman Chopper Davis was excused.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Charles Rudd, 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.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

2 Discussion on Legislative Priorities

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this work session was to highlight the Council's legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session. City Manager Manns then highlighted the Florida League of Cities 2020 Action Agenda priorities. City Manager Manns then highlighted the following projects:

- Marine Parkway Overhead Bridge
  - The project involves the establishment of a 142'9" bridge and ramp system spanning over U.S. Highway 19 and constructed of prefabricated steel through truss. An estimate of probable cost of the project is undetermined at this time and is contingent on whether or not it is constructed to accommodate golf cart traffic.
- Leisure Lane/Van Doren Avenue
  - The request for funding would be for the purpose of establishing a sanitary sewer

system within the neighborhood. The estimated cost for the project is \$2,000,000.

- Hacienda Hotel
  - The purpose of the request for funding would be to implement perimeter land treatments i.e. landscaping and hardscape elements on the north and west sides of the hotel property into Sims Park. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 200,000.
- Beach Street Sewer Improvement Project
  - The installation of approximately 1,980 of 36" outfall pipe along Beach Street to the river. The estimated cost of the project is \$854,000. SWFWMD has approved \$354,000 for the project as of now.
- Cotee River Underpass
  - The project involves the establishment of a multi-modal path at the intersection of the Pithlachascotee River and U.S. Highway 19 to connect the Miller's Bayou arear of Port Richey to the City of New Port Richey. The cost of the project is \$3.6 million dollars.

The Pasco County Legislative Delegation meeting will be held on Friday, October 11, 2019 at 8AM at Pasco Hernando State College on Ridge Road.

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Marilyn deChant came forward and asked about the funding sources for the Cotee River Underpass. City Manager Manns stated the funding sources have not been designated yet. Mrs. deChant asked about golf cart use and liability issues. City Manager Manns stated yes that golf carts will be allowed. Mayor Marlowe stated there was an additional cost added to allow for golf carts. With no one else coming forward, Mayor Marlowe closed public comment. Mayor Marlowe stated the sales tax fairness is something that needs to be dealt with. There are over 3,500 different taxing authorities around the country each with their own regulations. He also stated that transportation funding is an issue that is going to become critical in the future. EV's do not pay gas tax. Mayor Marlowe stated he believes the gas tax will go away and possibly be replaced by a mileage fee.

Councilman Murphy stated he liked the list of projects. He was not sure about the Hacienda landscaping project. He asked about the right-of-ways for the pedestrian overpass. City Manager Manns stated we have established construction costs but have not acquired any right-of-way. She stated there is money dedicated in the CRA for the acquisition of right-of-way.

Councilman Altman stated the amount received from the County is based on what we spend. He stated the stormwater and sewer projects align with what the Governor has agreed with. In regards to the underpass, our costs should be for the connection to the downtown.

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated there were a lot of positive points brought up earlier today at the join work session. When the pedestrian overpass is funded we need to be ready. The Habitat sewer project is very important. We have done well with securing grant funding for the Hacienda. Everyone seemed to be on board for the use of golf carts for the underpass project. We are going to have to use Penny funding and other sources for the underpass project and not rely just on FDOT. This project is important to our city's economy even though it is out of our city limits.

Councilman Altman stated the items on the FLC agenda are ones we want to support but we need to be able to get them to hospital if we are the first ones on the scene. Our lobbyist has said there was a bill submitted in the past to allow cities to provide that service. We need to find the right way to get the right resources to the right places. He stated the County needs to be willing

to cooperate with us.

3        Communications

None.

4        Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ (signed)

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

Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk