

City Commission Meeting
December 1, 2020
6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Al Johnson, Mayor
Doug Izzo, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 2
Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner, District 3
Chris Graus, Commissioner, District 1
Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner, District 4

STAFF PRESENT:

Alex Rey, City Manager
Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Amber LaRowe, City Clerk
Vince Tenaglia, Assistant City Manager

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Al Johnson presented the American Legion Auxiliary Centennial Proclamation to Vanda Gimpel, Unit 305 President and Rhonda Brailey-Maurer, Unit 305 Legislative Chairman.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

City Manager Rey removed item 4.c. of the Consent Agenda and item 6.c.

Attorney Dickman requested the addition of an Action Item regarding Blocks M & N of Don CeSar Place; this will be placed as item 5.d.

Vice Mayor Izzo requested item 4.d. of the Consent Agenda be removed and placed under Action Items; this item will be moved as item 5.e.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mark Grill, resident, discussed the Decorative Street Sign Unit Price Agreement on the Consent Agenda; he opined that it should be removed from the Agenda altogether as he does not believe this is a necessity item that taxpayer dollars should be utilized for.

Julie Fuller, resident, agrees with Mr. Grill's comments above. She appreciates the idea and concept but opined this is not the time to be using money for this type of project. She encouraged the Commission to consider using these funds towards the needs in other districts in the City.

Michelle D., resident, spoke regarding the Decorative Street Sign Unit Price Agreement that is on the Agenda tonight. She agrees with the other comments made about the use of funds for this type of project. She discussed the flooding after the last storm and how those issues need to be addressed more than the need for street signs.

Anonymous, resident, echoed the above comments made about street signs. He opined that the City needs to be investing in other projects to help other districts in the City.

4. CONSENT

- a. November 10, 2020 Commission Minutes
- b. Gilliam Concrete Brick & Mortar Unit Price Contract
- c. ~~Pass-a-Grille Seawall Design Replacement Task Order~~ *Removed from Agenda*
- d. ~~Decorative Street Sign Unit Price Agreement~~ *Moved to Action Items as 5.e.*
- e. Re-Appointment of Roger Dunn and Richard German to the Police Pension Board

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried approve the December 1, 2020 Consent Agenda as recommended by the City Manager [with 4.c. removed and 4.d. moved to Action Items as 5.e.]

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. August 5, 2014 Budget Workshop Minutes

Mrs. LaRowe explained that, upon research, it was determined these minutes were never completed and approved. She took the liberty of completing them and putting them on for approval.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 approve the August 5, 2014 City Commission Budget Workshop Minutes

- b. Pass-a-Grille Way Light Replacement

Mr. Rey explained that during the initial light replacement project, the lights were replaced with white LED lights. These lights are intrusive and provide significant light pollution to the residents in that area. Also, these lights are not sea turtle approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. This proposal is to change the lights with appropriate amber LED lights with a Sanibel style fixture. This fixture is the same as the fixtures on Gulf Way. It was stated that conversations are being had with Duke Energy in cost sharing this light replacement.

Michael Netzel, resident, agrees that the lights need to be fixed due to the sea turtle standards and the obtrusive shining at night into homes. He would like to see the City hold Duke Energy accountable for their part in this and seek some cost sharing.

Mark Grill, resident, provided his comments on this project and encourages the City to keep working with Duke on a solution and cost sharing program for replacement and shields.

Anonymous, commented on light pollution from LED lights.

Michelle D., resident, spoke regarding the lights and the effect on sea life. She opined a "lights out" approach might be a better way to handle some of the light issues.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the removal of the white LED lights and Acorn fixtures on Pass-a-Grille Way from 1st Avenue to 12th Avenue and replace them with Sea Turtle approved amber LED lights with the Sanibel fixture.

c. Authorization to enter into an Agreement with Florida Blue for Group Health Insurance

Mr. Tenaglia discussed the recent renewal quote by Cigna of 49 percent. Staff worked with the City's health insurance broker, M.E. Wilson, and were able to receive quote from Florida Blue for an increase of only 15 percent. With this Plan, the City will be implementing a gradual approach to the cost sharing with the employees. The plan will look as follows:

- Fund single employee coverage at the mid-tier plan in 2021 rather than the high-tier plan.
- Fund dependent coverage based on the high-tier plan in 2021, and step dependent coverage down to the mid-tier plan in 2022.
- Effective 2023, fund single employee coverage and dependent coverage at the low-tier plan rates as stipulated by the City's Personnel Regulations and labor contracts.

Motion: **Commissioner Pletcher moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to authorize the City manager to enter into an agreement with Florida Blue for group health insurance.**

d. Blocks M & N Don CeSar Place Discussion and Action Request *Added*

Attorney Dickman gave a brief history on Blocks M & N. Recently, the Don CeSar Property Owners Corporation (DCPOC) filed a petition in court to appoint a trustee of an inactive and dissolved Florida Corporation as allowed by Florida State Statute. Basically, the DCPOC would like to take ownership of Blocks M & N. Attorney Dickman and City Manager Rey have been in discussions with the attorney representing DCPOC and have explained that they would like to make sure the court hears the City's position on this petition.

Mr. Dickman made it very clear that the City does not want to take over ownership of this property; rather, it is the City's best interest to ensure that the court hears the concerns in regards to the operations of this property if/when the DCPOC is awarded. He wants to have a clear outline of what the City's responsibilities are and what the responsibilities are of DCPOC as it pertains to Blocks M & N. Not only that, what happens if the Association disbands and/or is defunct? These issues need to be heard and addressed.

Motion: **Commissioner Graus moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to authorize the City Attorney to draft and submit a Motion to Intervene in the petition filed with the court by Don CeSar Property Owners Corporation.**

e. 4.d. Decorative Street Sign Unit Price Agreement *Moved from Consent Agenda*

Vice Mayor Izzo explained the number of complaints he has received in regard to this specific item. He opined that taxpayer dollars could be better utilized to fund more necessary items throughout the City.

Commissioner Friszolowski echoed Vice Mayor's comments and believes that it is a good idea, but not right now.

Commissioner Pletcher understands the comments made; however, reminded Commission that this was an already budgeted item for this Fiscal Year. She believes this is a nice beautification for the City that it deserves and adds a historical element.

Mr. Rey stated that this project has been in the works for a while. The Historical Preservation Board has

been reviewing different sign elements for the historical areas in the City. He stated that it is typical for cities to balance their infrastructure projects with aesthetically pleasing projects. These types of projects help to increase property values as well.

Vice Mayor Izzo agrees with Mr. Rey, but stated that there are better ways to achieve an increase to property values, especially in the other districts that may need fresher landscape, potholes, etc.

Commissioner Graus would prefer a more phased approach.

Commissioner Friszolowski understands the need to balance not so pretty projects with more aesthetically necessary ones; however, it has been almost five years since he brought the flooding issues up in Belle Vista and he still does not have a timeline on how that will be repaired. He stated that if he could obtain a timeline, some expectations, he would be more about supporting this type of project.

Betty Rzewnicki, resident, agrees that this is a nice concept; however, believes the City needs to look more into the issues of flooding before making street signs more decorative.

Michael Netzel, resident, commented on the style of the signs and the allocating of the funds to specific areas in the City. This type of project is not needed in all areas of the City due to the historical design; he opined to use some funds for the signs in specific areas that this would enhance, then use the remaining funds to beautify other areas in the City specific to their needs.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Mayor Johnson seconded, and the motion failed 2-3 to approve the unit price bid proposal from Eagle Sign & Design for Decorative Street Signs in an amount not to exceed the annually approved Decorative Street Signage budget for three years form contract execution. Vice Mayor Izzo, Commissioner Friszolowski and Commissioner Graus voted no.

6. ORDINANCES

a. Public Hearing: Ordinance 2020-24 Outdoor Dining and Drinking Areas

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, DIVISION 2 – DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.1 WORDS, TERMS, AND PHRASES DEFINED; DIVISION 6 – SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS, SECTION 6.24 OUTDOOR DINING AND OUTDOOR DRINKING AREAS; DIVISION 13 – ROR RESIDENTIAL/ OFFICE/ RETAIL DISTRICT, SECTION 13.2 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES AND STRUCTURES AND SECTION 13.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 14 – RFM RESORT FACILITIES MEDIUM DISTRICT, SECTION 14.2 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES AND STRUCTURES AND SECTION 14.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 15 – CG-1 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, SECTIONS 15.2 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES AND STRUCTURES AND 15.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 16 – CG-2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 16.2 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES AND STRUCTURES AND 16.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 30 – TC-1 TOWN CENTER CORE DISTRICT, SECTION 30.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 30.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 32 – CC1 COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR BLIND PASS ROAD DISTRICT, SECTION 32.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 32.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 33 – CC2 COMMERCIAL CORRIDOR GULF BLVD DISTRICT, SECTION 33.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 33.4 CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 34 – DOWNTOWN CORE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 34.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 35 – (LR) LARGE

RESORT DISTRICT, SECTION 35.3 PERMITTED PRINCIPAL AND SECONDARY USES AND STRUCTURES AND SECTION 35.4 PERMITTED ACCESSORY USES AND STRUCTURES; DIVISION 37 – TC-2 TOWN CENTER COREY CIRCLE AND COQUINA WEST DISTRICTS, SECTION 37.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 37.5 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 38 - AC ACTIVITY CENTER DISTRICT, SECTION 38.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 38.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 39 – COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT GENERAL STANDARDS, SECTION 39.6 TEMPORARY LODGING USE OPERATIONAL AND OCCUPANCY RESTRICTIONS, LIMITATIONS, AND PROHIBITIONS; DIVISION 40 – COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – EIGHTH AVENUE (CRD-EA), SECTION 40.4 PERMITTED CONDITIONAL USES AND STRUCTURES; DIVISION 42 – BR BAYOU RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 42.2 PERMITTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY USES AND SECTION 42.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; DIVISION 46 – B/HC BOUTIQUE HOTEL/CONDO DISTRICT, SECTION 46.2 PERMITTED USES AND SECTION 46.4 ALLOWABLE CONDITIONAL USES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CONSTRUCTION, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. He closed the public hearing after no comments were made.

Mr. Rey explained that if a private business owns a sidewalk and wants to utilize it for outdoor dining, they still have to comply with the ADA regulations as well as public ability to navigate appropriately. If a business utilizes private parking spaces for outdoor dining, the business has to prove to the City that they still meet the parking guidelines for their business. A Conditional Use comes into the picture if a business wants to have outdoor amplified music or rooftop dining and drinking. This Ordinance only pertains to privately owned property; the Parklet Program as presented in October, is for public property. That item is still in the works, with plans to meet with the Planning Board and open community meetings.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2020-24.

Mayor Johnson recessed the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor Johnson reconvened the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

b. Public Hearing: Ordinance 2020-25 Amending the General Employees' Pension Plan

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 66, PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT, ARTICLE II, GENERAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH; AMENDING SECTION 66-27, MEMBERSHIP; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith, TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing. He closed the public hearing after no comments were made.

Mr. Tenaglia stated that this Ordinance brings the City in line with the Personnel Regulations that call for Managerial, Administrative, Professional, and Supervisory (MAPS) employees to participate in the defined contribution plan upon hiring; currently, they can participate in the defined benefit or the defined contribution plan. All current MAPS employees that have chosen and are participating in the

defined benefit plan will continue to do so.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2020-25.

~~e. **First Reading Ordinance 2020-26 Towing and Impoundment** Removed~~

~~AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 82 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE IV IMPOUNDMENT OF CERTAIN VEHICLES, AMENDING SECTION 82-275 SALE OF IMPOUNDED VEHICLES; SECTIONS 82-272 — 82-300 RESERVED; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CONSTRUCTION, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.~~

~~**Motion:** to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-26.~~

7. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution 2020-59 Engineering and Consulting Services Contracts

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SELECTED FIRMS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED FIRMS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Rey stated that the City recently issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering and Consulting Services and received 18 statements. An evaluation committee was formed with staff from various departments who reviewed and scored the 18 submittals. After review and ranking, the following firms were chosen (listed in alphabetical order):

- Alpha Corporation-Planning and Resiliency Services
- Cardno, Inc.-Planning, Roads & Water Management, and Resiliency Services
- George F. Young-Planning, Roads & Water Management, and Survey Services
- Halff Associates, Inc.-Vertical Construction, Planning, Roads & Water Management, and Resiliency Services
- Hyatt Survey Services, Inc.-Survey Services
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.-Vertical Construction, Planning, Roads & Water Management, and Resiliency Services.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Resolution 2020-59.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No discussion items.

9. CITY CLERK, CITY MANAGER, CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY COMMISSION REPORTS

Vice Mayor Izzo-commented on the timing of the light at Gulf Winds and Gulf Boulevard; Mr. Rey has been speaking with the County to shorten the duration because, even though there is construction, some people need to turn left off of Gulf Winds onto Gulf Boulevard.

Mayor Johnson—wished a Happy Birthday (yesterday) to City Attorney Andrew Dickman.

Mayor Johnson adjourned them meeting at 8:08 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: December 8, 2020



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR