

City Commission Meeting

March 22, 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

Ginny Keeter-Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk

Michelle Gonzalez, Community Development Director

Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer

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

1. PRESENTATIONS

a. Oath of Office

- Chris Graus/District 1
- Ward Friszolowski/District 3

The Deputy Clerk swore in Commissioners Graus and Friszolowski and they gave thanks to their colleagues, City staff, and those important to them.

b. Frontier Fiber Optic

Daniel Watkins, Network Engineer from Frontier Communications, reviewed a presentation on their fiber optic services, equipment, and coverage area; the presentation will become part of the meeting record. Their services are now available to parts of St. Pete Beach. A Q&A period followed, which included poles vs. undergrounding of wiring. City Manager Alex Rey asked the representatives for contact information for future communications.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Friszolowski asked to add a Proclamation on the 60th anniversary of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, as Item 7c. Commissioner Grill asked to pull Consent Agenda Item 4d., Street Closures, to Action Items 5d. for discussion.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Resident Jane Wollowick gave comments regarding parking on Corey Avenue and on street dining.

4. CONSENT

- a. March 8, 2022 Commission Minutes
- b. Total Pressure Cleaning Services Inc., Bid Proposal
- c. Reclaimed Water Lateral Line Repairs
- d. ~~Street Closures for Sunrise Service~~ *removed for discussion*

Motion: Commissioner Grill moved, Commissioner Graus seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to

approve the March 22, 2022 Consent Agenda as prepared by the City Manager with the three remaining items.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Appointment to Outside Agencies

Following brief discussion, the only change to the current roster was for Commissioner Graus to switch roles within the Suncoast League of Cities as Representative and Commissioner Grill will become Alternate.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, and Commissioner Pletcher seconded to approve the board appointment(s) as discussed; the motion carried 5-0.

b. Appointments/Reappointments to the City of St. Pete Beach Advisory Boards and Committees

Mayor Johnson verified that he had no changes to his Board appointments, and the Commissioners verified the same. City Attorney Dickman requested that the Mayor and Commissioners please remind all of their appointees of the oath of office that they took; they are all public officials and required to abide by the Florida Sunshine and Ethics Laws. No motion was required for this item.

c. Election of Vice Mayor

Following a brief discussion, the City Attorney confirmed that although not codified, the practice has been to appoint the next most senior Commissioner that has not yet served as Vice Mayor.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved and Commissioner Friszolowski seconded to elect Commissioner Graus as Vice Mayor for 2022-2023; the motion carried 5-0.

d. Street Closures for Sunrise Service (removed from Consent Agenda)

Though not directed at this particular request, Commissioner Grill asked for clarification on approving street closures for annual events for future years, 'if no significant changes are requested'. Discussion followed regarding the authorization of street closures. The City Attorney indicated that the City Codes only mention the Commission authorizing street closures in instances of outdoor drinking or co-sponsored events in public rights of way that are open to the entire community. Other authorizations could be handled administratively by the City Manager. City Manager Rey explained the intent was to declutter the Commission agenda from annual recurring events. Consensus was that the Commission should receive an advance list, perhaps quarterly, of street closures that have been approved administratively, so that they and the public can be informed or comment in advance.

6. ORDINANCES

a. First Reading – Ordinance 2022-06: Off-Street Parking (Updates to LDC Division 23)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR UPDATES TO DIVISION 23 OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS IN THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; CONFLICTS; SEVERABILITY; CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERROR; CONSTRUCTION; PUBLICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Community Development Director Michelle Gonzalez explained that these parking updates have come before the Planning Board and Commission previously as a workshop. A draft ordinance went before the Planning Board in February, and they recommended moving it forward to the Commission for first read.

She reviewed a presentation which will become part of the meeting record. The presentation included data from a study completed by an outside consultant and an overview of Changes to Division 23 of LDC for On-Street Parking, Tandem Valet Parking, Walkability Reduction, Shared Parking Agreements, Variety of Parking Options, Removal of Fee in Lieu, Parking Ratio Updates, Pedestrian Connectivity and Design Standards, and how the Ordinance supports the vision of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Grill expressed concerns regarding the ballroom ratio. Discussion followed.

Jane Wollowick added comments including ADA parking. The City Manager Rey commented that the Florida Building Code regulates ADA required spaces under State Law.

Motion: Commissioner Graus moved, and Commissioner Grill seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2022-06; the motion carried 5-0 .

7. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution 2022-07: Election Results

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF VOTES CAST IN THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD MARCH 15, 2022; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Deputy City Clerk noted that one more vote was counted by the Pinellas Supervisor of Elections at certification. The one vote is reflected in the final resolution and changed the percentages very minimally.

Motion: Commissioner Grill moved, and Vice Mayor Friszolowski seconded to adopt Resolution 2022-07; the motion carried 5-0.

b. Resolution 2022-08: Florida Fish and Wildlife Grant

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Rey explained that the resolution title and packet were refined slightly after full review of the requirements, and the Deputy Clerk read the revised title. The grant, if awarded, would be used to address water threats in the Maritana boat launch area and related engineering.

Motion: Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved and Commissioner Graus seconded the adoption of Resolution 2022-08; the motion carried 5-0.

c. Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) 60 Year Anniversary Proclamation

Vice Mayor Friszolowski thanked the Mayor and Commission for allowing him to serve as a Representative to the TBRPC. He continued to summarize the valuable work that the Council does within a six-county area with

economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources, regional transportation and affordable housing. The proclamation will acknowledge their contributions of the last 60 years.

Motion: Vice Mayor Friszolowski moved and Commissioner Pletcher seconded the approval of the Proclamation in appreciation of 60 years of the TBRPC; the motion carried 5-0.

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

City Manager Rey – reported that today the last lift station on Gulf Blvd. at 44th Avenue was finished with only punch list items remaining to do. The last component will be resurfacing in the evenings. Consensus from the Commission was to wait on the resurfacing until after Easter when most tourists have gone. Mr. Rey asked Ms. McMahon to speak about recent complaints regarding beach litter near some of the hotels. The City is addressing this with the violators.

City Attorney Dickman requested an executive session for a review of a proposed settlement in the ‘Secret Sidewalk’ lawsuit, potentially for 5pm on 4/12/22 – or another date if that cannot work. He provided two updates: A dock design is being worked on in the Busch Estate lawsuit, and in regard to Pass-a-Grille Community Church, both parties have submitted their documentation to the Magistrate in Federal Court and are awaiting that decision. Payment on that settlement will come from PRM, not the City.

Commissioner/Vice Mayor Graus commented on the success of the Corey Avenue St. Patrick’s Day event.

Commissioner Pletcher commented on vehicles not respecting the 23rd Avenue crosswalk and possible consideration of a flashing light there. Also the Women’s Club is celebrating their 100th anniversary in April; she would like a proclamation and will invite the members to that meeting.

Commissioner Grill explained that City staff is painting the word ‘PERMIT’ on some parking spots for some of the condos in the 2RU District near Upham Beach. He also spoke about an update from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission that the State has passed the one million mark for recreational watercraft. He mentioned the April 9th Three Palms Point Spring Yard Sale. He reported on ribbon cuttings at two new businesses - The Helm in District 1 and Rascals Watering Hole on Gulf Blvd. Lastly, he mentioned Florida Government Financial Professionals Week and thanked Finance Director Vince Tenaglia and staff for their work.

Mayor Johnson shared that as he is on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for Forward Pinellas; which now has a grant program for design and construction of ‘Complete Streets’. City Staff applied and St. Pete Beach is one of three applicants to be awarded in the amount of \$65,000. He thanked staff for their excellent work on the application. Ms. Gonzalez explained that the funds would be used for a study on Complete Streets in the town center core - Corey Ave., TC1, TC2, Sunset Way, and the Community Center for better sidewalks, bike paths, revitalization, and foster walkability. Another grant application has been submitted for funds for construction improvements along Sunset Way, and that is looking favorable in an anticipated amount of \$600,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

MINUTES APPROVED: April 12, 2022



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR