City Commission Meeting
October 26, 2021
6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:
Alan Johnson, Mayor
Ward Friszolowski, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 3
Chris Graus, Commissioner, District 1
Mark Grill, Commissioner, District 2
Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner, District 4

STAFF PRESENT:
Alex Rey, City Manager
Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Amber LaRowe, City Clerk
Michelle Gonzalez, Community Development Director

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

1. PRESENTATIONS

- Deputy Brendan Kelly, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Community Policing, introduced himself to the City Commission. The Commission expressed their gratitude for his service and welcomed him.
- Mayor Johnson presented a donation check to the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum and to the Neighborly Care Network.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Attorney Dickman requested an addition to the discussion items to discuss the letter that was distributed to the Gulf side property owners near the "secret sidewalk".

City Manager Alex Rey asked for the addition of Resolution 2021-25 for the approval to apply for a Complete Streets Grant that is due this Friday. A copy of the Resolution has been provided to the Commission.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

No comments.

4. CONSENT

a. October 12, 2021 City Commission Minutes
b. 2022 City Commission Meeting Schedule
c. Re-Appointment to the Firefighters' Pension Board of Trustees
d. Re-Appointment to the General Employees' Pension Board of Trustees
e. Authorization of Fleet Fund Expenditures
f. Special Event Application and Street Closures for Toasted Monkey on November 13, 2021
g. Rowland On-Call Civil Contract
h. Kimley Horn I&I Engineering Services Task Order
i. Pump Station 1 Rehabilitation Design

Motion: **Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the October 26, 2021 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.**

5. ORDINANCES

a. **Final Reading Ordinance 2021-17: Local Streets Speed Limit Reduction**
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 2 – SPEED LIMITS, SECTION 82-61 – SPEED LIMITS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Michelle Gonzalez, Community Development Director, informed the Commission that a revised Ordinance was provided to them before the start of the meeting. No significant changes were made; minor amendments to the descriptions of the streets/avenues that are impacted. Those changes are highlighted for their review.

No public comment.

Motion: **Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2021-17.**

b. **Resolution 2021-25: Complete Streets Grant Application (*Added*)**
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO FORWARD PINELLAS COMPLETE STREETS CONCEPT PLANNING PROGRAM FOR GRANT FUNDING.

City Manager Rey informed the Commission that the City requires the adoption of a Resolution to apply for grant funding. Typically, a resolution is only necessary to accept funding – this may be something that needs to be reviewed in the future.

The grant application is for concept planning projects for a more pedestrian and cyclist friendly TC-1, TC-2, and CG-2 zoning district; essentially 73rd Avenue to 81st Avenue [not entire area, north and sound bounds].

No public comment.

Commissioner Graus is grateful that the City is able to apply for this grant; it is necessary.

Motion: **Commissioner Grill moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Resolution 2021-25.**

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Pass-A-Grille Overlay District and the CRD-EA District

City Manager Rey gave a brief history of the zoning and the district in Pass-A-Grille. The Historic Preservation Board was created in 2006 with specific purpose, powers, and duties, one of which is to advise the City Commission on all matters related to historic preservation policy. Mr. Rey opined that this item needs to be presented to the Historic Preservation Board for their discussion first. An Ordinance adopted in 2006 has discrepancies as it relates to the discussion in the minutes as well as the motion that was adopted. With that being said, Mr. Rey feels that the Board should review this Ordinance and provide feedback to the Commission on what they would like to see it say and what the intent should be.

The Mayor acknowledged that there is confusion in the language right now and agreed that the Historic Board

should start by getting together to determine what they would like to see.

Commissioner Grill inquired what the benefits are of a property being designated historic. Mr. Rey stated that if they are a contributing property, they can receive incentives and tax abatements.

Commissioner Pletcher discussed her knowledge over her tenure serving on the Historic Preservation Board, as the District 4 Commissioner, as well as a longtime resident. She discussed livability and conforming versus non-conforming structures in the District. There should always be an encouragement for rebuilding and retaining; however, sometimes it is not feasible and that has to be acknowledged and considered as well.

The following residents commented on this item:

- Chris Marone
- Bev Jackson
- Bob Douglas
- Alan Stalb
- Deb Schechner

Mr. Rey clarified that neither staff, nor the City interpret that the 8th Avenue business district in Pass-A-Grille is not under or cannot be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Board. The Historic Preservation Board still have review rights of the 8th Avenue District in Pass-A-Grille if any property there is a contributing property.

b. "Secret Sidewalk" Mailout Discussion *(added to the Agenda by the Attorney)*

Attorney Dickman provided the Commission with a copy of the letter that was mailed to the Gulf front property owners in the Colonial Subdivision. He reminded the Commission of the current County Case No. 21-002512-CI, Mack et. al, v. City of St. Pete Beach. Essentially it relates to the sidewalk on City property that abuts the west of the Gulf front property lines.

Bob Douglas, resident in the Colonial Subdivision not on the Gulf side, requested a copy of the letter be mailed to all property owners in the Subdivision, not just the Gulf property owners. Attorney Dickman communicated that a copy of the letter with attached information will be available from the Clerk's Office if anyone would like a copy.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—stated that tomorrow Qualification Books for District 1 and District 3 elections will be ready for pickup. The qualification period begins Monday November 1st at noon and closes on Friday November 12th at noon.

Vice Mayor Friszolowski—commented on the progress of the sewer project on Gulf Boulevard.

Commissioner Grill—positive feedback for the Concert in the Park series.

He looks forward to the HOA meeting for Monday November 1st.

Commissioner Grill stated that he has discussed the pothole situation with the City Manager who acknowledged the need for the repairs and commented on the contingencies with the County in some situations with the road repairs as well.

Commissioner Graus—looks forward to a very enjoyable last Concert in the Park series this Friday.

Mayor Johnson—mentioned tomorrow's BIG-C meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Madeira Beach.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: November 10, 2021

AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK

ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR