



**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 18, 2020**

**7:00 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 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were, Councilman Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy. Deputy Mayor Jeff Starkey 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, Development Director Earl Hahn, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran, Lt. Lauren Letona and Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Chris Bornfleth.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of February 4, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Matt Murphy and seconded by Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

5. Introduction of New Police Officers: Joaquin Gonzalez-Burgos and Brian Corrales

Lt. Lauren Letona introduced new Police Officers Joaquin Gonzalez-Burgos and Brian Corrales to Council.

6. Presentation of Environmental Committee Annual Report

Environmental Committee Chairman Dell deChant presented the Committee's annual report to Council.

7 Proclamation - Problem Gambling Awareness Month (By Title Only)

Mayor Marlowe read the proclamation by title only.

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Bob Langford came forward to thank staff for the barricades and the night at the museum event. On February 29th at 1PM at Peace Hall there will be an event with Brian Corley as a guest speaker. John Kane came forward to speak about the lights at Main Street Landings. He suggested planting mangroves to serve as a natural barrier for the lights. City Manager Manns stated staff is looking into several different options for the light issue. Councilman Altman stated there are efforts to reduce the lighting. Bonnie Martin came forward to thank Council for their support of the Library's needs. She stated there will be a ribbon cutting on March 7th for the Story Walk at the Grey Preserve. She stated there will be several events for the 100th anniversary of the Library. With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

9 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

a Library Advisory Board Minutes - November 2019

b Environmental Committee Minutes - January 2020

c Police Pension Fiscal Year-End Performance Report

d Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

10 Public Reading of Ordinances

a First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2181: Amendments to Firefighters' Pension Ordinance RE: 13th Check

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a first reading of an ordinance that effectuates a benefit change in the form of a one-time supplemental benefit payment under the New Port Richey Firefighters' Retirement System for each member receiving a benefit from the plan on October 1, 2009. She stated that City Council approved a one-time supplemental benefit which resulted in a one-time 13th check for current retirees and members of the DROP for the Police Officers' Retirement System on October 1, 2009. She stated that no form of an annual cost-of-living adjustment has been provided to the members in the past just as was the case with the Police Officers' Retirement System request. The cost to the City to fund this benefit improvement is \$6,187. Funds for this expenditure are available in the Pension Plan. 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. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

- b First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2180: Repealing Ordinance No. 2019-2055 RE: Conditional Use Application for 5780 Main Street (eCarve LLC)

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a first reading of an ordinance that repeals Ordinance No. 2019-2055 regarding a conditional use application for eCarve LLC for the operation of scooter rentals/sales at 5780 Main Street. The owner is no longer operating his business from that location. 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 ordinance upon its first reading.

Motion made by Matt Murphy and seconded by Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

- c First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2183: Amendments to Chapter 4 Animal Control RE: Prohibiting Chickens

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a first reading of an ordinance that amends Chapter 4 Animal Control in regards to prohibiting chickens within the city limits. She stated that in 2014 the City relinquished animal control services to Pasco County. As a result, the prohibition on chickens within the city limits was repealed when the City adopted the Pasco County ordinance. Therefore, this ordinance will reinstate the prohibition on chickens within the city limits. Upon opening the floor to public comment, John Kane came forward and stated he did not see this as an issue in the city. He stated there is more of a dog and cat issue. He suggested perhaps limiting the number of chickens someone can have. Penelope Anderson came forward and stated many people want to have chickens. She suggested a limit of three if kept in a coop. Heather Fiorentino came forward and stated the ordinance was written back in the 1980's because there were issues. She can appreciate it that people use them for food. She suggested looking back at why the ordinance was originally put in place. With no one else coming Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Mayor Marlowe stated he received a letter from Donald Blake regarding this issue and suggested putting a limit on the number of chickens. Councilman Murphy stated there should be a happy medium. He has not heard any complaints. Councilman Davis stated there is an odor to having chickens when there is a large quantity. He would like to have further information and hear from people who have chickens. Motion was made to approve the ordinance upon its first reading with the condition that staff look further into the matter and a recommendation be forwarded from the Environmental Committee.

Motion made by Pete Altman and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

## 11 Business Items

- a Fitzgerald's St. Patricks Day Celebration - Alcoholic Beverage Special Event

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve an Alcoholic Beverage Special Event Application for the Fitzgerald's St. Patrick's Day Celebration to be held on Railroad Square on March 15 - 17, 2020. The event organizers wish to sell beer and wine on Sunday, March 15th from 4PM-10PM and Tuesday, March 17th from 11AM-12AM. 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 Matt Murphy and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

- b Recommendation of Firms for Continuing Services Agreements RE: Architectural Consulting Services

City Manager Manns introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then the item to Council. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve staff's evaluation for professional architectural consulting services short list and continuing services agreement recommendation process. All nine firms that submitted for the RFQ earned higher than the 80 minimum points in order to be considered for this request. 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. 4-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy Absent: Starkey

- c 2020 Orangewood Lakes (OWL) Water System Improvements-Engineering Task Order No. 43

This item was deferred to the March 3, 2020 City Council meeting.

- d Quarterly Cash & Investment Performance Report

City Manager Manns introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who then presented the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to review the quarterly cash and investment performance report. Total investments totaled \$31,408,706. Income earned for the quarter was \$114,566. The change from the previous quarter was due to property taxes being collected for the quarter and the maturity of a US Treasury obligation. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Altman stated he would like to review and update the current investment policy.

- e Three Minute Report: Police Department

This item was deferred until a later meeting date.

- 12 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated no one qualified for the election so he was automatically re-elected. He is looking forward to the next three years. Councilman Davis thanked Main Street for their hard work with the dessert stroll. He wanted to know if we were on schedule for the audit. City Manager Manns stated we are on track. Councilman Altman highlighted the presentation by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council from the work session earlier this evening. Councilman Murphy stated the dessert stroll was a great event. The downtown was very busy on the concert night. Councilman Davis stated there were 60 golf carts at the event. City Manager Manns stated Deputy Mayor Starkey was not in attendance this evening as it was his son's 11th birthday.

- 13 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

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

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