

City Commission Meeting

July 13, 2021

6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Alan Johnson, Mayor

Ward Friszolowski, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 3

Chris Graus, Commissioner, District 1

Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner, District 4

ELECTED OFFICIALS EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Mark Grill, Commissioner, District 2

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. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

No changes were made.

2. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

No audience comments.

3. CONSENT

- a. Commission Minutes: June 8, 2021, June 22, 2021 4:30 p.m. Executive Session and June 22, 2021 6:00 p.m. Regular Commission Meeting
- b. Halloween Block Party Special Event Application
- c. The Centre's SPB Coptoberfest Special Event Application
- d. Amendment to Emergency Medical Services Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder Agreement
- e. Rowland FM 8 Construction Award

Motion: Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the July 13, 2021 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **City Clerk Contract and Annual Performance Review**

Each elected official provided feedback on the performance of the City Clerk since August of last year. She was recognized for her teamwork, positive attitude, progressive work on keeping records current, preservation of records, and organization. They were all happy with the hiring transition from the prior City Clerk to Mrs. LaRowe; it has been a seamless transition overall.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Mayor Johnson seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve that the City Clerk's annual salary be adjusted from \$69,000 to \$75,000, effective on her anniversary date of August 17, 2021 and a contract extension until August 16, 2022.

5. ORDINANCES

a. **Final Reading Ordinance 2021-15: Floodplain Management Regulations**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 98 – BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATIONS, ARTICLE II – TECHNICAL CODES, AND ARTICLE V – FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION REGULATIONS TO AMEND THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE, TO PROVIDE CRITERIA FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, PROVIDING FOR A FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT, APPLICABILITY, CODIFICATION, CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY, CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR, CONSTRUCTION, PUBLICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion: **Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to adopt Ordinance 2021-15.**

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No items for discussion.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—informed the Commission that the City Clerk's Office will be in a training tomorrow in Largo from 11:00 a.m. to return around 1:30 p.m. The training is on the update to the noticing requirements effective 2022.

Alex Rey, City Manager—discussed the recent letter that was sent out last week to residents in the Boca Ciega Isle neighborhood. The letter summarized the improvements discussed at the Community Meeting last month. Staff plans to bring final recommendations to the next meeting after compiling any comments received. There will be a similar meeting on August 26th to discuss Gulf Winds Drive.

Mr. Rey sent an email out to the Commission identifying non-conforming signs at abandoned businesses in the City. Discussion ensued specifically on the sign code and the review. Vice Mayor Friszolowski asked for staff to visit the Shell Gas Station and determine if their signs meet the Code.

City Manager Rey stated that he would like to have a workshop in the next few months to discuss upcoming development and procedures and processes that go along with that. He will work with the City Clerk and the City Attorney to identify a few dates and reach out to the Commission to schedule.

Commissioner Graus—recent coyote sightings have occurred in his District.

He thanked everyone for their efforts in trying to keep red tide cleaned up.

Vice Mayor Friszolowski—is looking forward to the completion of the sewer project. He stated that it does appear the tide flex valves are working well.

He echoed the red tide cleanup efforts. The Commission continued to discuss the red tide issues and cleanup process. There is information made available to the public on the City's website. The County is taking the lead on this and has several boats out cleaning day and night to keep it at bay as best as they can. The liaison for the City is Mandy Edmunds who can be reached at 727.363.9245.

Commissioner Pletcher—is so thankful to all those out there working to clean up red tide, especially during the heat of the day.

Mayor Johnson—discussed an email he received about an upcoming webinar for the American Rescue Plan Recovery Act. He will forward it to staff to distribute to the Commission and would like to have at least one person from the City be a part of the webinar.

The City was invited by the Sheriff's Office to the annual award ceremony on July 29th; he will attend and if he cannot make it, he will let the Commission know so an alternative can be present on behalf of the City.

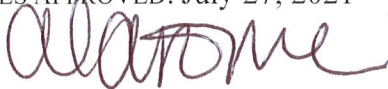
There is a four-hour ethics webinar tomorrow by the Florida League of Cities; he encouraged others to attend.

Mayor Johnson discussed the recent Surfside condo collapse. Mike Twitty, Property Appraiser, recently presented at the BIG-C and provided a spreadsheet of all buildings in the County along with their height and age. There are seven in the City that are considered high rises and built 1980 or earlier. Discussion ensued. City Manager Rey stated that, more than likely, something will be coming from the State for legislative changes due to this tragedy. If not, the counties will probably be the next step. He opined that the City should wait to see how the State and/or County handle this before doing anything right now.

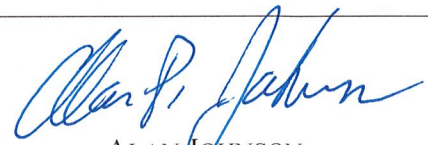
Mr. Rey informed the Commission that he was recently subpoenaed for a hearing next week in South Florida. He plans to be gone for a day.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: July 27, 2021



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR