



**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**

**January 17, 2017**

**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 pm. Those in attendance were, Deputy Mayor Bill Phillips, Councilwoman Judy DeBella Thomas, Councilman Jeff Starkey and Councilman Chopper Davis.

Also in attendance were City Manager Debbie Manns, City Attorney Timothy Driscoll, City Clerk Judy Meyers, Chief of Police Kim Bogart, Finance Director Crystal Feast, Development Director Lisa Fierce, Fire Chief Chris Fitch, Economic Development Director Mario Iezzoni, Public Works Director Robert Rivera, Library Director Susan Dillinger, Parks and Recreation Director Elaine Smith, Technology Solutions Director Bryan Weed, Human Resources Manager Bernie Wharran and Assistant to the City Manager Martin Murphy.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Approval of January 3, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion made by Bill Phillips and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

5. Environmental Committee Annual Report Presentation

Environmental Committee Chairman, Dell deChant, came forward and made a presentation to Council. Mr. deChant gave a brief overview of the committee's history. He thanked Council for their support over the year and expressed gratitude to staff liaison, Barret Doe, for his outstanding work with the committee. Mr. deChant then distributed an executive summary to Council. Mr. deChant highlighted the projects and events that the committee has been involved in over the last year. Mr. deChant then discussed proposals by the committee for the upcoming year. The proposals included review of the City's fertilizer and pesticide ordinance, green city certification, recycling for all city

events, more trash bins downtown, train a certified arborist (in progress), fishing line disposal bins, inclusion of city property in community garden ordinance and the addition of a part-time garden facilitator.

Councilman Davis stated he thought recycling was already included for city events and Ms. Smith stated it is not currently part of the application and is not required. Councilwoman DeBella Thomas stated she would like to see a list of evasive and non-evasive trees on the website. She stated that some cities do a great job with trash containers that use local trash haulers to alleviate the burden it would be on staff. She stated she would like to see a return of recycling efforts be brought back to city events. Mr. deChant stated that by adding the recycling requirement to the event application it will encourage recycling efforts. Councilman Starkey stated he also likes the idea of recycling bins at city events. He stated he also liked having a certified arborist on staff. Deputy Mayor Phillips thanked Mr. deChant for his presentation. He stated the ability to have someone haul away the recycling will help to encourage recycling. He stated he had some reservations about using public land for community gardens but there is some property in the city that could be used. Mayor Marlowe stated that a conversation should take place in a work session regarding community garden areas.

6 Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Marlowe read the proclamation declaring Friday, January 20, 2017 as Arbor Day in the City of New Port Richey. Environmental Committee chairman, Dell deChant, accepted the proclamation.

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

Before Mayor Marlowe opened the floor for public comment, he asked Chief Bogart to approach the podium and then announced that the African American Club of Pasco County had awarded the New Port Richey Police Department as its Law Enforcement Agency of the Year.

Mayor Marlowe then opened the floor for public comment. Joe Norton from Boulevard Beef and Ale came forward to thank Council for the dog-dining ordinance. He wanted to make a suggestion regarding hand washing to make it more stringent to read wash hands with hand sanitizer.

Nelson Ohihoin came forward and stated that he was very impressed with the police department and it should not be surprise that they won the award from the African American Club.

Brad Jurgens came forward to speak regarding the proposed ad-hoc bicycle committee and volunteered to head the committee. Mayor Marlowe stated other people have volunteered and a meeting was still be organized.

With no one else coming forward, Mayor Marlowe closed Vox Pop.

8 Consent Agenda

Motion was made to accept the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Bill Phillips. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

a Purchases/Payments for City Council Approval

b Amendment to FY17 Operating Budget

9 Public Reading of Ordinances

a Second Reading, Ordinance #2017-2102: Dog-Friendly Dining & Resolution #2017-07: Fees

City Attorney Driscoll read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Councilman Davis stated he would like the annual fee changed to a registration fee. He also suggested that the

provision of having hand sanitizers on each table could be changed to be in conveniently located places. City Attorney Driscoll stated that the fee is not an annual fee. He stated the requirements for the sanitizers are required by State statute. Deputy Mayor Phillips reiterated his comments from the previous meeting that the \$50 fee was too low. He stated he would support the motion if the fee was higher. 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 resolution as presented.

City Attorney Driscoll then read the proposed resolution by title only. 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 resolution as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Jeff Starkey. The Motion Passed. 3-2. Ayes: Davis, Marlowe, Starkey Nays: DeBella Thomas, Phillips

10 Business Items

a Request to Auction Impounded Vehicles

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to allow the City to use the services of Public Group LLC to offer the vehicles at auction.

Upon opening the floor to public comment, no one came forward therefore Mayor Marlowe returned the floor to Council. Deputy Mayor Phillips asked for clarification that some of the vehicles have been impounded for over a year and there were no statutory obligations. Chief Bogart stated that sometimes the delay in processing vehicles is due to liens being on the vehicles. Motion was made to approve the item as presented.

Motion made by Chopper Davis and seconded by Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

b Board Re-Appointment: Joseph Fiorentino, III, Firefighters' Pension Board

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to re-appoint Joseph Fiorentino, III to the Firefighters' Pension Board. She stated that Mr. Fiorentino has been a valued member of the Firefighters' Pension Board since 2012. Mr. Fiorentino's current term expired as of January 17, 2016. If approved, Mr. Fiorentino's term would be for four years and would be up for renewal on January 17, 2020.

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 Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

c Board Re-Appointment: Dell deChant, Environmental Committee

City Manager Manns introduced the item to Council. She stated the purpose of this agenda item was to re-appoint Dell deChant to the Environmental Committee. She stated that Mr. deChant has been a valued member of the Environmental Committee for many years. Mr. deChant's current term expired as of January 8, 2017. If approved, Mr. deChant's term would be for two years and would be up for renewal on January 8, 2019.

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 Judy DeBella Thomas. The Motion Passed. 5-0. Ayes: Davis, DeBella Thomas, Marlowe, Phillips, Starkey

d Three Minute Report: Library

11 Communications

Mayor Marlowe stated he went to Family Movie Night in the park to see the size of the crowd for the event. As he walked out of the park he noted the Sugar Darlings van by the old coffee shop and went over and introduced himself. He stated that he and Ms. Manns met with Representative Mariano for an introductory meeting. He stated he was looking forward to the Banned Books concert this Thursday night and the Business Development Week program for Lynda.com at the Library on Monday night.

Deputy Mayor Phillips congratulated Ms. Dillinger on her upcoming retirement. Deputy Mayor Phillips stated if any members had any changes to the draft agenda for the presentation to the legislative delegation to let Ms. Manns know early in the morning before the meeting. He also thanked KC Quaretti for the updated events on Main Street. Deputy Mayor Phillips stated that he was happy to see the old coffee shop has already been leased to Sugar Darlings. He stated that he would like to see the new phone extensions on the front page of the website. He also thanked Chief Bogart for the award his department received. Deputy Mayor Phillips asked that the finance presentation on the February 7th agenda be the same information that was provided in the City Manager's report. He stated he met with Ms. Manns regarding the Strategic Plan. Finally he would like to see an overview of Penny 2 funds in the near future along with how pension funds are allocated and spent.

Councilwoman DeBella Thomas also expressed that she was happy to see Sugar Darlings in the downtown. She stated that it is an honor and privilege to be on Council and the people that they get to see and share their concerns with. She stated would like to create a forum with the County Commissioners to discuss critically important issues including areas of the city that are adjacent to County property. She stated that she was a meeting and talked to a resident regarding the Gulf Harbors Woodlands and the area around and behind Southgate Shopping Center. She stated the shopping center stands as a beacon for tourists visiting the area in addition to the residents who live here. She also congratulated Ms. Dillinger on her upcoming retirement.

Councilman Starkey expressed his concerns over the conditions along Van Doren and Leisure Lane. There is trash, debris and drug activity. He stated that residents deserved better but is very disappointed in the County Commission that no action has been taken to resolve the issues. He stated he would like to have Ms. Manns meet with Michele Baker to discuss a clean up effort or pursue annexation so that the city can blight the area. Councilman Starkey asked about the dying foliage in the medians and Mr. Rivera stated that in the spring fertilizer will be put down and they will come back. He thanked Deputy Mayor Phillips for speaking to the delegation at tomorrow's meeting. He also asked Chief Bogart for an update on the noise ordinance and how it is working at the next Council meeting.

12 Adjournment

There being no further business to consider, upon proper motion, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

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

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

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