



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY

NEW PORT RICHEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5919 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA

August 1, 2024
6:00 PM

ORDER OF
BUSINESS

1 Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Chopper Davis at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Deputy Mayor Kelly Mothershead, Councilwoman Matt Murphy, and Councilman Bertell Butler, IV. Councilman Peter Altman was excused.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie L. Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Finance Director Crystal Dunn, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Police Chief Bob Kochen, Library Director Andi Figart, Technology Solutions Director Mike Miller, Assistant City Manager Gregory Oravec and Human Resources Director Arnel Wetzel.

2 Pledge of Allegiance

3 Moment of Silence

4 Business Items

a. Board Re-Appointments: Kelly Smallwood, Frank Starkey and Bob Langford, Historic Preservation Board - Page 3

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve the re-appointments of Kelly Smallwood, Frank Starkey and Bob Langford to the Historic Preservation Board. If approved, their terms would be for three years and would be up for renewal on August 1, 2027. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to appoint Frank Starkey and Bob Langford as members and Kelly Smallwood as an alternate member.

Motion made by Bertell Butler and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy Absent: Altman

b. Resolution No. 2024-13: Establish Tentative Millage for TRIM - Page 35

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve a resolution which would establish a tentative millage rate and the date, time, and place of the first public hearing on the

levy of the proposed FY2024-2025 Operating Budget for purposes of public notification under the Florida TRIM Statutes. She stated that of the State revenues that have been reported so far have come in less than last year's numbers. She stated that staff will continue to work to lower the millage rate if it is within the possibility to do so. City Manager Manns stated the first public hearing on the budget will be on September 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis 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. 4-0. Ayes: Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy Absent: Altman

c. Resolution No. 2024-09: Declaring a Local State of Emergency RE: Invest 97L - Page 37

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed resolution by title only. City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated that the purpose of this agenda item was to approve a resolution to declare a local state of emergency in anticipation of the impacts associated with current Invest 97L. On August 1, 2024, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued an advisory for Invest 97L which is currently a low pressure system located in the Caribbean. The NWS computer models are in better agreement that the system will move into the eastern Gulf of Mexico this weekend where it may possibly develop. Although it is too early to know the certain path of the potential storm, it is out of an abundance of caution that the City issue a local state of emergency in preparation of any impacts to our area as a result of the strengthening system. The local state of emergency will go into effect as of 12:01 a.m. on August 2, 2024 and will remain in effect for seven days. It may be extended for an additional seven days if appropriate. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Davis returned the floor to Council. Motion was made to approve the item as presented and have the City Clerk insert the Governor's Order number and date into the resolution.

Motion made by Bertell Butler and seconded by Kelly Mothershead. The Motion Passed. 4-0. Ayes: Butler, Davis, Mothershead, Murphy Absent: Altman

5 Communications

Communications were deferred until the end of the CRA meeting.

6 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

(signed) _____
Judy Meyers, CMC, City Clerk

Approved: _____ (date)

Initialed: _____