



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Final City Commission Regular Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

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

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Peter Lear, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Patsy Adkins, City Clerk
Kathryn Peto, Deputy City Clerk

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

6:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

Amended #1 Agenda (added Agenda item 5. B. Proclamation and Recognition for Chief Kevin Vespia)

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE 05-08-2018 MEETING.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The North Port City Commission Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. in City Chambers by Mayor Carusone.

Present: Mayor Carusone; Vice-Mayor Yates; Commissioners, Hanks, Luke and McDowell, City Manager Lear; City Attorney Slayton; City Clerk Adkins; Deputy City Clerk Peto and Police Captain Morales.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yates, to recess the Regular Commission Meeting to continue the Road and Drainage Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Recess 6:03 p.m. - 8:12 p.m.

A moment of silence was observed before the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Luke.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

After a request by the Mayor, the Commission determined that they would like to pull

Consent Agenda item 6.D. for discussion so the appropriate Staff can be kept available to answer questions.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve the Agenda and moving 5.A. after Public Comment 3. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. [18-176](#) Current Vacancies for Boards and Committees.

City Clerk Adkins read the Current Vacancies for Boards and Committees into the record.

B. [18-177](#) Upcoming Expiration Dates for Boards and Committees.

City Clerk Adkins read the Upcoming Expiration Dates for Boards and Committees into the record.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment was held 8:17 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

Allain Hale and Carolann Palm Abramoff: Environmental Advisory Board.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was explained that the City Clerk will accept applications for the Board, a quorum will then be formed, and that the process for reporting will be discussed at the first Board meeting; (2) City Manager is working on filling the Staff Liaison for the Environmental Advisory Board; (3) it was noted that Board Members are not to discuss issues amongst themselves outside of their Board meetings due to the Sunshine Law.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. [18-154](#) Approval of a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the City of North Port and the Suncoast Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, Local No. 2546, for the period October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2020.

City Manager Lear provided an overview of the item.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was noted that pay raises are included, and pay increases will be based on a progression plan with requirements; (2) there will be a budget amendment brought to the Commission following approval of the agreement, and that the first year funding will come from the fund balance; (3) monies were set aside in the fund balance last year in anticipation of the wage portion of the agreement; (4) it was noted that half of the \$1.1 million is from the district and the other half is from the fund balance; (5) the small scrivener errors can be corrected without another meeting with the union; (6) it was clarified that the second to the last line on page 38 is a scrivener error and the correct date is October 1, 2020; (7) page 11, section 8, Out of Title Pay, previously an employee would receive a higher rate of pay if temporarily assigned to a higher paid position for a period of 24 hours or more, and that the new agreement now states a minimum of four hours; (8) tomorrow evening is the Fire Chief Meet and Greet with the three candidates for the Fire Chief position and the public is welcome to attend.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the City of North Port and the Suncoast Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, Local No. 2546, for the period October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. [18-149](#)

Ordinance 2018-05, Second Reading, Petition No. TXT 16-217, North Port Complete Streets Ordinance, Amending Article 4 of Chapter 37 of the City of North Port Unified Land Development Code

City Clerk Adkins read Ordinance No. 2018-05 into the record by title only.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was suggested to add "retail" to item (D) on page four; (2) it was explained that a Developer may apply for a waiver of the bike rack requirement, and that there is a fee associated for the waiver; (3) the waiver request would come before the Commission; (4) it was explained that bridges in (F) on page five are for pedestrian access and not vehicle traffic, and this is supplementary to the City's transportation plan; (5) item (C) on page five refers to bridges for vehicles and (F) refers to bridges for pedestrians; (6) it was clarified that a bridge built for vehicles would also accommodate bikes and pedestrians; (7) in the highlighted portion of Section 37-41, (B), page four, Staff recommendation is that "X" will be ten; (8) multi-family units and amenity centers could be considered as commercial and may be required to add bike racks; (9) it was suggested (B), page four should be made clear and say "in new residential subdivisions"; (10) it was noted that page three, (B) Staff was to look at possible modifications to the language "...to navigate through all turns without crossing into oncoming traffic"; (11) it was suggested that the "shall" be changed to "may" on the first line of page four; (12) a suggestion was made to change "non-motorized" to "small-scale" on the second to last sentence on page five; (13) it was suggested to strike language in (F) on page five that refers to 50 cc which is limiting and enter a specific weight restriction instead; (14) concern was expressed that if motorcycles and scooters are allowed to use a pedestrian walkway speed limits will need to be posted; (15) it was noted that small-access bridges are not intended for motorized vehicle use such as motorcycles; (16) the intent of the comprehensive plan was to have pedestrian/bicycle bridges connect residential neighborhoods to activity centers and if need be, to accommodate an emergency vehicle; (17) the intent to allow smaller types of vehicles to use the access bridge was to have them stay off the regular roadway; (18) it was noted that small vehicles will utilize a bridge large enough to accommodate an ambulance, and that the design should be for a smaller bridge; (19) it was suggested to not allow motorcycles on the small access bridge and allow for pedestrians and golf carts; (20) a suggestion was made to remove (F) on page five; (21) a summary of changes was noted: [a] remove (F) on page five; [b] replace "shall" with "may" in item (I). on page three and four; [c] clarifying it applies to new residential subdivisions; [d] adding amenity centers for bike rack requirements; [e] change to retail commercial and staff discretion clause; [f] change the "X" to 10 in section 37-41 (B); (22) suggested changes for section 37-29: [a] item (H) change "may" back to "shall"; [b] item (H) include language that allows Staff discretion; [c] item (I) include language that allows Staff discretion; (23) a suggestion was made to allow Staff discretion of commercial developments in section 37-41(D); (24) it was suggested the Ordinance come back to Commission after corrections too review Staff's discretion of the two "shall" in (H) and (I); (25) it was noted the two "shall" make it concrete to follow the program, and Staff's discretion is to allow for instances where there are limitations; (25) it

was suggested to add language to state "to the extent practical" to (H) and (I); (26) it was noted the proposed language is already contained in (H); (27) the language in (I) is to mirror (H). There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Ordinance No. 2018-05 with the following changes: (1) Section 37-29: [a] (H) change "may" back to "shall"; [b] include language that allows Staff discretion; [c] (I) to allow staff discretion; (2) Section 37-41: [a] (B) add the word "new" in front of residential; [b] (B) change the "X" to 10; [c] (D) change to retail, commercial development and amenity centers and for any other commercial development as deemed applicable by Staff; (3) Section 37-42 removing (F). The motion carried by the following vote:

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

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yates, to amend the motion to have Staff bring back revisions so the Commission can review them for further reading. The amended motion and second were withdrawn.

Recess 9:39 p.m. - 9:51 p.m.

B. [18-163](#)

Resolution No. 2018-R-09, Display the Motto "In God We Trust"

City Clerk Adkins read Resolution No. 2018-R-09 into the record by title only.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was suggested the Resolution contain more historical information referring to the State motto and State seal; (2) it was noted that all text will be in capital letters; (3) the lettering will be ordered after approval of the Resolution; (4) Staff will review the accuracy of the two additional whereas clauses. There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to approve Resolution No. 2018-R-09, Display the Motto "In God We Trust", with the following two additional whereas: (1) in 1868 the phrase In God We Trust was approved as the State of Florida Seal; (2) in 2006 the State of Florida adopted the phrase as the State motto. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

C. [18-172](#)

Resolution No. 2018-R-07, Use of Meeting Rooms in City Hall

City Clerk Adkins read Resolution No. 2018-R-07 into the record by title only.

Discussion ensued: (1) concern was expressed that 2.1 language is cumbersome; (2) it was noted the Resolution is not clear that use is limited to the three categories stated in 2.1; (3) concern was expressed to not limit to the three categories; (4) it was explained the three categories are not defined and are at the City Manager's discretion; (5) requests for use of City Hall that do not meet the criteria may be considered by the Commission; (6) as previously discussed the Commission narrowed down the three categories, and anything beyond that the City Manager has the ability to bring it to the Commission; (7) to state "dirtier" and "clean-up" in 2.05 is too narrow; (8) it was suggested the second sentence in 2.05 state "Where a reserved meeting room is left in the condition other than as found, the requester shall be assessed a fee as determined by the City Manager"; (9) a suggestion was made to add "procedure and a" before "reservation request" in 2.02.

There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Yates, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Resolution 2018-R-07 with the following changes: (1) Section 2.01 replace the language with "The City Commission authorizes the use of City Hall meeting rooms limited to the following: other governmental entities, government sponsored entities and City of North Port affiliated entities, at the discretion of the City Manager"; (2) Section 2.05 change the second sentence to read: "Where a reserved meeting room is left in a condition other than as found, the requester shall be assessed a fee as determined by the City Manager"; (3) Section 2.02 add "procedure and a" before "reservation request". The motion carried by the following vote:

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

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

B. [18-200](#) Proclamation and Recognition for Chief Kevin Vespia

Mayor Carusone read the Proclamation into the record and it will be presented to Police Chief Vespia on Friday.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner Hanks, to approve Items A., B., C., E., F., G. of the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

A. [18-180](#) Approval of minutes for October 10, 2017 Commission Regular Meeting; October 17, 2017 Commission Special Meeting; November 28, 2017 Commission Regular Meeting; December 12, 2017 Commission Regular Meeting.

B. [18-164](#) Appointment of two (2) Members to the Environmental Advisory Board.

C. [18-165](#) Appointment of a North Port Resident, appointed by the Commission to the North Port Police Officers' Pension Board of Trustees.

D. [18-156](#) Disposition of surplus assets by an appropriate fashion per Chapter 2 Article VIII Sec. 2-419 (d) of the City Code set forth in F.S. 274.06.

Discussion ensued: (1) it was noted that none of the vehicles are suitable for project graduation; (2) concern was expressed that the zero turn mowers are averaging four hours a week. There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve Consent Agenda Item D. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- E. [18-119](#) Approval to apply for and accept the Walmart Foundation Grant, in an amount up to \$5,000 to provide school supplies for the Back to School Resource Fair and gifts for Home for the Holidays program.
- F. [18-120](#) Memorandum of Agreement between the Salvation Army and the City of North Port for the City to coordinate services for households applying for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) assistance.
- G. [18-143](#) A seven-year preventive maintenance and repair service agreement with Stryker Medical, a division of Stryker Corporation, for North Port Fire Rescue's new stretcher lifting systems and stretchers at a FY 2017-18 budgeted cost of \$26,300.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

8. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

Commissioner Hanks: (1) it was suggested that the Commission maintain an official seat on the Teen Court Board after his term expires.

There was a consensus to have Teen Court be an official Board assignment.

Commissioner McDowell: (1) attended National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C.; (2) attended the luncheon for the Boys and Girls Club STARS program; (3) attended the inaugural event for Teen Court; (4) suggested that the Mayor Youth Council give a presentation to the Commission; (5) suggested inviting the Sarasota County Appraiser to give a public presentation on the exemption referendum.

There was a consensus to have the Mayor Youth Council give a presentation to the Commission.

There was a consensus to have the City Manager invite the Sarasota County Appraiser to give a public presentation on the exemption referendum.

Vice-Mayor Yates: (1) attended the National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C.; (2) will be attending the International Trade Hub tomorrow; (3) would like to attend a Community Health Action Team (CHAT) meeting to hear a speaker from the Agency for Health Care Admission (AHCA).

Commissioner Luke: (1) arranging financial support for Teen Court through a philanthropist; (2) attended the inaugural event for Teen Court; (3) has asked the City Manager to arrange a presentation in May with Doctor Stone from the Community Health Center; (4) attended the National League of Cities conference in Washington, D.C.; (5) attended the STARS program lunch for the Boys and Girls Club; (6) spoke with students from Heron Creek about careers.

Mayor Carusone: nothing to report.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

City Attorney Slayton: nothing to report.

City Manager Lear: (1) Director of Big Brothers and Big Sisters may give a presentation to the Commission in May.

City Clerk Adkins: nothing to report.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Carusone adjourned the North Port City Commission Regular Meeting at 10:40 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Vanessa Carusone, Mayor

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

Minutes approved at the City Commission Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2018.