



**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

October 6, 2020

5:30 PM

**ORDER OF
BUSINESS**

1 Call to Order - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Marlowe at 5:30 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 Clerk Judy Meyers, Assistant City Manager Rodd Hale, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Economic Development Director Charles Rudd, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith and Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2 Presentation by S&ME, Inc. RE: Trails Feasibility Study - Page 2

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to review the Trails Feasibility Study that was conducted by S&ME, Inc. She then introduced Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith who stated that the study identifies existing gaps within the City's trails system, prioritize trail improvements and to provide a framework to better connect neighborhoods, as well as area trails within the County, to destination points within the City. She then introduced Carrie Read and Jay Hood who then presented the draft study to Council. Mr. Hood began his presentation by stating that trails are something that everyone wants. He stated this is a framework to connect the destinations. He stated the first step in the process was to review current trails in our Master Plan. Ms. Read then highlighted the regional trail system. The first connection she highlighted was a connection to the gulf. Ms. Read then highlighted using the US19 ROW to connect to the Pinellas Trail. She then highlighted the east-west connection to the Starkey Trail. Ms. Read then moved on the community connectivity. Sims Park would be used as a hub. She then highlighted the neighborhood greenway. She then highlighted the top six priorities which included Massachusetts connection first and US19 Multiuse Trail to Cotee River as last. She stated the projects could be implemented over five to ten years. Councilman Davis asked if they had talked about Grand Blvd. from Main Street to Gulf and Ms. Read stated yes. Councilman Davis raised

the question about the traffic on Main Street and Ms. Read stated a bike lane would be needed. Councilman Altman asked if anyone had mentioned the overpass and Ms. Read stated they were not aware of the project. Councilman Altman stated the Pinellas Trail comes up to the hotel at Marine Parkway. He stated there has been talk about the Pinellas Trail taking a coastal ride into the city. He suggested they be briefed on what Council has already discussed what they would like to do. Mr. Hood stated that currently the grant window is open for trail projects. City Manager Manns stated we are currently working on a submittal. Mayor Marlowe stated the idea was to give an option to loop around the downtown by extending the trail out to Madison. Councilman Davis stated that there has been talk to get the trail up our way from Keystone. Ms. Read the study will help set the high level priorities. Councilman Murphy stated to look at what the plans are and merge in. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated it is important when we are doing projects like this to work closely with the County and MPO. He stated there are challenges but it should be something we strive for. Mr. Hood stated once the study is adopted it needs to be sent to the MPO so it gets on their maps so it becomes part of the framework that everyone looks at.

3 Presentation by Kokolakis Contracting RE: Design for Parking Structure

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to review a preliminary design by Kokolakis Contracting for the proposed parking structure. She stated back in June there was the RFP for a parking structure. At the time the project was to be 350 space. We received nine proposals. Council approved entering into a design-build agreement with Kokolakis Contracting. She then introduced Rod Voigt, Yanni Kokolakis and Bill Fisher from Fisher Architects from Kokolakis Contracting who then made a presentation to Council. Mr. Fisher began his presentation by stating that there will be a total of 355 spaces. He stated they looked at different areas in the city to see the style. The parking structure will have three entry points. The garage will be a great asset to the university, special events and to alleviate parking on Main Street. Mr. Fisher then presented the conceptual drawings. Deputy Mayor Starkey stated he loved the design and he would not change anything. Councilman Altman asked if there was a way to use the blue to mimic the waves in the logo. Mr. Fisher stated it is a possibility. Councilman Davis stated there is a hotel that will be built on the south side and he would like to have a nicer front door look to the garage. Mayor Marlowe stated the hotel is going to be closer to US 19. Councilman Murphy asked about sprucing up the east side and Mr. Fisher stated they could look at it. Councilman Davis then discussed about incorporating retail. He stated he would still like to see some retail on the north end. He stated with the bond it would be about \$30k a year. Mayor Marlowe and Deputy Mayor Starkey stated they would like to see development on the Acorn Street side. Mayor Marlowe stated Main Street will be a large project to redevelop and engineer. He stated Acorn Street can easily be turned into a pedestrian area and would be easy to incorporate retail.

4 Communications

None.

5 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Approved: _____ (date)

_____ (signed)

Initialed: _____

Judy Meyers, City Clerk