



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

August 11, 2020
6:30 PM

ORDER OF
BUSINESS

1 Call to Order - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Marlowe at 6:30 p.m. 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 L. Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Police Chief Kim Bogart, 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 Earl Hahn, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2 Review of the FY2020/2021-FY2024/2025 Capital Improvement Program - Page 2

Finance Director Crystal Feast introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to review the budget for the Capital Improvement Program. She then introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then presented the proposed projects in the budget to Council. Mr. Rivera began his presentation by highlighting the projects for the General Fund. Projects included RAC restrooms and locker room project and Senior Center Room Replacement. Stormwater Utility Projects included Misc. Flood Control/Water Quality Project and the 2019 Grand Boulevard Drainage Project.

The Capital Improvement Fund 301 Parks & Recreation projects included James E. Grey Preserve Phase I, RAC Tennis Court Improvements, Cotee River Park Improvements, Meadows Dog Park upgrades and the Skate Park Project. Council then discussed the tennis court project and whether to move forward or build a facility at another park. Councilman Davis then showed pictures of the current conditions of the courts. Public Safety/Facilities projects included Fire Station Improvements, HVAC Control upgrades, Library Improvements, Seawall Stabilization and Sims Park Boat Ramp. Transportation projects included Marine Parkway

Pedestrian Bridge, Parking Lot Improvements and Grand Blvd. Multi-Use Path Phase I. Council then discussed parking issues in and around the downtown area and also the parking at the Hacienda. Mrs. Feast then highlighted the funding sources for all of the projects.

Water and Sewer Construction Fund 405 projects included Fleet & Purchasing Warehouse Construction Project, Misc. Right-of-Way Irrigation Expansion, Grey Preserve Reclaimed Expansion, Potable & Reclaimed Water System Extensions, Pasco County Interconnect Backflow upgrades, Orangewood Lakes Improvements, N. River Neighborhood Reclaimed Water Improvements, Potable & Reclaimed System Improvements, Grand Blvd. Bridge Water & Sewer upgrades, Sewer Main and Manhole Rehabilitation and Lining Project, Water Utility System Improvements, Sewer System Extensions and Orangewood Lakes Force-Main Interconnect Project. Mrs. Feast then highlighted the funding sources for the projects.

Redevelopment projects were discussed earlier in the evening at the CRA meeting.

Street Improvement Fund 701 projects included Traffic Sign Upgrades, EV Charging Stations, Neighborhood Improvements Project, LED Crosswalk Project, West Main Sidewalk Project, Roadway Striping Project, Neighborhood Alley Improvements and Street Improvement Project construction and engineering. Mrs. Feast then highlighted the funding sources for the projects.

3 Communications

Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he received more correspondence from Mr. Swartzel at the dump site in the little park. He stated he continues to receive complaints about social distancing in our restaurants and he suggested reopening Railroad Square again. Mayor Marlowe stated he would not be in favor of it. Councilman Davis stated we shouldn't punish the masses over the one. He stated there are other places in town that have remained open. Councilman Davis stated social distancing is non-existent at certain establishments. Councilman Murphy stated he would be willing to reopen Railroad Square again with ground rules set. Councilman Altman stated at the TBRPC meeting yesterday stated that Sarasota CRA bought tables and chairs and set them up in a social distancing setting. He stated he is in favor of reopening as well but we should make it clear to keep their distance. Mayor Marlowe stated the drop in COVID rates may be because the bars have been shut down. His concern is the schools opening and then spreading through the community. He stated the bar crowd does not social distance. Deputy Mayor Starkey gave kudos to Beef O'Bradys for their social distancing. Councilman Altman stated that residents are looking to get out of the house. Councilman Altman suggested paying businesses rent payments as an alternative. Councilman Davis stated we would have to amend our CRA Plan for that. City Manager Manns stated it is up to the ATF to administer the rights to holders of licenses. She stated we do not have the authority to shut them down for violating their license. We can issue a citation but have not done so yet. Councilman Davis stated he would like to see the reopening move forward starting this weekend. Chief Bogart asked that we should go to the timeframes that were established before. Councilman Davis asked about setting up a free speech zone and Chief Bogart stated he would have another meeting with City Manager Manns and the City Attorney on the issue.

4 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Approved: _____ (date)

_____ (signed)

Initialed: _____

Judy Meyers, City Clerk