



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Special Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Linda M. Yates, Mayor
Vanessa Carusone, Vice-Mayor
Christopher B. Hanks, Commissioner
Debbie McDowell, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jonathan R. Lewis, City Manager
Mark Moriarty, City Attorney
Patsy Adkins, City Clerk
Kathryn Peto, Deputy City Clerk

Thursday, March 2, 2017

4:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

NOTE: This is a draft copy of the minutes of the 03-02-2017 Commission Special Meeting, has not been approved by the Commission and is subject to change.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The North Port City Commission Special Recognition Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. in the City Chambers by Mayor Yates.

Present: Mayor Yates, Commissioners Hanks and McDowell, Assistant City Manager Schult, City Attorney Moriarty, City Clerk Adkins, Deputy City Clerk Peto, and Police Chief Vespia.

Absent: Vice-Mayor Carusone.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to approve the agenda removing item I. to be placed on a future date. The motion carrier by the following vote with Vice-Mayor Carusone absent:

Yes: 3 - Mayor Yates, Commissioner Hanks and Commissioner McDowell

A. [17-0857](#) Welcome New Employees

Human Resources Director McDade presented the newest employees from the City Clerk's Office, General Services, the Police Department, Public Works, and Public Utilities.

B [17-0854](#) Proclamation for Employee Appreciation Day 2017.

Commissioner McDowell read the Proclamation into the record and presented it to Human Resources Director McDade.

- C. [17-0845](#) Proclamation for Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week March 19-25, 2017 to be presented to Robert Heggan, Jr., Secretary and District 5 Director Florida Surveying and Mapping Society Charlotte Harbor Chapter.

Commissioner Hanks read the Proclamation into the record and presented it to Robert Heggan, Jr. of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society and Alan Fish, a surveyor in the City of North Port.

- D. [17-0863](#) Proclamation for National Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Mayor Yates read the Proclamation into the record and the Proclamation will be mailed to the organization.

- E. [17-0844](#) Proclamation, March, 2017 Social Work Month

Commissioner McDowell read the Proclamation into the record and presented it to Janet Carrillo, Amy Windisch, and Linda Austin of the Social Services Division.

- F. [17-0893](#) Proclamation for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, March 2017 to be presented to Loveland Village President/CEO Daniela Koci.

Commission Hanks read the Proclamation into the record and presented it to Danielle Koci, President and CEO of Loveland Village.

- G. [17-0862](#) Proclamation for National Crime Victims' Rights Week to be presented to Jennifer Perkins, Victim Advocate for the Child Protection Center, Inc.

Mayor Yates read the Proclamation into the record and presented it to Autumn Roppolo, Victim Advocate Coordinator for the Sarasota County Sheriff Office, Jennifer Perkins, Victim Advocate for the Child Protection Center, Inc., and Rachel Haines with Oliver, Pet Therapist at the Child Protection Center. It was announced that there will be a Musical Celebration and Tribute on April 3, 2017 at 6:30 p.m at the Lee Wetherington Boys and Girls Club. The address is 3100 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, Florida 34237.

- H. [17-0891](#) Certificate of Appreciation for John Pravdica in recognition of his service on the Citizens Tax Oversight Committee.

Mayor Yates read the Certificate of Appreciation into the records. Mr. Pravdica was not present and the Certificate will be mailed to him.

- I. [17-0892](#) Certificates of Excellence Students from Atwater Elementary School for winning the Sarasota Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Fair.

The students from Atwater Elementary School were not present and this item will be moved to the April Special Recognition Meeting.

Mayor Yates introduced City Clerk Adkins, who reported that Deputy City Clerk Peto was presented a Life Saving Award by the City of Punta Gorda Commission. Commissioner McDowell read the Life Saving Award into the record.

J. [17-0832](#) Public Utility Advisory Board Annual Report to the Commission

Assistant City Manager Schult, Utilities Field Supervisor Vuolo, and Jim Sawyer, Chair of the Public Utility Advisory Board presented their annual report. It identified all the current members, responsibilities, accomplishments, previous and current projects. There was no public comment.

K. [17-0833](#) Presentation of Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report

Assistant City Manager Schult, Parks and Recreation Manager Pfundheller, and Maureen Kobel, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board presented their annual report. It detailed their members, accomplishments, goals, and current projects.

Discussion ensued: (1) subsequent to a question, it was stated that there will be more use of social media to advertise the Adopt a Park and Tribute Programs; (2) using social media for advertising events has been very successful so far; (3) the first annual Health and Wellness fair is scheduled for March 25, 2017 at the George Mullen Center; (4) the Health and Wellness fair will have vendors with information about eating healthy and testing for health needs; (5) subsequent to a question, it was explained that any funds that are paid into the Tribute Program strictly cover the cost of the product, there is no profit to the City from this program; (6) the funds for the Tribute Program are put into a separate fund; (7) the youth scholarship program is funded exclusively by donations, there is no expense to the City; (8) the scholarship program is for use at any Parks and Recreation Division program; (9) subsequent to a question, it was stated that the possibility of having a pet friendly park will be discussed at the next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting and a possible Ordinance will be brought back for Commission consideration; (10) there is discussion about having more events geared toward pets. There was no public comment.

L. [17-0835](#) General Services, Parks & Recreation Division presentation

Assistant City Manager Schult and Parks and Recreation Manager Pfundheller presented an overview of the parks, projects, achievements, services and upcoming events.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was noted that movie night will be held on July 28, August 25, and September 22 and Moana, Secret Life of Pets, and Sing will be shown; (2) subsequent to a question, it was stated that there is discussion about expanding the Little Library but there are concerns about the locations because they need to be supervised; (3) the location off of Pan American Blvd for Marius Park was explained; (4) it was also noted that the location of all parks is in the Parks and Recreation Activity and Event Guide; (5) the skate park is open to skateboards, bikes, and inline skates; (6) the majority of the users at the skate park are bikes, they like to use the concrete bowl. There was no public comment.

Following a question, it was noted that the Special Meeting regarding the pool was not a Joint Meeting with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board but Assistant City Manager Schult stated he will give them the information so that they can attend.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Yates adjourned the North Port City Commission Special Meeting at 5:22 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Linda M. Yates, Mayor

Attest: _____
Patsy C. Adkins, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the City Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2017.