



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Commission Workshop

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Christopher B. Hanks, Mayor
Debbie McDowell, Vice-Mayor
Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner
Peter Emrich, Commissioner
Jill Luke, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Peter Lear, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Kathryn Peto, City Clerk
Heather Taylor, Deputy City Clerk

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

9:00 AM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

The North Port City Commission Workshop was called to order at 9:02 a.m. in City Commission Chambers by Mayor Hanks.

ROLL CALL

Commission Carusone arrived at 9:42 a.m.

Present: 4 - Mayor Christopher Hanks, Vice-Mayor Debbie McDowell, Commissioner Jill Luke and Commissioner Pete Emrich

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Vanessa Carusone

Also Present

City Manager Peter Lear, Assistant City Manager Jason Yarborough, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Katy Wong, Deputy City Clerk Heather Taylor, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Parks and Recreation Director Sandy Pfundheller, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Tricia Wisner, Public Utilities Director Rick Newkirk, Public Works Director Julie Bellia, Outreach Coordinator Anna Duffy, and Neighborhood Development Services Administrative Manager Katrina Romano.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Commission.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Duval: appointment to Charter Review Advisory Board.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

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

A. [19-0322](#) City Wide Fees Discussion

Mr. Lear introduced this item to include proposed fees and responded to Commission questions regarding the changes being presented in the city-wide fee ordinance.

Ms. Pfundheller responded to Commission questions regarding Warm Mineral Springs Day celebration with emphasis of lifeguard staffing.

Ms. Wisner responded to Commission questions regarding refunds and operations during inclement weather, including discounted admission for chaperones for pre-scheduled events with a chaperone to kid ratio at Warm Mineral Springs, including discount fee "per person" staying at Warm Mineral Springs motel, researching hotel reservations for use of Warm Mineral Springs, future hotel developments, and charter tour groups fee including "per person".

There was consensus to add "for all ages" to resident group rates for the pool.

Ms. Wisner continued to respond to Commission questions regarding resident rates stating "proof of City of North Port residency" and including "***the achieve anything discount does not apply for aquatic center facility rentals".

Ms. Pfundheller spoke to memorandum submitted to the City Manager for Commission presentation regarding sponsorship opportunities for residents, and upcoming agenda item on donor opportunities.

Mr. Lear and Ms. Slayton responded to Commission questions regarding impact fee/mobility fee ordinance process and expected date of first and second reading.

Chief Titus reviewed proposed changes that will be presented to include 3-tier on-duty personnel rates for special events and duty status of personnel for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coverage during special events.

Mr. Lear responded to questions regarding City of North Port police and fire being hired for Braves events, and coordinating with surrounding agencies at the City's rate when needed.

Chief Titus spoke to fluctuating Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) rates for apparatus and including a caveat that rates are based on current FEMA rates and EMS transport increases based on comparison of local municipalities rates and explained flat rate versus mileage rate.

Mr. Lear spoke to a tour he attended at the of EMS dispatch center in Los Angeles.

Chief Titus continued discussion on EMS training, dispatch training, and Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system updates.

Discussion took place on facility rental fees, deposit return policy, and discounted rental rates.

Mr. Newkirk spoke to the current rate analysis in process and responded to Commission

concern regarding reconnect fees.

Ms. Duffy further explained fees associated with disconnection of utilities, assessment of late fees, process for verification of water usage, and H2O program and marketing efforts.

Ms. Slayton spoke to prior direction on business tax receipt fees and flat rate fees and informed the Commission of the process to reinstitute business tax fees in the future.

Discussion took place regarding Sarasota County flat rate fee and benefits of a business registry list.

Ms. Romano spoke to the last equity study completed.

Discussion took place regarding cap increases when increasing business tax.

Ms. Romano expressed concern with the flat rate registration process due to large businesses paying the same rate as small businesses.

Discussion continued on taxes for taxi's, legislative regulation for ride-sharing programs, reviewing equity types of businesses, sales tax revenue of larger businesses, and code revisions to do registration.

Chief Titus spoke to the new business inspection process, relevant charges, and annual inspections.

There was consensus to direct staff bring back information on pros and cons of flat rate fees with a \$50 and \$25 comparison, pros and cons of business tax with a \$50 and \$25 comparison, and financial implication comparisons.

B. [19-0350](#)

Advisory Board and Committee Annual Reports

Mr. Lear reviewed this item and noted that all annual reports are attached to the agenda.

Discussion took place regarding the Beautification and Tree/Scenic Highway Advisory Board to include item that was not heard during the April 9, 2019 Commission meeting, maintenance of welcome sign and landscaping on Sumter Boulevard, and maintenance of welcome signs at West Villages and Toledo Blade Boulevard.

Ms. Bellia stated she will check on current completion date for West Villages sign and spoke to prior maintenance of Toledo Blade Boulevard and Sumter Boulevard welcome signs and landscaping, and pressure washing schedule.

Discussion continued regarding landscaping by Tower at Cranberry, and funding for signage, Environmental Advisory Board discussion regarding funding for purchasing land for conservation, discussion with Sarasota County regarding escheated land and obtaining list of lots, dedication of lots to the city, option to purchase lots, and utility connections.

There was consensus to direct the City Manager to provide a map of the lots, the agreement they fall under, possible purchases, and map of currently owned lots and to review the agreement to determine the city's options for purchase or donation, and research how many lots were dedicated to the city.

Discussion took place regarding public understanding of lot sales, City owned property in industrial park, Joint Management Advisory Board discussing mural on Performing Arts Center Building at next scheduled meeting, use of art fund, and whether there is a need for improvements at the art center.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

4. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

Discussion took place regarding consideration of the Young Mens Christian Association (YMCA) child care facility, relocation of the daycare to the old fire station location, and having further discussion during the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) process.

Mr. Newkirk spoke to utility infrastructure underground at the location.

Discussion continued regarding incorporating the art center and children's clothes closet. Ms. Pfundheller spoke to prior direction regarding continuing discussion after public/private partnership (P3) finalization.

Discussion continued regarding safety of the current child care building.

There was consensus to direct staff to provide additional information regarding prior action and discussion in regards Dallas White Campus/YMCA.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

There were no administrative or legal reports.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Hanks adjourned the North Port City Commission Workshop Meeting at 11:38 a.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Christopher B. Hanks, Mayor

Attest: _____
Kathryn Wong, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the City Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2019.