



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Commission Regular Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Debbie McDowell, Mayor

Jill Luke, Vice Mayor

Christopher Hanks, Commissioner

Pete Emrich, Commissioner

Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Peter Lear, City Manager

Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney

Heather Taylor, City Clerk

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

10:00 AM

Virtual Meeting - Zoom

Virtual Meeting

VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

- A. [20-2173](#) Meeting Notice and Instructions

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McDowell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Mayor Debbie McDowell, Vice Mayor Jill Luke, Commissioner Christopher Hanks, Commissioner Vanessa Carusone and Commissioner Pete Emrich

Also Present

City Manager Pete Lear, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Taylor, Neighborhood Development Services Director Frank Miles, and Police Chief Todd Garrison.

The Invocation was offered by Commissioner Hanks followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Mayor Luke.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Slayton provided a brief introduction relative to the virtual meeting.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Luke, seconded by Commissioner Emrich, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. [20-2170](#) Current Vacancies for Boards and Committees and Upcoming Expiration Dates for Boards and Committees

Ms. Taylor read the announcements into the record.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Lear clarified requirements for public comment and read the following public comment into record:

John Meisel: concern regarding yard waste disposal.

Mr. Lear provided additional information regarding communications with the public and procedure for yard waste.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Lear noted Item No. 20-2126 was requested to be pulled for further discussion.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Luke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to approve the Consent Agenda, pulling Item 20-2126 for discussion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich

- A. [19-1599](#) Approve the Amended Tenant Lease Agreement with AARP Foundation, Inc., for Suite B104 and Suite B105 at the Family Service Center

This item was approved on Consent.

- B. [20-1865](#) Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-14 with Spectrum Underground Inc., in the Amount of \$27,773.00 for the Bobcat Trail Force Main Replacement Project, for a Total Contract Amount of \$329, 557.00

This item was approved on Consent.

- C. [20-2093](#) Approve the Utilization of Sourcewell Contract No. 012418-TPM, Thompson Pump and Manufacturing Company, Inc. (for Public Utility Equipment with Related Accessories, Supplies and Services) to Purchase Four Stationary Bypass Pumps for Lift Station Dependability at Identified Lift Stations Throughout the City, in the Amount of \$219,459

This item was approved on Consent.

- D. [20-2094](#) Approve the Utilization of Pasco County Contract IFB-JV-17-222 for Additional Integration and Programming Services from Benro Enterprises, Inc DBA Rocha Controls for Various Water Plant Projects Totaling \$81,237

This item was approved on Consent.

- E. [20-2116](#) Approve \$20,000.00 for a Homeless Outreach Team Case Manager.
This item was approved on Consent.
- F. [20-2150](#) Approve the Expenditure of the County-Wide Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for Behavioral/Mental Health Court Support Letter
This item was approved on Consent.
- G. [20-2154](#) Approve the Sole Source Installation and Integration of the Wonderware SCADA Platform at the Pan American Blvd. Wastewater Treatment Plant by Benro Enterprises Inc. DBA Rocha Controls for a Project Total of \$69,868.00
This item was approved on Consent.
- H. [20-2155](#) Approve Work Assignment No. 2020-03, Under Continuing Contract No. 2016-23, with CDM Smith, Inc. in the Amount of \$182,968.62 for the Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant Water Treatability Evaluation
This item was approved on Consent.
- I. [20-2126](#) Approval of Economic Development Interlocal Agreement Providing for the Administration of a Joint County/Municipality Economic Development Program
Mr. Lear introduced the item.
Discussion took place regarding requirement for quarterly reports, delay in timeframe for final format to be brought back to Commission, and confirmation that no payments were made to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC).
A motion was made by Vice Mayor Luke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to approve Consent Agenda Item 20-2126.
Mr. Lear stated the last EDC quarterly report was sent to Commission February 14, 2020.
The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich
Mayor McDowell passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Luke.
A motion was made by Mayor McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Carusone, that no payment be issued until the Agreement has been signed by all parties and the City Manager and Commission has received a copy of the signed document.
Discussion ensued regarding justification to hold payment until the agreement is signed.
The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich

Vice Mayor Luke passed the gavel back to Mayor McDowell.

- J. [20-2177](#) Ratification of Emergency Order No. 2020-03 Suspending In-Person Attendance and In Person-Public Comment at Public Meetings, Emergency Order No. 2020-04 Relating to Temporary Business Signs in the Commercial General, Light Industrial and Warehousing, and Neighborhood Commercial Districts, and Emergency Order No. 2020-06 Relating to the Conduct of Public Meeting by Communications Media Technology.

This item was approved on Consent.

- K. [20-2090](#) Appoint Mark Harms as a Trustee to the Municipal Police Officers' Pension Board of Trustees, to Serve a Two-Year Term from April 14, 2020 to April 14, 2022

This item was approved on Consent.

- L. [20-2151](#) Appoint Scott Duff as the Fifth Trustee to the Firefighters' Pension Board of Trustees by the North Port City Commission as a Ministerial Duty, to Serve a Term from March 12, 2020 to March 12, 2022

This item was approved on Consent.

- M. [20-2171](#) Approve Minutes for the March 24, 2020 Special Meeting

This item was approved on Consent.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. [ORD. NO. 2020-05](#) An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Amending the Code of the City of North Port, Florida, Section 58-103, Related to the Calculation of Impact Fees; Providing for Severability; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Codification; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Taylor read the ordinance by title only.

Mr. Lear responded to questions regarding permit expiration and reinstatement, and differences/similarities between second and third reading of the ordinance.

Ms. Slayton spoke to difference regarding assessing impact fee rates at time of occupancy, rates effective when building permit is issued, permits that are over a year old, exceptions and extensions of deadlines, and justification for permit reinstatements by the Building Official.

Mr. Miles provided additional information regarding permit reinstatements and extensions.

Mr. Lear and Ms. Slayton spoke to language regarding who will receive refund.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Lear read the following public comment into the record:

Concerned Citizen: support of ordinance.
Ashlynn Straughan: support of ordinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Vice Mayor Luke, to approve Ordinance No. 2020-05 as presented.

Discussion took place regarding benefit of ordinance, and inspection requirements for extension.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich

B. [ORD. NO. 2020-10](#)

An Ordinance of the City of North Port, Florida, Adopting the Capital Improvements Element of the City of North Port Comprehensive Plan; Providing for Findings; Providing for Adoption; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Taylor read the ordinance by title only.

There were no questions or comments from the Commission and there was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Vice Mayor Luke, to approve Ordinance No. 2020-10 as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor McDowell, Vice Mayor Luke, Commissioner Hanks, Commissioner Carusone and Commissioner Emrich

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

7. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

Commissioner Emrich spoke to signed birthday cards.

Commissioner Carusone did not have a report.

Commissioner Hanks did not have a report.

Vice Mayor Luke questioned the City Manager regarding reverse notification for citizen concerns.

Mr. Lear stated he will provide a memorandum to Commission regarding emergency notifications.

Vice Mayor Luke spoke to writing state legislators regarding local bill for hospital tax, taxation over internet sales, internet in rural areas, and statewide unemployment policy.

Mr. Lear spoke to sales tax collection.

There was a brief discussion regarding a consensus to support the Gruters' Bill in the State Legislature.

Commissioner Carusone spoke to the need for more review of the Bill.

There was a consensus for Vice Mayor Luke to work with the City Attorney to bring back a resolution in support of Senator Gruters' sales tax bill.

Vice Mayor Luke spoke to original North Port Little League Field and suggested use for Veterans' Park.

Mayor McDowell spoke to Memorial Day Celebration location, park closures and possible timeframe for opening, and enforcement of COVID-19 meeting violations.

Chief Garrison spoke to minimal calls regarding enforcement of Governor's quarantine order, proper procedure for emails received by Commission regarding open non-essential businesses, and violations.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

Ms. Taylor did not have a report.

Ms. Slayton did not have a report.

Mr. Lear did not have a report.

Discussion took place regarding appreciation of staff during state of emergency.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor McDowell adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Debbie McDowell, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Taylor, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2020.