



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes City Commission Regular Meeting

CITY COMMISSIONERS

Pete Emrich, Mayor
Barbara Langdon, Vice Mayor
Jill Luke, Commissioner
Debbie McDowell, Commissioner
Alice White, Commissioner

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Jerome Fletcher, City Manager
Amber L. Slayton, City Attorney
Heather Faust, City Clerk

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Emrich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Also Present

City Manager Jerome Fletcher, City Attorney Amber Slayton, City Clerk Heather Faust, Recording Secretary Amanda Baker, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Police Chief Todd Garrison, Parks and Recreation Director Sandy Pfundheller, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Tricia Wisner, Parks and Grounds Manager Jeff Nelson, and Marketing and Engagement Coordinator Laura Ansel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by North Port resident Melodi Wilson.

Commission recognized Boy Scout Troop 254 and Sarasota County Commissioner Ron Cutsinger for attending the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Faust read the following e-comment into the record:

Mildred Hubbard: expressed opposition for the Myakkahatchee Creek nature trail project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeffrey Scott: roles of the City Manager, elected Commissioners, and will of the community.

Valdy Olender: Declaration of Independence.

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher noted items to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the Consent Agenda with Item Nos. 22-2509, 22-3002, and 22-2969 being pulled for discussion. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

- A.** [22-2917](#) Approve the Release and Indemnification Agreement Regarding Use of the Sheriff's Facilities and/or Equipment between the City of North Port and the Sheriff of Hillsborough County.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- B.** [22-2509](#) Award RFB No. 2022-16 for Janitorial Services to Emerald Facility Management, LLC., dba Emerald Facility Services, in the Amount of \$179,460.00 For the Initial Term from the Date of Award Through and Including June 21, 2024, with an Option to Renew for Two Additional One-year Terms with 5% Compounded Increases for Second and Third Year Plus Any Additional Services on an "as-Required" Basis per the Terms and Conditions in the Solicitation and Authorize the City Manager to Approve Renewals in Accordance with the Terms and Conditions in the Solicitation

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced and spoke to the item, and noted staff requested to remove the item from the agenda.

No action was taken on this item.

- C.** [22-3002](#) Approve Construction Contract No. 2022-18 - Toledo Blade Boulevard Utility Extensions With DBE Management LLC dba DBE Utility Services in the Amount of \$2,030,075.00, With a Contingency of \$304,511.00, for a Total Amount of \$2,334,586.00.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commissioner White spoke to the item.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding broadband connectivity.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve Item No. 22-3002 for Construction Contract No. 2022-18 - Toledo Blade Boulevard Utilities Extensions with DBE Management LLC dba DBE Utility Services. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

- D.** [22-2954](#) Approve the Third Amendment to the City of North Port, Florida and North Port Health Investors, LLC Water and Wastewater System Developer's Agreement.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- E.** [22-2957](#) Approve the Disposition of Surplus Assets in an Appropriate Fashion Pursuant to Chapter 2 Administration, Article VIII Procurement, Section 2-419, Disposition of City Assets and Property (d), (1) of the Code of the City of North Port, Florida.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- F.** [22-2979](#) Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between Bob Gualtieri, as Sheriff of Pinellas County, and the City of North Port Regarding Florida's Facial Recognition Network, Which Provides the North Port Police Department Access to Florida's Facial Recognition Network (FR-Net), Hosted by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- G.** [22-2986](#) Approve Amendment No. 1 to Construction Contract No. 2021-47 - Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant (MCWTP) Structural Rehabilitation Project - Phase 2 with Innovative Masonry Restoration, LLC, for an Additional Amount of \$37,125.00, for a Total Contract Price of \$1,231,432.00.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- H.** [22-2994](#) Approve the Award of the Myakkahatchee Creek Greenway Disc Golf Course Development Project to Jon F. Swift Construction in the Amount of \$149,912.00.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- I. [22-3101](#) Approve the Municipal Election Agreement Between the City of North Port and the Sarasota County Supervisor of Elections for the August 23, 2022, City of North Port Primary Election and the November 8, 2022, City of North Port General Election

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- J. [22-3109](#) Approval for Commissioner McDowell to Serve on the Florida League of Cities 2023 Advocacy Committee.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- K. [22-2969](#) Approval of Carl Goodrich as a Regular Member on the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Two-Year Term From June 28, 2022, to June 28, 2024.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commissioner McDowell spoke to the item.

Commission discussion took place regarding prior attendance on advisory boards and board member's responsibilities.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to deny Carl Goodrich as a regular member of the Environmental Advisory Board. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

4. PRESENTATIONS: TIME LIMIT OF 15 MINUTES

- A. [22-3125](#) Sarasota County Commissioner Ron Cutsinger Update to North Port City Commission.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commissioner Cutsinger provided a presentation including Legacy Trail extension, mobility On-Demand system, negotiating property on Myakka River, South County Courthouse ribbon-cutting, and Surtax IV.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding gratitude to Commissioner Cutsinger, Legacy Trail extension events, On-Demand service, expansion into Wellen Park, temporary construction road, funding trail heads and accessories, trolley service, shared ride experience, and On-Demand fee structure.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. [22-3086](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Interlocal Agreement Providing for the Administration of a Joint County/Municipality Economic Development Program.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Lisa Krouse and Erin Silk, Economic Development Corporation (EDC) of Sarasota County, provided a presentation including the EDC mission and purpose, FY 2023 organizational goals and approved annual plan, funding model, trends, Sarasota County and North Port projects, FY 2022 metrics, strategic priorities, future focus, and North Port metrics.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding EDC personnel resuming weekly attendance in North Port, marketing plans, geographical area of added jobs, total Economic Development Organizations (EDO) in Florida, metric calculations, dos and don'ts for EDC and City government, new leadership team, and private vs. public funding.

Mr. Fletcher provided the number of EDOs in Florida.

Commission discussion continued regarding progress within the EDC agreement and organization, Economic Development staff, and support of EDC.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill Gunnin: expressed support from the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the Joint Agreement with Sarasota County, other municipalities, and the Economic Development Corporation as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**RESOLUTION:**

- A. [RES. NO. 2022-R-37](#) A Resolution of the City of North Port, Florida, Approving the Expenditure of \$10,000 of Forfeiture Funds to the Florida FBI National Academy Associates, inc., for its Re-Trainer Conference to Provide Training for Attending Members; Providing for Incorporation of Recitals; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Mayor Emrich announced the item and directed the City Clerk to read the Resolution by title only.

Ms. Faust read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

There were no Commission questions or discussion.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Emrich closed the public hearing and requested a motion.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Langdon, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve Resolution No. 2022-R-37 as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

RESOLUTION: Second Reading

B. [RES. NO. 2022-R-31](#)

A Resolution of the City of North Port, Florida, Amending the Non-District Budget and Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 for Myakkahatchee Creek Greenway Trail Project P10MCG in the Amount of \$319,400 and for the First Floor Lobby Piece of Art in the Amount of \$1,750; Providing for Findings; Providing for Conflicts; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date.

Mayor Emrich announced the item and directed the City Clerk to read the Resolution by title only.

Ms. Faust read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

There were no Commission questions or discussion.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Emrich closed the public hearing and requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Vice Mayor Langdon, to approve Resolution No. 2022-R-31 as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

Recess was taken from 7:25 p.m. until 7:40 p.m.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS: Continued

A. [22-2953](#)

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Approval of the Award of Request for Bid (RFB) No. 2022-23 for Construction of the Myakkahatchee Creek Greenway Trail to Gale Construction Company of Illinois for the Amount of \$1,908,812.07 and Contingency in the Amount of \$133,000 for

the Total Amount of \$2,014,812.07.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding design plans, following steps after approval, cultural resource survey, environmental invasiveness, access point, connection and crossing project, tree mitigation, funding sources, and checks and balances.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve the award of Request for Bid (RFB) No. 2022-23 for the construction of the Myakkahatchee Creek Greenway Trail project to Gale Construction Company. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

B. [22-2977](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Approval of the May 24, 2022 Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Ms. Faust introduced the item.

Commission discussion took place regarding the incorrect vote.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve the May 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes as presented with the recommended changes. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

C. [22-2918](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Selection of a Name for the New Veterans Memorial Park and Consideration of the Proposed Park Concept Plan.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Mr. Nelson provided a presentation including requested Commission direction and park name recommendations.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding correct name recommendation of "Circle of Honor at City Green", other name suggestions, inclusion of "park" in the name, and conceptual park design.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Melodi Wilson: expressed support of "Circle of Honor" and park originality.

Mayor Emrich passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Langdon.

A motion was made by Mayor Emrich, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to approve "Circle of Honor" as the official name of the Veterans Park.

Commission questions and discussion continued regarding gratitude to the Veterans Park Advisory Committee.

The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

Vice Mayor Langdon passed the gavel back to Mayor Emrich.

Mr. Fletcher answered questions regarding feasibility of placing a coming soon sign at the park.

Mr. Nelson continued with the presentation including working with the Art Advisory Board for design elements, park location, conceptual plan elements, and soliciting design firms.

Commission questions and discussion took place regarding natural shading and tree canopies, portable bleachers, installing benches, estimated park size, Oath of Office and statue placement, creating a more detailed conceptual plan, connecting the park to the stormwater pond, community donations, and starting a tribute program for the park.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Commissioner Luke, to direct the City Manager to prepare the necessary documents to move forward to the design phase for the Circle of Honor. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

D. [22-2935](#)

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Display of the Roseate Spoonbill Sculpture in City Hall.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

There were no Commission questions or discussion.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Vice Mayor Langdon, to approve Option A - the placement of the Roseate Spoonbill on the first floor stairwell of City Hall. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

- E. [22-2992](#) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee Appointments.

Mayor Emrich announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

There were no Commission questions or discussion.

Mayor Emrich requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Luke, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve the continuation of current appointments for Commissioners on the Florida League of Cities Legislative Policy Committee. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Emrich, Vice Mayor Langdon, Commissioner Luke, Commissioner White and Commissioner McDowell

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

9. COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. [22-2496](#) Mayor Emrich's Report

Mayor Emrich did not have anything to report and expressed appreciation to Vice Mayor Langdon for covering meetings in his absence.

- B. [22-2497](#) Vice Mayor Langdon's Report

Vice Mayor Langdon reported on events and activities attended.

- C. [22-2498](#) Commission Luke's Report

Commissioner Luke reported on events and activities attended.

- D. [22-2499](#) Commissioner McDowell's Report

Commissioner McDowell reported on events and activities attended.

- E. [22-2500](#) Commissioner White's Report

Commissioner White reported on events and activities attended.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

- A. [22-2966](#) City Manager Report

Mr. Fletcher had nothing to report.

B. [22-3107](#) City Attorney Report

Ms. Slayton had nothing to report.

C. [22-3110](#) City Clerk Report

Ms. Faust had nothing to report.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Emrich adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Pete Emrich, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Faust, City Clerk

These minutes were approved on the ____ day of _____, 20 ____.