

City Commission Meeting

May 24, 2022

6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Alan Johnson, Mayor

Chris Graus, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 1

Mark Grill, Commissioner, District 2

Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner, District 3

Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner, District 4

STAFF PRESENT:

Alex Rey, City Manager

Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

Mike Clarke, Public Works Director

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

1. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Mayor Johnson read the LGBTQ Pride Month Proclamation; LGBTQ Pride Month begins June 1st.
- b. Mayor Johnson read the National Safe Boating Week Proclamation; National Safe Boating Week began May 21st and ends May 27th.
- c. Fire Chief Jim Kilpatrick recognized EMT Brian Peterson for heroic acts he conducted in February this year; Mr. Peterson was recognized by the County as EMT of the Year. Mayor Johnson and the Commission presented Mr. Peterson with a custom Tampa Bay Buccaneers Football with his name and the City's seal.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

No changes were made.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Jonathan Heffelfinger, resident, discussed the recent ordinance that was adopted that placed restrictions on recreational vehicle (RV) parking in the street. He owns an RV as his only mode of transportation, and it is not used as a habitable space. He requested some consideration because of this.

David Konz, resident, provided comments on Tradewinds Resort proposed development and beach access.

Lisa Reich, resident, discussed street lighting and the impact on sea turtles. She provided opinions on what should be included in the beach ordinance that is being drafted by staff.

4. CONSENT

- a. May 10, 2022 City Commission Minutes
- b. Gulf Blvd. Undergrounding Ph 1 Duke Streetlight Conversion
- c. Fire Station 22 Architecture Services Award

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the May 24, 2022 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. **Citywide LED Streetlight Fixture Type Selection**

Alex Rey, City Manager, mentioned that the survey that was conducted was reopened. The results of that survey were distributed to the Commission and made a part of the record. The results did not change, Style 2 was still the winner, with 48 percent of the vote. He agreed with the public comment earlier regarding shields being placed on the light fixtures to assist with the marine wildlife as well as shielding from light pollution into homes.

Mike Clarke, Public Works Director, stated that this light fixture will be given a trial run in District 1 first. This will allow people to view it and get used to it, and to see if this is the theme we want for the City. He said that the lights will go onto existing poles, no new poles are projected to be installed at this time. He assured the Commission that these lights are dark sky friendly. Mr. Clarke stated that it will take a few months to get the materials in and then about a week or two for installation.

Discussion ensued on light shielding, light projection, and the lights along Pass-A-Grille Way.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the 70-watt Amber LED fixture from Duke Energy for the Citywide LED Conversion Project [in the trial area of District 1].

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No items.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—asked the Commission to take a minute to look at their calendars for June 28th. She asked if they are available at 4:30 p.m. on June 28th before the regular meeting for an hour workshop on the beach ordinance; this is not specific language for the ordinance, rather, ideas on what staff has proposed to include in the ordinance. Because one Commissioner had a conflict, the Commission agreed to have the workshop on July 12th at 4:30 p.m. before the 6:00 p.m. regular Commission meeting.

Mrs. LaRowe then discussed the budget workshop scheduled for July 25th at 10:00 a.m. with the regular Commission meeting the following day, July 26th. Because there will be two Commissioners out that week, staff would like to know if the Commission is available the week prior, on July 19th to have the budget workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the 6:00 p.m. Commission meeting to follow. Discussion ensued and it was decided to keep the July dates the same for now, while staff determines if having the budget workshop on July 11th or July 12th will be better.

Alex Rey, City Manager—discussed the Employee Town Hall meeting that was held last Thursday. He stated that it appears it was a good session and mentioned that the most discussed topic was pay. He stated that staff has come up with an idea for immediate help, using a one-time PTO buy-back. Essentially, employees will have the option to sell PTO back to the City, keeping two-weeks PTO in their bank, and it will not exceed a maximum of \$2,500.00 to be paid out. Commission discussed this idea, with Commissioner Pletcher mentioning other ideas to help employees with this cost-of-living issue that they're feeling. All Commissioner agreed with this one-time employee PTO buy-back.

He informed the Commission that Vince Tenaglia's baby was born this weekend, a little boy named Rudy.

Attorney McConnell, Assistant City Attorney—asked for an Executive Session to discuss Pass-A-Grille Way, LLC., on June 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Pletcher—mentioned her monthly District 4 meetings at the Don Vista on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Grill—asked Mr. Rey to give a brief explanation about how the process works for developers who have a proposed development, like the Tradewinds Resort.

Mr. Rey stated that the procedures and rules are outlined in the City Code. Essentially a developer who has a development for the City will have to conduct a community meeting on their own. This meeting is not of the City, nor held in coordination with the City. The developer is responsible for noticing the meeting, mailing meeting notices, posting the information on the property, and submitting it to the newspaper. There are specific timeframes that this needs to be done, again, outlined in the City Code. The community meeting allows the developer the opportunity to hear from the public about the development, what they like and what they don't like, and then the developer can take those comments into consideration and make changes or not. The developer will then submit the application to the City and go through the City process, with the final stop being heard and approved/approved with conditions, or denied, in front of the City Commission.

Mr. Grill mentioned the roadwork projects in District 2.

Vice Mayor Graus—has appreciated the positive start to the meeting tonight as well as last month.

Mayor Johnson—mentioned a Florida League of Mayors meeting that he attended on the 19th, the City Clerk will forward a handout that he received from that meeting.

He announced the BIG-C meeting tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. to be hosted by the City at the Community Center.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Sirata Hotel will host a Pride Month kickoff event on June 1st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

He attended the Corey Avenue Sunday Market and was approached by a member of the public who resides in London. She complimented the City and the information that they broadcast to the community, by way of the video messages and the streaming of the meetings.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: JUNE 14, 2022



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR