



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Workshop

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Alice White, Mayor

Phil Stokes, Vice Mayor

Pete Emrich, Commissioner

Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

Debbie McDowell, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jerome Fletcher, City Manager

Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney

Heather Faust, City Clerk

Monday, June 24, 2024

9:00 AM

City Commission Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. and provided required notifications regarding conducting a hybrid meeting.

Commissioner Emrich stated he will be attending the hybrid meeting via Communications Media Technology (CMT) due to experiencing a medical condition.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Langdon, to accept the use of CMT for a hybrid meeting. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Commissioner Emrich, Mayor White, Vice Mayor Stokes and Commissioner Langdon

No: 1 - Commissioner McDowell

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Commissioner Pete Emrich, Commissioner Debbie McDowell, Mayor Alice White, Vice Mayor Philip Stokes and Commissioner Barbara Langdon

Also Present:

Fire Chief Titus, Police Chief Garrison, City Manager Fletcher, City Attorney Slayton, Assistant City Clerk Powell, Risk and Benefits Manager Knowles, Grants Division Manager Malingowski, Assistant City Manager Bellia, Public Works Director Speake, Communications Manager Bartolone, Development Services Director Ray, Business Services Coordinator Cigich, and Information Technology Manager Ryan

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kimberly Williams.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. [24-0810](#) Discussion and Possible Direction Regarding the Fiscal Year 2025 City Manager's Recommended Budget.

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. Malingowski provided a presentation regarding fund rules, project status report, and staff recommendation.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding federal requirements, other projects the grant money can be used for, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), bonds, general funds, money allocation, and procurement list.

Mr. Fletcher provided a presentation regarding commissioners strategic pillars & priorities, millage rates and ad valorem collections, ten year taxable value history, major general fund revenues, fund balance, general fund budget proposal not currently funded, general fund budget by strategic pillar, Road and Drainage District, Fire Rescue District, Solid Waste District, building fund, utilities fund, fleet management fund, staffing changes, and new positions.

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding Hurricane Ian expenditures, Tree Fund, position cuts, additional police officer duties, tree fund expenditures, cleaning charges, Hillsborough/Cranberry project funding, and ARPA funds.

There was no public comment.

B. [24-0856](#) Human Resources Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Ms. Knowles provided a presentation regarding human resources positions, and insurance increases.

Ms. Bellia spoke to Employee Health Center and a special meeting in July.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding insurance budget, funding options, private sector jobs, and city benefits.

There was consensus for the City to absorb the 1.3% in the self-funded health care costs 100%.

Mr. Fletcher provided a presentation regarding performance measures, budget summary, and budget proposals not recommended.

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding salaries.

There was no public comment.

C. [24-0857](#) Finance Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding organizational chart, strategic pillar and priorities, and performance measures.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding financial projections, tax increases, capital improvement, consultant, borrowing capabilities, revenue expenses, computer modeling, software, 2025 budget, ongoing management, debt management, Lean Sigma training allocation, and vacancy reduction.

There was no public comment.

D. [24-0858](#) City Manager/Communications Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding strategic pillar and priorities, performance measures, performance measures grants, performance measures communications, and budget summary.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding rebranding, population increase, economic development, smart growth and innovative actions, quarterly newsletter, salary, contingency accounts, emergency partnership, and radio partnership.

Recess was taken from 11:27 a.m. to 11:37 a.m.

There was no public comment.

E. [24-0859](#) City Clerk Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding strategic pillar and priorities, and performance measures.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding tools needed.

There was no public comment.

F. [24-0860](#) City Commission

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding strategic pillar and priorities, and budget summary.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding National League of Cities, challenge coins, and professional contract services.

There was consensus to not fund the National League of Cities membership.

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding challenge coin budget.

There was consensus to not fund challenge coins.

There was no public comment.

G. [24-0861](#) City Attorney Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding performance measures, budget summary, and budget proposals.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding lawsuits, budget proposal, retirements, and legal services.

There was no public comment.

H. [24-0862](#) Information Technology Division

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding organizational chart, strategic pillar and priorities, performance measures, budget summary, and budget proposals.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding firewall replacement, Mitel system funding, service desk technician, and new positions.

There was consensus to fund Budget Proposal 27-49 in the amount of \$75,600.

Recess was taken from 12:22 p.m. to 12:52 p.m.

I. [24-0863](#) Non-Departmental

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation including organizational chart, strategic pillar and priorities, and performance measures.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding general fund, City Manager contingency fund, past contingency fund expenses, and charter referendum.

Consensus was requested to reduce the City Manager's contingency fund from \$150,000 to \$100,000.

There was no public comment.

J. [24-0864](#) Parks and Recreation Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding strategic pillar and priorities, performance measures, and budget proposals.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding public area rugs, Italy Avenue CIP project, park impact fees, Warm Mineral Springs building rehab, Atwater and

Narramore field maintenance/renovation, Morgan Center flooring, existing equipment, gym repairs, Aquatic Center monthly expenditures/revenues, surtax allotment, quality of life, Aquatic Center closure, other revenue sources, 360 video, outreach, and advertisement.

There was no public comment.

K. [24-0865](#) Social Services Division

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding strategic pillar and priorities, performance measures, budget summary, and budget proposal.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding funding, family self sufficiency program, North Port Non-Profit United (NP2) budget, county model, and Palm Port support.

There was no public comment.

Recess was taken from 2:05 p.m. to 2:10 p.m.

L. [24-0866](#) Police Department

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item and provided a presentation regarding organizational chart, performance measures, budget summary, and budget proposals.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding Toledo Blade extension, response time, federal average response time, road safety, speed sensors, police officer pay and the grant revenue offset, last years unfunded equipment, crime scene technician, Crime Prevention Practitioner, Budget Proposal #2765, detectives for electronic surveillance positions, vehicle up-fitting, public safety, position vacancy, trailer amount, SRO charter schools supervisor and funding, asset specialist, police training, forensic extraction support, criminal investigations chairs, leasing as opposed to buying portable trailers, and leasing building.

There was no public comment.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 2:57 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Alice White, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Faust, City Clerk

