

# **CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

**6:00 P.M.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **INVOCATION**

### **PRESENT:**

Maria Lowe, Mayor  
Terri Finnerty, Vice Mayor  
Rick Falkenstein, Commissioner  
Gregory Premer, Commissioner  
Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Wayne Saunders, City Manager  
Andrew Dickman, City Attorney  
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk  
Jennifer Bryla, Community Development Director  
Elaine Edmunds, Administrative Services Director  
Jim Kilpatrick, Fire Chief  
John Kretzer, Interim Public Services Director  
Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director  
Phyllis Ruscella, Library Administrator

### **1. Presentations**

- a. Proclamation for Nancy Gibbs recognizing her 45 years of service with the City of St. Pete Beach

Mayor Lowe presented a proclamation to Ms. Gibbs for her unparalleled tenure with the St. Pete Beach Library.

- b. Presentation by Rob Williams for Support our Troops

Rob Williams, owner of The Swigwam Bar, presented a \$2,990.00 check to St. Pete Beach Support Our Troops from a golf tournament fundraiser.

**2. Changes to the Agenda**

City Attorney Andrew Dickman requested to move Item 10(a), Bryant, Miller, Olive, directly after Item 3, Audience Comments.

**3. Audience Comments**

Muriel Desloovere, St. Pete Beach Friends of the Library, presented a bouquet of flowers to Ms. Gibbs for her service to the library.

Harry Metz, Pass-A-Grille Way, commented on prompt attendance at public meetings.

Karen Strykowski, Blind Pass Road, commented on the decorum of elected officials and e-mail correspondence she sent to the City.

**10. Items for Discussion**

a. Bryant, Miller, Olive

City Attorney Dickman reviewed the action taken to review the previous legal representation provided by Bryant, Miller and Olive. Mr. Dickman introduced Mr. Ben Hill representing Bryant, Miller and Olive and Ms. Marion Hale representing the City of St. Pete Beach.

Ben Hill, representing the firm of Bryant, Miller and Olive, provided his credentials. Mr. Hill reviewed the Anderson lawsuit and determined that Bryant, Miller and Olive exercised good judgment and did not commit malpractice in representing the City.

Marion Hale, representing the City of St. Pete Beach, reviewed her prior appearance before the Commission and summarized her opinion that possible malpractice exists in the representation provided by Bryant, Miller, Olive.

Mr. Dickman concluded by stating that he would gather additional information in regard to the process and expenses involved to proceed.

**4. Recess for Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Meeting**

Mayor Lowe recessed the City Commission meeting and called to order the CRA meeting at 6:57 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Maria Lowe, Mayor

Terri Finnerty, Vice Mayor  
Rick Falkenstein, Commissioner  
Gregory Premer, Commissioner  
Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner

- a. Authorization for the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to submit to the governing authority any recommendations concerning the Community Redevelopment Plan

Jennifer Bryla, Community Development Director, noted that the CRA board authorized the Local Planning Agency (LPA) to review the plan authored by Tindale-Oliver. The Planning Board, sitting as the LPA, studied the plan and provided a recommendation.

David Healey, Director with Calvin, Giordano and Associates, Inc., reviewed in detail the changes made, subsequent to recommendations offered by LPA members and citizen comments, to reconcile with the Comprehensive Plan.

It was the consensus of the Commission to cancel the special meeting previously scheduled for December 3, 2015.

It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule a special meeting at 6:00 p.m. on December 17, 2015 to consider the adoption of the Community Redevelopment Plan.

**Commissioner Premer moved to continue Item 4(a), Authorization for the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to submit to the governing authority any recommendations concerning the Community Redevelopment Plan, to December 1, 2015, a Special Community Redevelopment Agency meeting, to consider the transmittal of the Community Redevelopment Plan to the taxing authorities for review and comment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, commented on the CRA process.

Harry Metz, Pass-A-Grille Way, suggested involving the Finance and Budget Review Committee in the CRA process.

Kim Caliendo, Corey Avenue, spoke in support of the CRA plan.

Brien Edgar, 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue, commented on affordable housing.

Al Johnson, Blind Pass Road, spoke in support of the CRA plan.

Hearing no further audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

Mayor Lowe adjourned the CRA meeting at 8:35 p.m.

**5. Reconvene City Commission Meeting**

Mayor Lowe reconvened the City Commission meeting at 8:45 p.m.

**6. Consent**

- a. Approval of the minutes for the October 13, 2015 Regular City Commission Meeting
- b. Authorization for the City Manager to sign the Employee Health Insurance Enrollment renewal with Florida Blue
- c. Authorization for the City Manager to send/sign a letter to Florida Blue acknowledging the commission level being paid to our agent of record – Sun Risk Management, Inc.
- d. Authorization for the City Manager to implement a three-year plan to bring the City's Health Insurance dependent coverage percentage to forty percent
- e. Authorization for the City Manager to sign an Employer Agreement with Guardian to provide employee dental insurance and send a termination letter to Sun Life
- f. Authorization to approve a special event application request for road closure on Pass-A-Grille Way between 8th and 9th Ave on December 5, 2015 for the Pass-A-Grille Boat Parade
- g. Authorization to hang banners over 75th Avenue at Boca Ciega Drive for two Suntan 100 Artist Shows held the weekends of February 20, 2016 and November 26, 2016
- h. Approval of the agreement between the City of St. Pete Beach and the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority to restore funding for the Rescue 22 vehicle

City Manager Saunders reviewed the items and recommended approval as presented.

**Commissioner Premier moved to approve Consent Items 6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h) as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Finnerty.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

**7. Action Items**

- a. Authorization for the City Manager to enter into an agreement with vendor Cale America to upgrade and replace seven pay-by-space parking pay stations at a total cost of \$55,125.00

The parking pay stations will be located along Gulf Way as part of a multi-year replacement plan to upgrade the stations located throughout the City.

**Vice Mayor Finnerty moved to approve Item 7(a), to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Cale America to upgrade and replace seven pay-by-space parking pay stations at a cost of \$55,125.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

- b. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a lease/purchase agreement with Leasing 2 for the lease/purchase of a new Vac/Jet Truck

The Wastewater and Stormwater Divisions of the Department of Public Services will utilize the truck for line cleaning, chain-cutting outfalls, jetting sewer lines and vacuuming solids out of lift stations. It will also be used to clean baffle boxes at street ends along Pass-A-Grille Way once the reconstruction project is completed.

**Vice Mayor Finnerty moved to approve Item 7(b), to authorize the City Manager to enter into a lease/purchase agreement with Leasing 2, in the amount of \$77,165.00 annually for five (5) years, for the purchase of a new Vac/Jet Truck. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

- c. Authorize the City Manager to approve a change order to the purchase agreement with Nelson Construction for the Pass-A-Grille Way Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$68,110.00

Utility conflicts near the intersection of Cabrillo Street and Pass-A-Grille Way require the partial relocation of the potable and reclaimed water mains.

**Commissioner Pletcher moved to approve Item 7(c), to authorize the City Manager to approve Change Order #4 to the purchase agreement with Nelson Construction for the Pass-A-Grille Way Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$68,110.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premer.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

- d. Authorize the City Manager to sign an Agreement for Professional Services for \$39,997.00 from George F. Young, Inc. to provide Michael Baker, Inc., the Engineer of Record for the Blind Pass Road Reconstruction Project, with additional survey and subsurface utility exploration for the project

Due to recent changes in the scope of the project, additional survey work is required in order to complete the design of the Blind Pass Road reconstruction.

**Vice Mayor Finnerty moved to approve Item 7(d), to authorize the City Manager to sign an Agreement for Professional Services for \$39,997.00 from George F. Young, Inc. to provide Michael Baker, Inc., the Engineer of Record for the Blind Pass Road Reconstruction Project, with additional survey and subsurface utility exploration for the project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

- e. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Purchasing Agreement with Forristall Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$86,850.00 for the demolition of the Police Department Building

City Manager Saunders reported that five bids were received in response to the Request for Bids. The low bidder was disqualified due to not meeting the requirements.

Mr. Saunders recommended leaving the slab and foundation for possible future use.

**Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 7(e), authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Purchasing Agreement with Forristall Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$86,850.00 for the demolition of the police department building. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Finnerty.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

f. Selection of option for Library Project

Subsequent to discussions and numerous workshops in regard to the future of the Library building, four options were presented for consideration as follows:

- Option 1, \$2,723,200: Original plan to include the renovation of existing 8,800 square foot building with a 3,300 square foot addition, improve parking, including purchase of additional land
- Option 2, \$7,474,640: Repurpose City Hall for the Library and construct a new City Hall (does not include costs to demo old Library and restore site)
- Option 3, \$4,420,000: Construct new 12,000 square foot Library on former Police Department site
- Option 4, \$5,233,000: Purchase east end of block at existing Library location, construct new 12,000 square foot Library facility, improve parking

**Mayor Lowe moved to select Option 3, to construct a new Library facility to be located on the previous police facility site. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Finnerty.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, commented that a library is an integral part of a city and spoke in support of a new building.

Hearing no further audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

g. City Manager Compensation

Mayor Lowe stated that Mr. Saunders has been employed as City Manager for one year and it was appropriate to conduct a compensation review.

**Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 7(g), to adjust the City Manager's annual salary from \$135,000 to \$145,000 effective on his one-year anniversary date of November 3, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, spoke in support of the salary increase.

Unidentified speaker spoke in support of the salary increase.

Hearing no further audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

**8. Ordinances**

- a. Ordinance 2015-28, First Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for a supplemental appropriation to the General Fund for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, providing for funding, and providing for an effective date.

Administrative Services Director Elaine Edmunds noted that Florida Statutes require municipalities to complete budget amendments within 60 days of the fiscal year. Overall, the funds were under budget which will allow for an increase to the reserve fund.

**Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 8(a), Ordinance 2015-28, upon first reading, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, providing for a supplemental appropriation to the General Fund for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2015; providing for funding; providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.**

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

**The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.**

## **9. Resolutions**

There were no resolutions submitted.

## **10. Audience Comments**

An unidentified speaker spoke about a pedestrian crossing light at 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Blind Pass Road.

## **11. City Clerk, City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports**

City Clerk Haynes reported on the following items:

- The Qualification Period for the March Municipal Election in Districts 1 and 3 is set for noon on Monday, December 7, 2015 through noon on Friday, December 11, 2015; additional information is on the City's website and will be printed in *The Gabber* newspaper
- Candidate handbooks will be available December 2, 2015
- Request to consider changing the March 22, 2015 Commission meeting to coincide with receipt of the official election results from the Supervisor of Elections Office

City Manager Saunders reported on the following items:

- The December 3, 2015 Commission meeting is cancelled
- A special meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

City Attorney Dickman did not provide a report.

Commissioner Premier reported on the following items:

- A Red Tide Alert warning has been issued
- Noise complaints in regard to roof-top music at the Hotel Zamora
- Wrote a letter in opposition to concealed weapons on college campuses
- Belle Vista annual garage sale will be held November 21, 2015

Commissioner Falkenstein reported on the following items:

- Lack of lighting for the palm trees along Gulf Boulevard
- Wished everyone a great Thanksgiving Day holiday

Commissioner Pletcher reported on the following items:

- The Vina del Mar annual garage sale was successful
- Chowder Challenge at Horan Park was very successful
- Weddings with illegal fireworks on the beach

Vice Mayor Finnerty reported on the following items:

- Shells Restaurant won the "People's Choice" award at the Chowder Challenge
- Bike lane striping by Florida Department of Transportation

- Appointed Michael Lehman as her representative on the Planning Board
- "Teach-In Day" at Gulf Beaches Elementary School is scheduled for Wednesday
- Attended a Florida League of Cities day conference in regard to Urban Administration
- Attended a beach clean-up event sponsored by two students from the University of Florida
- Pass-A-Grille Women's Club donated to Support Our Troops
- Parking at Egan Park
- Wished everyone a great Thanksgiving Day holiday

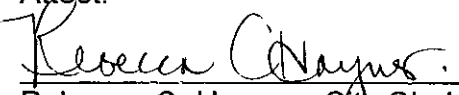
Mayor Lowe reported on the following items:

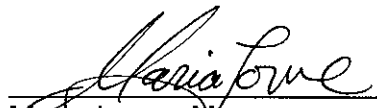
- Thanked the Veterans of South Pinellas for supporting the Fish Broil events
- Attended the Chowder Challenge event
- Thanked the volunteers for the beach clean-up event
- Participated on a nomination panel for West Point candidate
- Monarca's restaurant is open for business
- Attended three events in honor of Veterans' Day

## 12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Attest:

  
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

  
Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 1-12-2016