

City Commission Meeting

January 25, 2022

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
Vince Tenaglia, Assistant City Manager

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.

2. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Bev Jackson, resident, discussed the desire for Friends of Pass-A-Grille to work together with the City in preserving the character and history in Pass-A-Grille.

3. CONSENT

- a. Drainage and Fill Manual
- b. City Hall Generator Design
- c. PAG Church Event Applications

Motion: **Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the January 25, 2022 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.**

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 3179 Agreement

Vince Tenaglia, Assistant City Manager, reminded the Commission of the initial discussion from the December 14th City Commission Meeting. He highlighted the following items in the Agreement:

- Pay increases are retroactive to October 1st
 - 3 percent pay increase for current fiscal year; included in the adopted budget
- Addition of a one-time compensation payment for CWA employees from the American Rescue Plan Act funding
 - \$2,000 for all full-time union employees
 - \$1,000 for all part-time union employees
- Wage increases over the next two fiscal years
 - 6 percent increase in fiscal year 2023
 - 4 percent increase in fiscal year 2024

- Addition of a paid holiday for Juneteenth
- Removal of two personal days and adding that to paid time off accrual instead
- Merit-based promotion standards
- Retirement system
 - The general employee pension plan will be closed to all new hires
 - New employees will participate in the City's defined contribution 401(a) plan

In regard to the pension plan, Mr. Tenaglia said that there is the option to finance the unfunded liability since it will now be a closed plan.

Motion: Commissioner Grill moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Communication Workers of America (CWA) Local 3179.

5. ORDINANCES

a. First Reading Ordinance 2022-04: Lobbying

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE II - OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES, DIVISION 2 - CODE OF ETHICS, ESTABLISHING SECTION 2-68 - DEFINITIONS; SECTION 2-69 - REGISTRATION OF LOBBYISTS; SECTION 2-70 – VALIDITY OF ACTION; SECTION 2-71 – RECORD KEEPING RESPONSIBILITIES; SECTION 2-72 – MAINTAINING REGISTRATIONS AND CONTACT LOGS; SECTION 2-73 – PROHIBITED CONDUCT OF CITY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES; SECTION 2-74 – COMPLIANCE, PENALTIES, AND RESERVING SECTIONS 2-75 – 2-95; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE..

b. First Reading Ordinance 2022-05: Appendix A – Addition of Lobbyist Annual Registration Fee

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS TO APPENDIX A OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING, DELETING, AND ESTABLISHING FEES AND MEMBERSHIPS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk, discussed both Ordinance 2022-04 and 2022-05 as they are companion items. She explained that adopting these ordinances provides for transparency, a consistent way for lobbyists to register with the City, defines expectations, and upholds the integrity of public service. Lobbyists will be expected to register annually with the City Clerk and pay a \$50.00 fee. Elected officials, committee board members, and staff are expected to log contacts, if any, with lobbyists; they will then submit a quarterly statement to the City Clerk to have on file.

Discussion ensued with the City Attorney and the City Manager explaining that this ordinance is good to have in place and the responsibility to register and notify rests on the lobbyists, not the officials. It was discussed that the burden for the officials is to log any contacts with these lobbyists, this will better assist in quasi-judicial matters when mentioning ex-parte communications.

Motion: Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-04.

Motion: Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-05.

c. First Reading Ordinance 2022-02: Parks and Recreation Impact Fees

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO APPENDIX A OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; IMPLEMENTING A PARKS AND RECREATION IMPACT FEE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Tenaglia reminded the Commission of Stantec's presentation at the December 14, 2021 meeting. These impact fees help to recover the cost-of-service level expansion. Stantec consultants calculated the eligible impact fees of \$1,187 per dwelling unit for parks and recreation purposes; staff's recommendation is to capture full value to help ensure future development pays for itself. The fee will be assessed for residential expansion projects upon issuance of a building permit and would go into effect 90 days after second and final hearing. A copy of the presentation is made a part of the record.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-02.

d. Second Reading Ordinance 2022-01: Budget Amendment

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Tenaglia gave a recap of the presentation from the January 11th meeting. Additional slides have been added that are a part of the agenda packet. More detail was given on the beautification allocation with staff indicating this is a program for residents to come forward to remove the impermeable surfaces that abut the street to replace with greenspace; this will also assist with the flooding of water around their driveways.

Commissioner Grill inquired if cracked and broken curbing is considered in the beautification project; Mr. Rey stated that if the issue is impeding the flow of water, then it would be considered at that point.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, Vice Mayor Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to adopt Ordinance 2022-01.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No items for discussion.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—reminded the Commission of the parliamentary training on March 2nd from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers. It will be televised and streamed so members of the public and other boards can watch if they cannot attend.

Alex Rey, City Manager—mentioned the commercial property owned by Duke; the asking price is \$2.875M. He has been informed that Duke has received two bids above asking price. The consensus of the Commission

was not to consider the purchase of the property.

He has been receiving updates on the City's request for funding from the State for Fire Station 22 and the Community Center seawall, it is looking like it will be approved.

Mike Clarke, Public Works Director—discussed change order 4 for Merry Pier; this will come before the Commission for retroactive approval next month. Because the contractor is done with the project, he wanted to bring tonight to inform the Commission. The changes include jackets on existing pilings for the 7th Avenue Pier, pressure wash existing pier, pile caps, south side finger support beams, 50-amp upgrade for the ticket booth, fish cleaning station, and two fire extinguishers.

The Commission expressed some opinions about this fourth change order that is increasing the project well beyond the initial amount; they encouraged staff to be more diligent in vetting these issues before projects begin.

Attorney Dickman, City Attorney—asked for an Executive Session on February 8, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. in these Chambers to discuss settlement options for the Busch Estate appeal.

He mentioned the four cases on appeal in the Circuit Court regarding short-term rentals that were recently denied their appeal.

Commissioner Grill—commented on the District 2 Town Hall meeting that happened last week; he felt it was well attended both in person and on Zoom.

He discussed bills that are being proposed during this year's legislative session.

Commissioner Graus—complimented the new street signs along Corey Avenue.

Vice Mayor Friszolowski—commented that the St. Pete Beach Spring Classic was well attended.

Commissioner Pletcher—discussed public comments, decorum, and parliamentary procedure. She opined that when members of the public come up to speak, that the elected officials, through the mayor, should recognize their comments and direct them to appropriate staff or district commissioner. She mentioned a conversation with the City Clerk on consistency and expectations and thought that it could be discussed tonight.

City Clerk LaRowe acknowledged the conversation with Mrs. Pletcher and agreed that there needs to be information communicated to the public speakers on the expectations during the meeting. She understands that there have been some inconsistencies with time limits and the way comments are made and has developed the speaker's card to better organize members of the public coming up to speak. In regard to decorum, Mrs. LaRowe agrees that disruptive behavior like hand clapping cannot continue as this prevents order of business from continuing in a timely fashion. While it is human nature to want to commend a friend or neighbor for speaking, it should be done in a more silent way like a thumbs up.

Mrs. LaRowe intended to address the public this evening face-to-face; however, there were minimal speakers in the audience. She is working with the Parliamentarian on best practices and on developing some rules and procedures so that the boards, committees, elected officials and members of the public know what to expect and can operate within those guidelines.

Mayor Johnson—discussed tomorrow's BIG-C presenter, Frontier, and will share the presentation with staff to post on the City's website and social media.

He will be having a conference call tomorrow afternoon on the beach renourishment projects for the City in 2023.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: February 22, 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amber LaRowe".

AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alan Johnson".

ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR