

**City Commission Meeting
December 8, 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

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

1. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Al Johnson discussed the annual City contribution to Neighborly Care Network. Due to COVID-19, representatives from Neighborly Care Network were unable to attend; however, Mayor and Commission all recognized the contributions that the Network makes to the residents of the City of St. Pete Beach.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

City Manager Rey removed item 7.b., Resolution 2020-60 to the next Agenda.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Holly Young, Chair of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB), commented on last meeting's discussion of decorative street signs. She stated that the HPB intent was to have decorative signs purchased and installed in the historically designated areas of Pass-A-Grille. She suggested the Commission re-visit this topic and purchase the signs for Pass-A-Grille and consider other aesthetics and beautification that is important to the characteristics of the other areas in St. Pete Beach.

Mayor Johnson agreed with Ms. Young and appreciates having a diverse character throughout the City.

Mr. Rey stated that there are plans to revisit this in January or February and apply funds for just Pass-A-Grille.

4. CONSENT

- a. November 17 and December 1, 2020 Commission Minutes
- b. Special Event Application Request and Street Closure for Pass-A-Grille Community Church
- c. Library Parking Lot Improvements with Hennessy Construction
- d. Upham Beach Parking Area Re-Surfacing Proposal

Motion: **Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the December 8, 2020 Consent Agenda as recommended by the City Manager.**

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Merry Pier Lease Agreement Renewal

Mr. Rey explained that the current Lease Agreement with Merry Pier Partners, LLC expires on January 31, 2021. Merry Pier is exercising their option of another five (5) year extension to the Agreement by giving the City at least 120 days for consideration to extend the terms. He addressed the following three changes:

1. New parking rates established in the City's Code of Ordinances
2. Pier construction/rehabilitation
3. Ticket booth replacement

Mr. Rey stated that the pier will be downsized to match the current demands of the existing pier. There will no longer be any boat slips on the north side, only the south side.

Nancy, Merry Pier Partners, opined that a few of the following changes should be made to the Agreement:

- 60 and 61 should be combined and titled "Improvements by Lessor" and then renumbering should follow
- The word "piling" should be changed to "pilings" as there are more than one
- 5.g. says "norths" should be changed to "north sides"

The City is in agreement with these changes and will make the necessary corrections and prepare for signatures.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded and the motion carried 5-0 to authorize the City Manager to renew the Merry Pier Lease Agreement with Merry Pier Partners, LLC.

6. ORDINANCES

a. First Read Ordinance 2020-28 One Way Streets

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 82 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, ARTICLE II - SPECIFIC STREET REGULATIONS, DIVISION 1 - GENERALLY, SECTION 82-31 – ONE-WAY STREETS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CONSTRUCTION, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Rey stated that this Ordinance provides for a new one-way designation north of 73rd Avenue at the alley behind the library. There will be a stand-alone book drop off location and this one-way will allow for drivers to drive by the drop off and put their books in without having to exit their cars.

Commissioner Friszolowski asked for one change; number 1 of the Ordinance for East Maritana Drive, please add the direction of "westbound".

Motion Commissioner Graus moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-28.

7. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution 2020-58 Strategic Plan and Vision Statement

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A STRATEGIC PLAN AND VISION STATEMENT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Rey discussed the process and collaboration that went into the creation of the Vision Statement and Strategic Plan for the City. Commission worked with staff to rank all the different initiatives under the plan and included funding for some of them during this fiscal years' budget process.

Discussion ensued on the process and collaboration with the Commission thanking staff, residents, and business owners for contributing. Mr. Rey stated that everything that people suggested was made a part of the list. The first page of what is attached to the Agenda after the Resolution is what is being adopted.

Commissioner Friszolowski asked for the following whereas clause to be inserted as the new fourth clause "whereas, the attached tables represent diverse and sometimes competing interest and the intention is to use this as a guide, not as a rule, and;" and then follow that with the current fourth whereas to become the fifth whereas clause.

Motion **Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Vice Mayor Izzo seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Resolution 2020-58 with the amendment as stated above by Commissioner Friszolowski.**

b. Resolution 2020-60 Street Regulations (Removed)

~~A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE CITY'S STREET REGULATIONS; RESTRICTED PARKING ZONES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.~~

No action, item removed.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No discussion items.

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

Merry Christmas to everyone and Happy New Year!

ALEX REY, CITY MANAGER—discussed the Library opening schedule. He stated that there is a slight delay due to an existing transformer issue that Duke Energy found. Duke will need to be demolishing the existing transformer to install a new one; staff is working with Duke to expedite this. Mr. Rey will update the Commission as soon as he has more information.

ATTORNEY DICKMAN—discussed the Litigation Update as emailed yesterday; a copy is made a part of the minutes. He stated that the first four cases on the list all have to do with transient/vacation rentals. There was a motion for injunctive relief in the David Green case that the Judge issued an Order of Denial on; Mr. Dickman received a copy of that today.

He expanded upon the Pass-A-Grille Community Church case where the Church as filed an appeal in Pinellas

County Circuit Court for the Final Order of the City's Special Magistrate that was entered on August 11, 2020.

The City of St. Pete Beach vs John Leonard is a City appeal from the Special Magistrate Order entered on August 22, 2020.

The final case listed is an allegation of a public sidewalk that was not maintained properly where the Plaintiff, Ms. Morelli, had a trip and fall that allegedly resulted in an injury.

Attorney Dickman will continue to provide updates every few months.

COMMISSIONER PLETCHER—was sad to announce the Seahorse Restaurant closed its doors to business after 42 years of serving the City. She encouraged anyone and everyone to patronize local businesses as often as possible and to purchase gift cards as gifts this holiday season.

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

MINUTES APPROVED: January 12, 2021



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR