



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

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

1:00 PM

City Hall Room 244

w/North Port Area Chamber of Commerce

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and announced the notice of use of communication media technology (CMT) into the record.

ROLL CALL

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

Aldo Present:

City Manager Jerome Fletcher, Deputy City Attorney Michael Golen, City Clerk Heather Faust, Fire Chief Scott Titus, Police Chief Todd Garrison, Finance Director Kimberly Williams, and North Port Area Chamber of Commerce Board Members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Gunnin.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor White requested a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Stokes, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried on the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner McDowell, Vice Mayor Stokes and Mayor White

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Emrich and Commissioner Langdon

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS:

[24-0542](#)

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Use of Surtax Funds for the Funding of the Police Department Headquarters Project.

Mayor White announced the item.

Mr. Fletcher introduced the item.

Commissioner Langdon arrived at 1:07 p.m.

Mr. Gunnin spoke to the item including Phase 2 and 3 of Price Boulevard widening project, reallocation of project funding, and funding options for the Police Department Headquarters.

Commission and Board discussion and questions took place regarding lease to purchase, funding options, proposed use of Surtax, sale of assets, building life expectancy, and project inclusion on Surtax project list.

Commissioner Emrich joined the meeting at 1:30 p.m. and stated that he will attend the hybrid meeting via CMT due to experiencing a medical condition.

Mayor White requested a motion to approve the use of CMT for a hybrid meeting.

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

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

Commission and Board discussion and questions continued regarding impact of reprioritizing Price Boulevard widening Phase 2, why the project was not on Surtax list, fundraising by business community for the promotion of Surtax, prior failed referendums, projects considered for funding, grant options, Emergency Operation Center (EOC), real estate perspective, tentative deferred project list distribution to Chamber Board Members, projected revenue, and inclusion of intended funding sources of projects.

There was no public comment.

Mayor White requested a motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner McDowell, seconded by Vice Mayor Stokes, to direct the City Manager to provide to the North Port Area Chamber of Commerce and Christine Robinson, based on Commission discussion, the tentative list of projects being unfunded and/or half funded including all funding allocations if available and a copy of the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) sheet if available. The motion carried on the following vote:

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida

By: _____
Alice White, Mayor

Attest: _____
Heather Faust, City Clerk