



# City of North Port

4970 City Hall Blvd  
North Port, FL 34286

## Meeting Minutes City Commission Joint Meeting

### *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*

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Friday, January 19, 2024

9:15 AM

Suncoast Technical College  
Main Conference Center  
4748 Beneva Road

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### Convocation of Governments

#### Elected Officials and Others Present:

The following officials were present: City of North Port Mayor White, Vice Mayor Stokes, Commissioner McDowell, Commissioner Langdon, Commissioner Emrich, City Clerk Heather Faust, City Manager Alfred Jerome Fletcher, Deputy City Manager Jason Yarborough, Assistant City Manager Julie Bellia, City Attorney Slayton, Assistant City Attorney Hillary Ryan, Police Chief Todd Garrison; City of Venice Mayor Nick Pachota, Vice Mayor Jim Boldt, Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia, Assistant City Manager James Clinch, Attorney Kelly Fernandez; City of Sarasota Mayor Liz Alpert, Vice Mayor Jen Ahearn-Koch, Commissioner Debbie Trice, Commissioner Kyle Battie, City Auditor Clerk Shayla Griggs, City Manager Marlon Brown, Deputy City Manager Pat Robinson, Planning Director Steve Cover; Town of Long Boat Key Mayor Ken Schneier, Vice Mayor Mike Haycock, Commissioner Gary Coffin, City Clerk Savannah Cobb, Town Manager Howard Tipton; School Board of Sarasota County Chair Karen Rose, Vice Chair Tim Enos, Board Member Bridget Ziegler, Board Member Robyn Marinelli, Board Member Tom Edwards, Superintendent Terry Connor, Planning Director Diane Cominotti, Planning Analyst Amy Anderson, GIS Planner Chris Joseph, Chief of Staff Chris Renouf, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Jody Dumas, Assistant to the Board Kathy Tompkins, Assistant to the Superintendent Linda Termine, Executive Director Ron Dipillo, Communications Director Craig Maniglia, Attorney Patrick Duggan, Deputy Superintendent Chief Academic Officer Rachael O'Dea, Chief of Police Steve Lorenz, Construction Director Jane Dreger, Facilities Director Don Hampton; Sarasota County Chair Mike Moran, Vice Chair Joe Neunder, Commissioner Neil Rainford, Commissioner Ron Cutsinger, Commissioner Mark Smith, Recorder Charlie Maloney, Administrator Jonathan Lewis, Deputy Administrator Steve Botelho, Assistant Administrator Brad Johnson, and Emergency Services Director Rich Collins

#### 1. Welcome/Pledge/Introductions - Karen Rose, Chair, School Board of Sarasota County

Ms. Rose called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and

introductions were made.

## **2. Convocation Goals and Agenda - Karen Rose, Chair, School Board of Sarasota County**

Ms. Rose reviewed the agenda and goals.

## **3. Open to the Public - Citizen Comments**

Linda Kitch: interlocal agreement regarding pedestrian mitigation project

## **4. History of Successful Joint Use Collaboration - Diane Cominotti, SCSB Planning Department**

Ms. Cominotti, Ms. Anderson and Mr. Joseph provided a presentation regarding history of successful joint use collaboration.

Discussion took place regarding collaboration for Oak Park, Sky Ranch School, and Bobby Jones Golf Club.

## **5. Affordable Housing - Marlon Brown, City Manager, City of Sarasota**

Mr. Brown and Mr. Cover provided an update on affordable housing including history, implemented programs, cost of housing and rental rate increase, density incentives, affordable housing property donations, and housing initiatives.

Discussion took place regarding base density.

## **6. City of North Port - A. Jerome Fletcher, City Manager, City of North Port**

Mr. Fletcher provided an update including traffic light at North Port High School and Sarasota Technical College (STC) expansion project.

## **7. City of Sarasota - Marlon Brown, City Manager, City of Sarasota**

Mr. Brown provided an update including recycling in schools and skill trade and apprenticeship programs.

Discussion took place regarding conversation with student forum, student driven recycling initiative, expanding high wage workforce, apprenticeship opportunities, North Port Natural Resources Division initiative on recycling, health care industry needs in South County, and STC expansion.

## **8. Sarasota County Government - Jonathan Lewis, Administrator, Sarasota County**

Mr. Lewis provided an update on strategic policy agenda topics including water supply, affordable/attainable housing options, high hat planning, and River Road S, support of regional fire fighter training academy, and evacuation center opportunities.

## **9. City of Venice - Ed Lavalley, City Manager, City of Venice**

Mr. Clinch provided an update including interest in future evacuation and shelter opportunities, Venice High School population and future plans, and school partnerships.

Discussion took place regarding facility tour opportunities for students, internships, and landfill operations.

**10. Town of Longboat Key - Howard Tipton, Town Manager, Longboat Key**

Mr. Tipton provided an update including financial contributions, interaction with students, public safety training, hospitality training, and lifelong learning collaboration.

**11. Other Business - Karen Rose, Chair, School Board of Sarasota County**

Commissioner Langdon spoke to fire training building open house.

Mayor Alpert spoke to educational side of school tours.

Mr. Conner spoke to referendum requirements and ballot language.

Mayor White spoke to aviation mechanics.

**12. Adjournment - Karen Rose, Chair, School Board of Sarasota County**

Ms. Rose adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alice White, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Faust, City Clerk

**Next Convocation:**

**January 17, 2025 9:00-11:00am Suncoast Technical College - Main Campus - 4748 Beneva Road**

January 17, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.