



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

July 19, 2022
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 Mike Peters, Councilman Peter Altman, Councilman Matt Murphy and Councilwoman Kelly Mothershead.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie L. Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Deputy Police Chief Lauren Letona, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Community and Development Director Dale Hall, Economic Development Director Barbara Carr, Library Director Andi Figart, Technology and Innovations Director Robert Greene, Interim Parks and Recreation Director Terri Moore and Human Resources & Organizational Development Director Karl Fuchs.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of July 5, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

5. Presentation to Name the Alley Contest Winner Diane Kline

City Manager Manns and Mayor Marlowe presented the gift card and commemorative street sign to alley naming contest winner Diane Kline.

6. Audit Report Presentation by Mauldin and Jenkins

Daniel Anderson presented the audit report to Council.

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

Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment. Candace Smith, 10120 Oleander Drive, Port Richey, Dan Callahan, 7108 Daggett Terrace, New Port Richey, Shinikki Whiting, 5755 Indiana Avenue, New Port Richey, came forward to speak about Marlowe Jones. Kimberly Cox, 7336 Ashmore Drive, New Port Richey, came forward to speak regarding protesting and crime rates. Lee Keenan, no address available, came forward to speak regarding the City's hotel/motel ordinance. Judith Allen, 5940 Grand Blvd., New Port Richey came forward to speak about text messages. Marlowe Jones, 6141 Pine Hill Road, Port Richey came forward to speak on his own behalf. 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 Pete Altman and seconded by Mike Peters. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Marlowe, Mothershead, Murphy, Peters

a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

9 Public Reading of Ordinances

a First Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2263: Rezoning 7920 Rutillio Court

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Dale Hall who then presented the item to Council. Mr. Hall stated the purpose of this agenda item was to rezone the property located at 7920 Rutilio Ct. from General Commercial (C-2) to Light Industrial (LI). The property owners would like to construct a warehouse on the property. 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 first reading.

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

b First Reading, Ordinance No. 2022-2264: Rezoning 5845 Main Street

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. City Manager Manns introduced Development Director Dale Hall who then presented the item to Council. Mr. Hall stated the purpose of this agenda item was to rezone the property located at 5845 Main Street from Medium Density Residential (MF-14) to Downtown. The property owner wishes to open a coffee house on the property. 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 first reading.

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

10 Business Items

a Board Appointment: Tia Rowe, Environmental Committee

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the appointment of Tia Rowe to the Environmental Committee. If approved, Ms. Rowe's term will be for two years and will be up for renewal on July 19, 2024. 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 Matt Murphy and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Marlowe, Mothershead, Murphy, Peters

b Board Appointment: Chopper Davis, Land Development Review Board

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the appointment of Chopper Davis as second alternate member to the Land Development Review Board. If approved, Mr. Davis' term will be for three years and will be up for renewal on July 19, 2025. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Chopper Davis came forward and stated this board was where his interest was. George Romagnoli, 6235 Florida Avenue, New Port Richey came forward to speak regarding his previous application to the board. With no one else coming forward Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

c Board Re-Appointment: Bob Smallwood, Land Development Review Board

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the re-appointment of Bob Smallwood to the Land Development Review Board. If approved, Mr. Smallwood's term would be for three years and will be up for renewal on July 5, 2025. 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 Matt Murphy. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Altman, Marlowe, Mothershead, Murphy, Peters

d Reorganization of Technology Solutions Department

City Manager Manns introduced HR Director Karl Fuchs who then presented the item to Council. He stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to reorganize the Technology Solutions Department by replacing the current Technology Solutions Director with a Technology Solutions Manager and adding a Help Desk Support Technician. Upon opening the floor to public comment, Marlowe Jones, 6141 Pine Hill Road, Port Richey came forward to speak about the technology survey. With no one else coming forward Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

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

11 Communications

Mayor Marlowe spoke regarding the rezoning for Main Street. He stated we need to look at future land use issues. He stated he encourages staff to look at the area around Marine Parkway as the current zoning may not be appropriate any longer since the hospital is no longer there. Deputy Mayor Peters spoke regarding items he found in the audit report. He stated the city is advancing nicely but financially he is not sure we have progressed as much. He stated as we go through budget season we have to find other sources of revenue. Deputy Mayor Peters stated there are areas that need to be redeveloped especially commercial properties so we can increase revenue. He stated we have to be fiscally conservative. Councilwoman Mothershead stated as a realtor she deals with the housing crisis every day. She stated perhaps we need to look at options for those who are currently living in hotels. We need to figure out ways to help them. Councilman Altman stated he served with Bill Maytum and he was a good man. He stated he has been told that progress has been made with our relationship with the County. He stated there are areas of service that we provide that the County should pay back to us our recreation and library fees. Councilman Altman stated he would provide the language he had previously to the City Manager and City Attorney. City Manager Manns thanked Finance Director Feast and her staff on the outstanding audit report.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

(signed) _____

Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____