



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

October 5, 2021

7:00 PM

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 Acting City Manager Kim Bogart, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Andi Figart, Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Adams, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, and Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting and September 23, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

5. Proclamation - Florida City Government Week

Mayor Marlowe presented the parchment to City Clerk Judy Meyers.

6. Vox Pop for Items Not Listed on the Agenda or Listed on Consent Agenda

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Reyna Giler, 5500 Main Street, NPR came forward to speak about attracting people to the businesses on the west side of the bridge by installing a ferris wheel and carousel near Stonehaven. With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

7. 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 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - June 2021
- b Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes - August 2021
- c Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes - August 2021
- d Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

8 Business Items

- a 2019/2020 Nebraska Ave. Parking Lot Improvements Project – Close Out

Acting City Manager Bogart 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 \$17,114.85 and the final pay request in the amount of \$132,844.52 submitted by Right of Way Contracting, LLC for the completion of the 2019/2020 Nebraska Ave. Parking Lot Improvements Project. The contractor did meet the no excuse bonus deadline. 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

- b 2022 N. River Neighborhood Improvements Project - Engineering Services

Acting City Manager Bogart 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 task order from Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc., for engineering services in the amount not to exceed \$98,825 for the proposed 2022 N. River Neighborhood Improvements project design. The task order consists of public input, data collection from the consultant, review of existing site conditions, right-of-way and topography surveys, development of concept, designs and estimate of probable costs. Funding is through LOGT. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Peters stated this project was originally slated back in 2008/2009 and he is excited that it is going to be looked at properly and get underway. Councilman Murphy stated the residents look for these projects to make life better for them. Councilman Altman asked if the neighborhood meeting will be part of this deliberation and Mr. Rivera stated yes and the notices were mailed out to each of the affected residences. Councilman Altman asked if there was any differentiation of what we can use the LOGT for. He stated there are two pots that funds can be used for and this would have to come out of the one that incorporates sidewalks. Mrs. Feast responded that the first bucket also allowed for operating costs and maintenance while the second bucket was primarily construction related and did include sidewalks. Councilman Altman stated a wider sidewalk on the river side may be more functional. Deputy Mayor Davis stated this is what constituents want to continue the upgrades. Mayor Marlowe stated that two adults cannot walk side by side on the current sidewalk so the upgrades will be a good thing. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

- c Building Department Fees for Consolidated Fee Schedule

Acting City Manager Bogart introduced Finance Director Crystal Feast who then presented the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve proposed changes for fees

associated with the City's Building Department for the upcoming fiscal year. The new fees reflect an overall increase of 1% based on construction values. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Peters asked how the City stands in regards to other municipalities and the County and Ms. Ledford stated that the City is competitive. She stated other cities are percentage based whereas the County is based on square footage. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

d Three Minute Report: Police Department

The report was deferred until the next Council meeting.

9 Communications

Councilman Murphy distributed the updated scoring worksheet from the MPO for projects. He stated he discussed the underpass project however the project is at a standstill due to a lack of funds from the City of Port Richey. The County is looking at other avenues. He stated there is work on proposed legislation for electric vehicles. Councilman Altman stated project readiness scores high on the new MPO list. He highlighted other categories that also related to the City. He discussed traffic and the light synchronization along Main Street. He then discussed the City's overpass project and possibly attempting to get the funds moved from the underpass project. He suggested looking into a shuttle service by boat to go from Hooters to our downtown. Deputy Mayor Davis complimented the businesses along the west side of the bridge and stated it is going to become a popular place but it will take some time. He stated we are starting on the right track. He suggested connecting with NPRMS. Councilman Peters stated the sign by the bridge shows arrows to the businesses. He stated that he spent some time with the Code Officers back on September 21st and spent most of the day as a ride along. His impression is that they are professionals and they care about the city. They also take their jobs seriously. They take pride in the city. Councilman Altman agreed with Councilman Peters' comments. He stated for our own benefit, if we can, when we need to feel to give direction we should give direction as a whole. Councilman Altman then briefly discussed signs and our code. Councilman Altman stated there are several intersections that are blind entry. He stated they are safety issues. Mayor Marlowe stated the two events over the weekend were great. There were some EV's he had not seen before. He stated Bikefest will be this weekend in the downtown. He stated the shuttle is due to be delivered next month and will come down past the businesses on a regular circuit. He stated there are many businesses taking a look at places along Main Street west of the bridge. Mayor Marlowe talked about the new clock shop that recently opened in the Dollar General Plaza.

10 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____