



**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

February 15, 2022

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, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Community and Development Director Dale Hall, 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 January 27, 2022 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. Approval of February 1, 2022 Special Meeting and Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

6. Proclamation - Monarch Butterfly Month

Dell deChant accepted the parchment from Mayor Marlowe.

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Melissa Smith, NPRMS came forward to speak about the successful dessert stroll they held last week. She also spoke regarding the upcoming strawberry festival with Cindy's Pets and the upcoming pub crawl. Kimberly Cox, 6609 Rainbow Spring Lane, NPR, came forward to speak regarding Marlowe Jones. Marlowe Jones, 6141 Pine Hill Rd., Port Richey came forward to speak regarding his altercation from last July. With no one else coming forward for public comment, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

8 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

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

a Cultural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes - December 2021

b Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

9 Public Reading of Ordinances

a Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2252: Rezoning for 7940 Rutillio Ct.

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns stated the property is .93 acre in size and is currently zoned C2 and the request is to rezone to LI. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

b Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2254: Rezoning for 7944 Rutillio Ct.

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns stated the property is .14 acre in size and is currently zoned C2 and the request is to rezone to LI. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

c Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2255: Rezoning for 6530 Orchid Lake Rd.

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns stated the property is .87 acre in size and is currently zoned C2 and the request is to rezone to LI. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

d Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2257: Amendments to Fire Pension 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 amending the City of New Port Richey Firefighters' Retirement System in respect to Benefit Amounts and Eligibility and Pre-Retirement Death. The changes have been approved by the Firefighters' Board of Trustees and they are as follows:

- Section 17-41, Benefit Amounts and Eligibility, Section 17-42 Pre-Retirement Death, Section 17-45, Optional forms of Benefits, and Section 17-50-1, Minimum Distribution of Benefits are all being amended to provide for recent changes to the Internal Revenue Code changing the required distribution from 701/2 to age 72.
- Section 17-42, Pre-Retirement Death, is also being amended to clarify numbering throughout the section for consistency and accurate references.

The proposed changes have been reviewed by the Plan's actuary and it has been determined that the changes will have no impact on the assumptions used in determining the funding requirements of the program. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

e Second Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2256: Prohibiting Boat Trailer Parking

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to conduct a second and final reading of an ordinance to prohibit boat trailer parking in and around the downtown area. 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 ordinance upon its second and final reading.

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

10 Business Items

a 2022 Fitzgerald's St. Patrick's Day Event Railroad Square and Alcoholic Beverage Applications

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve an ABSEP for Fitzgerald's St. Patrick's Day event. The organizers are requesting to serve beer and wine in Railroad Square as follows: Tuesday March 15th 4:00pm - 10:00pm, Wednesday, March 16th 11:00am - 10:00pm, Thursday March 17th 10:00am - 12:00am. She stated she wanted to note that the March 16th and 17th times of before noon and until 12:00am times are non-traditional times for sales of alcohol at an event. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Deputy Mayor Davis asked for staff's opinion on the request for the special hours. City Manager Manns stated that the request is outside of the ordinance. City Attorney Driscoll stated Council has the authority to override the ordinance. City Manager Manns stated we have accommodated special hours before and have not had a problem with Fitzgerald's. 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

b Award of RFP No. 2022-001, Independent Audit Services

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the recommendation of Mauldin & Jenkins for RFP22-001 Independent Audit Services. The length of the agreement will be for three (3) audit years (FY2021 - FY2023), in the amount of up to \$169,250 and will include the City's financials, the CRA financials and any independent audits. 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 Pete Altman. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Davis, Marlowe, Murphy, Peters

c Request to Purchase Communications Workstations

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to purchase replacement Communications Dispatcher Workstations at the police station utilizing equitable sharing monies at a total cost of \$44,043.00. 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

11 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated he went to the FLC Legislative Action Days last week and it was very enlightening. He stated he sat through a committee meeting where they discussed a solar bill. He stated the committee meeting was extended to cover the sovereign immunity bill that is currently proposed. Mayor Marlowe stated he hopes there is some compromising language. This bill would have a tremendous impact on the City. He did speak to Senator Hooper privately after the meeting. He stated the legislature continues to attack Home Rule. Councilman Murphy stated he attended the MPO meeting last week. He stated the microtransit study is still not complete. He stated he was voted in as Vice-Chair for the upcoming year and then will move on to Chairman. Councilman Altman stated there was a report on the legislature at the MAP meeting earlier this month. He stated there will be a Zoom meeting this Friday with the FRA on legislative issues. He stated there was also a discussion of future topics at MAP. He stated the P4P will be on the ballot next November. He suggested that as the topic for the next MAP meeting. Councilman Altman stated he noticed signage put up on Madison today near the school. He stated he attended the TBRPC meeting yesterday and mentioned the resiliency summit coming up in April. Deputy Mayor Davis stated a lot of the TDC dollars go to the east side. It has been a battle for him with the TDC. To follow up on the comments made during Vox Pop by Melissa Smith, He stated he was vacationing in Key West and there was a pub crawl and highlighted some of the things that happened. Deputy Mayor Davis asked City Manager Manns to connect with Joan Nelson Hook regarding funding of the tiny libraries. He stated that National Lampoon editor PJ O'Rourke passed away today. Councilman Peters stated he spoke to a group of homeowners today at the request of Commissioner Starkey about the happenings in the city including the newly finished renovations to the library. City Manager Manns introduced our new Planning & Community Development Director Dale Hall.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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

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

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