

City Commission Meeting

June 14, 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

Andrew Dickman, City Attorney

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer

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 presented an Employee Recognition Proclamation to Keri Ferenc-Nelson, Human Resources Manager, for obtainment of her Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) Certified Professional Certification.

City Manager Rey informed the Commission that this is an ongoing recognition with other employees being recognized at future meetings.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Addition of item 4.c. approval of wet zone for the July 4th event.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Deb Edny, resident, spoke about her nephew's boating accident and death 18 years ago.

Anthony Belmont, VFW & American Legion, asked the Commission for parking consideration for veterans with Purple Heart license plates. He presented a letter to the Commission outlining that request.

Mr. Rey stated that this is not uncommon, other jurisdictions recognize veterans with Purple Hearts. He will investigate this with Community Development and the City Attorney. The Commission was in favor of creating this type of program.

4. CONSENT

- a. April 26, 2022 Executive Session Minutes and May 24, 2022 City Commission Meeting Minutes
- b. Vehicle Purchase

Motion: **Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the June 14, 2022 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.**

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. **Residential Beautification Program: Morelli Landscaping, Inc.**

Mrs. McMahon presented both items a. and b. together. A copy of the presentation is made a part of the record. Morelli Landscaping and Gilliam Construction traveled to each location that has been accepted as part of this program in order to provide an accurate estimate on the cost for landscaping and asphalt work. Staff plans to phase the program and do twelve to fifteen homes each phase. She stated that fifteen homes applied this phase with only eleven being accepted. The average cost for each home is \$3,000-\$4,000.00.

Commissioner Grill questioned the criteria that is used for the homes and how the program is laid out. Mr. Rey stated that the marketing material that was distributed provided criteria for the program.

A discussion was had regarding a cap on the cost. Staff stated that the project is solely limited to the City's right-of-way.

Commissioner Grill suggested that the City approve the contracts for the amount as estimated by each contractor with a small contingency for any issues that arise and then come back to the Commission after to see how the program is working out.

Commissioner Pletcher suggested that the Commission have a workshop to discuss beautification.

Claude Walker, resident, has a property that has been accepted into the program and he is grateful.

Motion: Commissioner Grill moved to change the dollar amount for both the contracts to the amount as estimated for Phase 1 with a contingency. Motion died for lack of second.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Vice Mayor Graus seconded, and the motion carried 4-1 to approve the expenditure to Morelli Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$145,000.00 and authorize the City Manager to enter into the service agreement. Commissioner Grill voted no.

b. **Residential Beautification Program: Gilliam Construction**

Mrs. McMahon presented this item during the Morelli item.

Motion: Vice Mayor Graus moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 4-1 to authorize the expenditure to Gilliam Construction for \$145,000.00 for the City's residential beautification program. Commissioner Grill voted no.

c. **Approval of Wet Zone for July 4th (added)**

Mrs. McMahon discussed the approval of the wet zone along Corey Avenue during the July 4th event from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The agenda memorandum and attached street map are made a part of the record.

She stated that each restaurant that plans to participate in the wet zone will have insurance to indemnify the City.

Motion: Vice Mayor Graus moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to authorize the approval of the requested wet zone.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No items.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—informed the Commission that she and the Clerk's Administrative Assistant will be in a training next week; the Deputy City Clerk will be in the office.

Alex Rey, City Manager—stated that Public Works Director Mike Clarke was present to discuss the repairing of the reclaimed water lines.

Mr. Clarke discussed a handout regarding paving and repairs to reclaimed water line. A copy of this handout is made a part of the record. He informed the Commission that the transmission lines are the responsibility of the County; however, the City still pays the expense to the repair. The lateral lines are the responsibility of the City. Mr. Rey stated that the City may want to look into hiring plumbers to be on staff to help with the repairs.

Discussion continued about reclaimed water lines, repairs, recent repairs, ongoing scheduling, and paving.

Commissioner Grill—paving and complete streets going on in his district. He complemented the City Manager and the Community Development Director on updating the Freebee app for easy navigation.

Mr. Grill discussed the cabanas on the beach and what areas are for residents and what is private; has received several complaints about private businesses taking over the beaches and pushing residents out.

Commissioner Friszolowski—discussed the voting for flood plain rebuild and taxing that will be on the ballot this year.

Mayor Johnson—Mike Twitty, Pinellas County Property Appraiser, will be at the next meeting to talk about property values. He reminded everyone of the hurricane preparedness expo on Saturday.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: JULY 12, 2022



AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK



ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR