



**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**

**May 18, 2021**  
**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 Deputy Mayor Chopper Davis, Councilman Peter Altman, Councilman Matt Murphy and Councilman Mike Peters.

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, Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Adams, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran and Systems & Services Librarian Stephanie Jones.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Approval of May 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Mike Peters. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

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

Mayor Marlowe turned the gavel over to Deputy Mayor Davis who then opened the floor for public comment. Jerry Rodriguez, 10815 Jamaica Blvd., NPR came forward to speak about the increase in meth use within the city. John Kane, 6041 Florida Avenue, NPR came forward to speak about letters to homeowners along the river. He stated it should be a collective process and should not be circumvented. Tim McClain, 5443 Main Street, NPR came forward to speak about indentions on Main Street just past Congress. Don House, 2104 Beach Trail, Indian Rocks Beach came forward to speak about the vegetation being removed along Marine Parkway. Marlowe Jones, 6141 Pine Hill Rd, PR came forward to congratulate the new Council members. He also spoke about creating a program for low income families to use the Recreation & Aquatics Center. With no one else coming forward

for public comment, Deputy Mayor Davis closed Vox Pop.

- a Speakers must identify themselves prior to speaking by stating their name and full address for the record. Speakers shall address the City Council as a whole and refrain from addressing individual members of the City Council or the City staff. Speakers shall afford the utmost courtesy to the City Council, to City employees, and to the public, and shall refrain at all times, from rude and derogatory remarks, reflections as to integrity, abusive comments, and statements as to motives and personalities.

6 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Matt Murphy and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

- a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

7 Public Reading of Ordinances

- a First Reading, Ordinance No. 2021-2231: Amendments to Golf Cart Ordinance

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 the City's current golf cart ordinance. The amendments allow for use west of US 19. The changes simplify the regulations and allow for reliance on existing Florida Statutes which provide comprehensive requirements regarding necessary equipment and golf cart operation. The revisions remove unnecessary requirements and the ordinance will more accurately align with Florida Statutes, Department of Transportation regulations, and current Florida Attorney General Opinions. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Don House, 2104 Beach Trail, Indian Rocks Beach came forward to speak about golf carts banned on Marine Parkway and Grand. He stated there are people who ride scooters and motorized bikes on Marine Parkway. He stated it was counter productive. With no one else coming forward Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Mayor Marlowe stated he agreed with Mr. House's comments that they should be allowed to ride on Marine Parkway. Deputy Mayor Davis agreed that we should investigate Marine Parkway and try to find a way to slow traffic down. Councilman Peters asked what the speed limit was on Marine Parkway. Councilman Altman stated there is a prohibition on state and county roads. You can cross city roads. Mr. Rivera stated the city owns and operates all of Grand Blvd. within the city limits with the exception of the bridge. Councilman Altman stated it makes sense to have people get in and out of the city. Deputy Mayor Davis suggested tabling the ordinance to allow staff to research the Marine Parkway issue. Councilman Murphy stated that golf carts are capable of exceeding 20 mph. He suggest manufactured intended speeds. City Attorney Driscoll stated that language is directly from State law. Mayor Marlowe asked for Section 23-205 to be changed to anything as prohibited by the current map and City Attorney Driscoll stated he discovered the ordinance does not match the map that is why it is being removed. Councilman Peters asked why this was to begin with and Chief Bogart stated when the ordinance was first being draft staff was tasked with identifying streets that would be potential liabilities. He stated Marine Parkway is heavily traveled. He stated it is a public safety issue that is why it is identified as a street not allowed for golf cart use. Chief Bogart stated there are already established alternate routes. Councilman Altman stated everyone is going to look at the map instead of reading the ordinance. Motion was made to approve as written but then the motion was amended to table the ordinance to allow staff to research removing the prohibited streets.

Motion made by Mike Peters and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Other. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

8 Business Items

- a Board Re-Appointment: Bob Langford, Firefighters Pension Board

Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

- b Resolution No. 2021-39: Renewal of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan for Pasco County

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Fire Chief Chris Fitch who then presented the item to Council. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to adopt a resolution to approve the updated Pasco County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The Plan is required to be approved every five years. Although the City has its own emergency management program, The last time the Plan was presented to Council was in 2016. 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 Mike Peters. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

- c Recreation and Aquatics Center Annual Summer Membership Sale

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to adopt a resolution to approve the recommendation from the Recreation and Aquatics Department to initiate the annual Summer Membership Sale. The sale will run from May 27, 2021 to August 9, 2021 and will offer 20% off of three one-month membership. 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. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

- d Gloria Swanson Parking Lot Improvements – Project Close Out

City Manager Manns introduced Public Works Director Robert Rivera who then presented the item to Council. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve a deductive change order in the amount of \$10,863.25 and the final pay request in the amount not to exceed \$69,654.87 for Augustine Construction, Incorporated for the completion of the 2019 Gloria Swanson Parking Lot Improvements Project. Mr. Rivera then highlighted the different aspects of the project. 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 Mike Peters and seconded by Chopper Davis. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

- e Three Minute Report: Human Resources

- 9 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated he attended a Tampa Bay Water workshop earlier this week. He stated our water use is modestly down. He stated the desal plant is currently offline. The reservoir will get us through the beginning of rainy season just fine. He then discussed ground water credits and pricing. Mayor Marlowe then discussed value based and cost based pricing. He said there are some political issues that will need to be dealt with. He stated Pasco County should get credit for water they are dumping to keep the wellfield from running dry. He stated the if the SHARP Program goes true to form decisions would be made in the 2023/2024 timeframe and not coming online until 2028. Mayor Marlowe stated south Hillsborough is growing quite rapidly and the new water supplies need to come online as scheduled. He stated he and his wife went to Rose's Saturday night and a large group came in and asked if she had room for a party of 40. The downtown was hopping. It says great things about Saturday nights in New Port Richey. Councilman Peters golf carts make a great buy for the city. As part of the golf

cart community we look out for one another. Deputy Mayor Davis played a video from Pasco County Tourism. He said he wished they would have spent more time in the cities. Councilman Altman spoke about the FRA and what it does. The idea is to increase the credibility of CRA's. He then spoke about the American Rescue Plan funds. He stated the State has received \$6.7 billion in funds. He then highlighted where the funds will be disbursed to. He stated he would like to see the projects in the budget so they can obtain grant points. He will bring back more information after his FRA Board meeting this week. Councilman Altman stated the Main Street Conference is coming up in July. He stated they have asked for a temporary parklet. Most sessions will be at Schwettman. He suggested a trolley or shuttle service. It will be a good chance to highlight our city. He stated he spoke with the organizers of the autonomous trolley earlier today and they may be interested in coming to our city for a demonstration. Pinellas Transit is the sponsor. Councilman Murphy stated anything we can do to help Main Street be successful we should do. He stated transportation will be a big issue. He stated last week he attended the MPO meeting and they discussed prioritizing projects. The pedestrian bridge project has been bumped. The underpass project was also off the list. It will be added back for the next meeting. He stated microtransit will be on an upcoming agenda as well.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

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

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

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