



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Commission Special Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Debbie McDowell, Mayor

Jill Luke, Vice Mayor

Christopher Hanks, Commissioner

Pete Emrich, Commissioner

Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jason Yarborough, Acting City Manager

Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney

Heather Taylor, City Clerk

Thursday, September 3, 2020

1:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McDowell called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor McDowell noted that Commissioner Carusone attended the meeting via telephone.

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

Also Present

Acting City Manager Jason Yarborough, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Taylor, Recording Secretary Susan Hale, Human Resources Director Christine McDade, Public Utilities Director Rich Newkirk, Assistant Public Utilities Director Jennifer Desrosiers, and Police Chief Todd Garrison.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Slayton.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanks, seconded by Vice Mayor Luke, 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. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

3. WELCOME OF NEW EMPLOYEES:

A. [20-2553](#) Welcome New Employees

Mr. Yarborough introduced the item.

Ms. McDade introduced the City's newest employees.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

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

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

- A. [20-2465](#) Approve Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Member, Terryl Carl, to Serve as the Representative on the Sarasota County Parks Advisory and Recreation Council

This item was approved on consent.

5. PRESENTATIONS: TIME LIMIT OF 15 MINUTES

- A. [20-2543](#) Presentation of the Annual Report of the Music Suite Use Agreement for the North Port Performing Arts Center

Mr. Yarborough introduced the item.

Lynn Cleary, President of the North Port Performing Arts Association and President of North Port Concert Band, provided a presentation including building usage for the music suite, and responded to questions regarding online concert options.

- B. [20-2133](#) Utilities Department Annual Presentation

Mr. Yarborough introduced the item.

Mr. Newkirk presented the Public Works Department annual presentation, including accomplishments, water/wastewater usage, infrastructure, inflow and infiltration annual work, awards received and presentations provided, completed projects, projects in planning, the infrastructure plan for water/wastewater expansion, southwest storage and booster station, expansion of deep injection well, southwest reclamation facility, creek surface water and reverse osmosis water treatment facility, northeast storage and booster station, Hillsborough booster station, and replied to Commission questions regarding spillage impacts.

Ms. Desrosiers spoke to impact of non-payment options due to COVID-19.

Discussion took place regarding CARES (Community Activity Resources for Everyone) Act funding allocations to aid delinquent customers.

8. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

Commissioner Carusone had nothing to report.

Commissioner Emrich had nothing to report.

Vice Mayor Luke reported on emails from Visit Sarasota County, Economic Development

Corporation (EDC) meeting and third quarter report, EDC Strategic Action Plan, accepted appointment to Natural Resource Utilities and Public Works Committee with the Florida League of Cities, and providing information to public on local referendum questions.

Commissioner Hanks cited Key to the City procedures and criteria.

Discussion took place regarding clarifying criteria language.

There was a consensus to direct the City Clerk to place an agenda item on September 22, 2020 Commission meeting to review the Key to the City criteria.

Mayor McDowell reported being accepted on the Economic Development Land Use Committee with the Florida League of Cities.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

Mr. Yarborough reported that North Port's population growth.

Ms. Slayton had nothing to report.

Ms. Taylor had nothing to report.

Recess was held from 1:46 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS: TIME CERTAIN AT 4:00 P.M.

- A. [20-1916](#) Proclaim September 20th through September 26th, 2020 as National Forensic Science Week; Presented to Forensics Supervisor Tracey Gold
The Commission presented this proclamation.
- B. [20-2359](#) Proclaim September 24, 2020 as Allamanda Garden Club of North Port 55th Emerald Anniversary; Presented to Emily Panek
The Commission presented this proclamation.
- C. [20-2480](#) Proclaim September 14 - 21, 2020 as United for Infrastructure Week; Presented to Gerardo Traverso, Engineering Division Manager for the City of North Port, FL.
The Commission presented this proclamation.
- D. [20-2484](#) Present Advisory Board Certificates of Appreciation to Gale Stevens for Serving on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Cheryl Williamson for Serving on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Lauri Fern for Serving on the Environmental Advisory Board, Nadine Baker for Serving on the Environmental Advisory Board, and Edie Driest for Serving on the Environmental Advisory Board
The Commission presented the Certificates of Appreciation to Edit Driest, Cheryl Williamson, Nadine Baker, Lori Fern, and Gail Stevens.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor McDowell adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.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.