



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes - Final Road and Drainage District Governing Body

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

4:00 PM

CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE 03-19-2019 MEETING.

CALL TO ORDER

The North Port Road and Drainage District Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in City Commission Chambers by Mayor Hanks.

ROLL CALL

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

Also Present:

Assistant City Manager Cari Branco, Assistant City Attorney Michael Golen, City Clerk Katy Peto, Deputy City Clerk Heather Taylor, Police Chief Todd Garrison, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Public Works Director Julie Bellia, Fleet Manager Kenneth Rappuhn and Public Works Operations Manager Chuck Speake.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Commission.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve Consent Agenda items A, C and D. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

- A.** [19-0138](#) Approval of Minutes for the January 22, 2019 Road & Drainage District Regular Meeting.

- B. [18-933](#) Purchase two (2) replacement Caterpillar M315F excavators for an estimated \$413,180.00 from Ring Power Corporation.

Mr. Rappuhn responded to Commission questions, explained the history and condition of the vehicle and noted that the correct hours of use is 6,300. Vice-Mayor McDowell stated she cannot support this item due to the limited use of the equipment. There was no public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner Carusone, to approve Consent Agenda item B. The motion carried by the following vote with Vice-Mayor McDowell dissenting for reasons stated:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Hanks, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner Emrich and Commissioner Carusone

No: 1 - Vice-Mayor McDowell

- C. [18-931](#) Purchase one (1) new John Deere 6145M Boom Mower for an estimated \$191,764.00, from Alamo Group (TX) Inc.

- D. [19-0054](#) Approve Contract No. 2019-42 Water Control Structure (WCS) No. 106 Replacement to Zep Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$2,272,480.00 and a contingency in the amount of \$227,248.00 for a total amount of \$2,499,728.00.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. [19-0101](#) Rehabilitation of the Biscayne Drive Median Landscape Project

Ms. Branco gave an overview of the item and stated that Staff's recommendation is to support Alternative 1B. Ms. Bellia provided a PowerPoint presentation and explained the four options.

Mr. Speake responded to Commission questions regarding maintaining healthy existing landscaping, Alternative 1B regarding keeping shrubs and trees and replacing plantings with limited landscaping, Alternative 2 regarding replacing failed plantings with sod, new planting going out for bid and the City maintaining landscaping during the warranty period, flourishing Juniper plants remaining, annual maintenance costs and use of herbicides.

Discussion ensued regarding concern with using Kunti plants, need for more sod, use of inexpensive plants such as Flax Lily and Mullie Grass, high-water table in that area, vegetation not conducive to wet areas, more plantings increasing maintenance costs, removing Liripoe plants due to the high maintenance, centering the plantings and leaving mow strip on each side of the median, laying sod where all plantings are removed and planting trees in the medians where only sod exists.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carusone, seconded by Vice-Mayor McDowell, to leave the trees, bushes and plantings that are currently flourishing, remove all failed plantings, add plantings as described in Alternative 1B where necessary.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to amend the motion to strike "add plantings in Alternative 1B as necessary" stated in

the main motion, adding lay majority of sod, keeping low maintenance plantings that are flourishing and leave mowing strips throughout the medians. The motion carried by the following vote, with Commissioner Carusone dissenting for reasons not stated:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Hanks, Vice-Mayor McDowell, Commissioner Luke and Commissioner Emrich

No: 1 - Commissioner Carusone

A motion was made by Commissioner Carusone, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to amend the motion to allow staff to add additional trees within the medians as allowable by line of sight. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Commissioner Carusone stated she could not support the motion because the proposed landscaping is insufficient and unsatisfactory, and that waiting to make additional changes will increase costs. It was understood that staff will be given leeway with plantings to make them symmetrical. There was no public comment.

A vote was taken on the main motion, as amended, to leave the trees, bushes and plantings that are currently flourishing, remove all failed plantings, lay a majority of sod, keep low maintenance plantings that are flourishing, leave mowing strips throughout the medians, and allow staff to add additional trees within the medians as allowable by line of sight. The motion carried by the following vote, with Commissioner Carusone dissenting for reasons stated:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Hanks, Vice-Mayor McDowell, Commissioner Luke and Commissioner Emrich

No: 1 - Commissioner Carusone

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

6. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no Commission Communications.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

There were no Administrative and Legal Reports.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Hanks adjourned the North Port Road and Drainage District Regular Meeting at 5:07 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

As the Governing Body of the North Port Road and Drainage District

By: _____

Christopher B. Hanks, Mayor

Attest: _____

Kathryn Peto, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Road and Drainage District Regular Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2019.