



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Workshop

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Pete Emrich, Mayor
Barbara Langdon, Vice Mayor
Jill Luke, Commissioner
Debbie McDowell, Commissioner
Alice White, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jerome Fletcher, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Heather Faust, City Clerk

Monday, July 11, 2022

9:00 AM

Conference Room 244

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Emrich called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Pete Emrich, Vice Mayor Barbara Langdon, Commissioner Jill Luke, Commissioner Alice White and Commissioner Debbie McDowell

Also Present

City Manager Jerome Fletcher, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Faust, Recording Secretary Amanda Baker, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Police Commander Jason Brownie, Human Resources Director Christine McDade, Senior Budget Analyst Heidi Hallas, Human Resources Manager Deborah Hope, Human Resources Coordinator Yvonne Gibson, Planning Manager Lori Barnes, Code Enforcement Manager Kevin Raducci, Public Works Director Chuck Speake, and Assistant City Manager Julie Bellia

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Fire Chief Scott Titus.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeffrey Scott: government trust within the community and bureaucracy

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

[22-3169](#)

Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Evergreen Solutions, LLC, City of North Port Compensation Study Recommended Pay Rates.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. McDade spoke to being an employer of choice, City growth and development, 2017 comprehensive market study regarding job description and pay structure, policy changes regarding promotion and demotion, pay competitiveness, current economic hardships and labor market, and recruiting efforts, and introduced Stasey Whichel, Consultant for Evergreen Solutions LLC.

Ms. Whichel provided a presentation including market data collection, recommended adjustments, salary comparisons, minimum wage adjustments, adjustments within the private sector, maintaining market positions, and overall plan adjustments.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding total budget impact, current salary analysis, Florida Retirement Systems (FRS) and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) components, benefit impacts, benefits comparisons to other municipalities, union contract negotiations, adjusting salaries across the board, increase being applied to minimum pay grades, current salaries above market, errors in the initial market data, below-minimum standard pay grades, job classifications, "topped-out" salaries, consumer price index (CPI) increase, aligning the salary base, cost of living analysis (COLA), minimum wage increase impact, current positions earning below \$15 per hour, incremental vs. lump sum increases, understaffing issues, job classification increases, cost of pay study, budgeting the increase, annual evaluation impact, staff creating scenarios of increase options, hiring issues within the private sector, increase effective date, and future Commission discussion regarding this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeffrey Scott: efficiency within City government

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding Fire and Police salaries being included in the pay study and revisiting union contracts.

[22-3159](#)

Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding Status of Proposed Revisions to Chapter 59, Code of the City of North Port, Relating to Parking and Storage of Certain Vehicles on Residential Lots.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. Barnes provided a presentation including parking and storage on non-residential properties being a separate topic from residential properties, background, and proposed amendments.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding depth of swales and ditches, multi-generational households with multiple vehicles, issues for Code Enforcement, current City Code, revisiting prohibiting parking in swales, temporary use of right-of-way parking, definition of temporary storage, responsibility for damaged swales, limitation of boat storage, home occupations, definitions of improved surfaces and driveway, front yard parking, and landscaping buffer options.

Ms. Barnes continued the presentation on proposed amendments.

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding damage to rights-of-way outside of homeowner's control and damaged culverts.

Ms. Barnes continued the presentation on proposed amendments and summarized Commission discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeffrey Scott: support of property standards.

Recess was taken from 11:10 a.m. until 11:25 a.m.

[22-3148](#)

Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding the Status of Revisions to Part II - Code of the City of North Port, Florida, Chapter 46 - Offenses Article V. Camping.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. Bellia spoke to prior Commission discussion and directions.

Mr. Raducci provided a presentation including issues with homeless citizens and current violations.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding overnight backyard camping, infringing on private properties, updates on Ordinance revisions, compliance with State legislature, meeting all Commission directions, chronic homelessness, homeless assistance, seasonal residents staying in campers, temporary permits for homeless workers, homeowners renting out recreational vehicles (RV) on their properties, additional Code Enforcement Investigator position, citizens living in tents on private properties, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) usage in Yorkshire area, issues with complaint-driven violations, options and concerns for renewing permits to residents of RVs on developed private properties, implementing time frames for RV residence permits, positioning RVs on properties, removing squatters in Yorkshire area, and Citywide eviction for chronic squatters.

Commission recognized Ms. Slayton for being named Elite Attorney in Florida Trend Magazine.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Emrich adjourned the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Pete Emrich, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Faust, City Clerk

These minutes were approved on the ____ day of _____, 20__.

