



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

June 2, 2020
7:00 PM

ORDER OF
BUSINESS

1. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Jeff Starkey at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Councilman Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman and Councilman Matt Murphy. Mayor Rob Marlowe 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, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran and Lt. Lauren Letona.

- a Due to the Novel Coronavirus, the City Council will be conducting its meetings through the use of Communications Media Technology (CMT) until further notice. The City Council chamber will NOT be open to the public for these meetings. During the meeting, comments may be emailed to MeyersJ@cityofnewportrichey.org or you may call 1 (872) 240-3412, access code: 606-759-949. Please keep in mind that access to the meeting by phone may be limited and email access may be delayed. By waiting until the meeting to make a comment, you may not be able to participate in the meeting. The City Council reserves the right to proceed on any item whether public communications are delayed or otherwise obstructed.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Approval of April 28, 2020 Work Session and May 19, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

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

No comments were received for Vox Pop.

6 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, Murphy, Starkey Absent: Marlowe

a Cultural Affairs Committee Minutes - February 2020

b Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - March 2020

c Police Pension Board Minutes - April 2020

d Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

a First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2186: 2020 Water and Sewer Wholesale/Bulk Rate Analysis

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 adopt the findings and recommendations of the 2020 Water and Sewer Wholesale/Bulk Rate Analysis conducted by Stantec. She stated that the City hired Stantec to conduct a rate analysis in October 2018. She stated that the City's utility system currently has three customers - Pasco County, the City of Port Richey and FGUA. She then introduced Jeff Dykstra from Stantec who then presented the findings to Council. The City of Port Richey allowed its bulk water purchase agreement with the City to expire. Mr. Dykstra stated there has not been a bulk rate adjustment in two years. The goal of the analysis was to identify cost of providing service to bulk customers. Mr. Dykstra then highlighted the costs allocated to system functions. One of the goals was to calculate a single-rate for each service. The rates were then calculated into the current financial management plan. The new bulk rates will not require a modification to the plan. The analysis included the loss of revenue from the FGUA acquisition by Pasco County. The new bulk rates would be \$4.8642/per 1,000 gallons for water and \$4.1560/per 1,000 gallons for sewer. The rates exclude capital recovery and impact fees. Deputy Mayor Starkey asked if any comments had been received for this item and City Clerk Meyers stated no. Councilman Altman asked if we have a significant number of bulk water sales and Mr. Dykstra stated it is only around \$25,000. Councilman Altman stated the agreement with FGUA had an amortized schedule and impact fees were absorbed by the amortization. Councilman Altman stated there are complications with FGUA that he is uncomfortable with. Mr. Rivera stated the original Interlocal Agreement included capital recovery but was later changed to impact fees. If the County takes over after 2023 that all goes away.

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

b First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2179: Rezoning of 6656 and 6700 Orchid Lake Road (RNTC, LLC)

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Earl Hahn who then presented the item to Council. Mr. Hahn stated the current

business located on the property is a granite fabrication business which is not a permitted use under C-2 but would be allowed under LI. The LDRB reviewed this item at its May 21, 2020 meeting and has recommended approval. Deputy Mayor Starkey asked if any comments had been received for this item and City Clerk Meyers stated no. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

c First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2187: Rezoning of 6626 Orchid Lake Road (Unicam Group II)

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Earl Hahn who then presented the item to Council. Mr. Hahn stated the current business located on the property is operating in the space for warehousing of supplies which is not a permitted use under C-2 but would be allowed under LI. The LDRB reviewed this item at its May 21, 2020 meeting and has recommended approval. Deputy Mayor Starkey asked if any comments had been received for this item and City Clerk Meyers stated no. 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, Murphy, Starkey Absent: Marlowe

d First Reading, Ordinance No. 2020-2183: Amendments to Chapter 4 Animal Control RE: Regulations for 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 to amend Chapter 4 Animal Control regarding regulations for chickens within 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. On February 18, 2020 City Council was presented with an ordinance to reinstate the prohibition on allowing chickens within the city limits. It was the consensus of Council to not prohibit them but rather to institute regulations that would need to be abided by. The proposed regulations are as follows:

- No roosters shall be allowed on any property within the City at any time.
- Any property having live chickens thereon shall have chicken coops or pens on said property, in the rear yard only, constructed in a manner to keep the chickens housed therein at all times. Each chicken coop or pen must have at least two (2) square feet of space per chicken kept on the property. Chickens shall be allowed outside the coops or pens periodically between sunrise and sunset, only, so long as the same are properly confined on the property with an impenetrable fence. No chicken pen shall exceed fifty (50) square feet in area.
- Any property on which live chickens are allowed must be properly maintained to properly remove waste products and to ensure proper vegetative ground covers are maintained at all times. Any property on which a live chicken is kept that has more than one hundred (100) square feet of defoliated ground, outside a chicken pen or chicken coop area, shall be in violation of this Section.
- No property shall have more than five (5) live chickens thereon at any time.
- Live chickens shall not be slaughtered or processed for consumption on any property within the City at any time.

City Clerk Meyers then read the following statement into the record that was received from Keith McCarthy from St. Petersburg College:

Hello, my name is Keith McCarthy and I am a Public Policy and Administration student at St Petersburg College. I want to thank the council for taking the time to hear what I have to say today. I

currently live in Spring Hill, FL but, grew up in the New Port Richey/Port Richey area. I am fortunate enough to have enjoyed and currently enjoy the amenities that both cities have to offer. I am particularly proud to see the revitalization of New Port Richey's Downtown area with the improvements to main street and the Sims Park area. However, in recent years I have noticed the increased presence of free roaming chickens around the city. Having raised chickens, I can understand the nuisance problems they can cause if allowed to roam freely. I believe these problems may become a detriment to the progress the city has made in the past few years. For this reason, I am voicing my support for Ordinance No. 2020-2183: Amendments to Chapter 4 Animal Control regarding regulations for chickens. The amendments proposed appear to bridge the gap between an outright ban and the moderated ownership of chickens in city limits. They also appear to create a scenario that allows for the highest quality of life for the city's residents, those who choose to own chickens, and the chickens themselves. I thank you all for your time and consideration with this matter.

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

8 Business Items

None.

9 Communications

Councilman Davis stated he has gotten nothing but great reviews on the downtown wet zone. Councilman Murphy stated that everyone seems to enjoy it. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he has received positive comments as well. Deputy Mayor Starkey also welcomed back Elaine Smith.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____