

City Commission Meeting

January 10, 2023

6:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Alan Johnson, Mayor

Mark Grill, Commissioner, District 2

Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner, District 3

Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner, District 4

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT:

Chris Graus, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 1

STAFF PRESENT:

Alex Rey, City Manager

Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk

Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer

Vince Tenaglia, Assistant City Manager

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

1. PRESENTATIONS

Bon-Aire Resort 70th Anniversary Proclamation—added

Mayor Johnson recognized Bon-Aire Resort for its 70 years of operation and for 70 years of consistent ownership under the Carotta family. They are having a 70th Anniversary celebration on Sunday, January 22nd

- a. City Manager Rey recognized Joanne Boland, Permit Administrator, for outstanding customer service. Joanne Boland was also chosen by the Employee Recognition Committee as Employee of the First Quarter.
- b. Mayor Alan Johnson presented the National Mentor Month proclamation to Debbie Buschman, MPA, Pinellas County Lunch Pals Coordinator. Jennifer McMahon introduced Parks and Recreation Employees who mentor children who attend the City's before and after school programs and summer camps.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the January 10, 2023 City Commission Agenda.

3. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Deborah Schechner, a resident, commented on better holiday decorations for the City next year. She also mentioned the recent traffic tragedy that happened with two pedestrians and a vehicle on Gulf Boulevard. Ms. Schechner would like to see a campaign created to help bring awareness to pedestrian safety.

Amy Auerbach, a resident, mentioned the recent election law change surrounding mail-in ballots. She asked that information be made available to let residents know how to request one and to verify they are on the list to receive a ballot for the March election.

4. CONSENT

- a. **City Commission Minutes: December 6 and December 13, 2022**
- b. **Authorization of Budgeted vehicle Replacements and Acquisitions**

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the January 10, 2023 Consent Agenda as presented by the City Manager.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. License Agreement

Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer, stated that this Agreement is for the Madeira Beach Youth Baseball and Softball Boosters, Inc. to use the City's fields. The Agreement is mirrored to that of Treasure Island.

Mayor Johnson inquired about the term mentioned in the Agreement. Mrs. McMahon stated the Agreement is valid for 5 years; legal will make the change to the Agreement before execution.

Resident Schechner is pleased to see the City continue to offer its fields to have the little league for the youth.

Motion: Commissioner Grill moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to authorize the City Manager to enter into a field use agreement with Madeira Beach Baseball and Softball Boosters, Inc.

b. Bayway Median Landscaping

Mrs. McMahon explained that the \$52,282.00 mentioned in the Agenda Memorandum is \$50,282.00 for Morelli Landscaping to do the service and \$2,000 for the design. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) authorized Morelli to construct the landscaping; the City was awarded \$52,282.00 in grant funds from FDOT in 2021. Morelli is still honoring their quote from 2020.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Pletcher seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve a notice to proceed with construction landscaping on SR682 medians to Morelli Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$50,282.00.

c. Illicit Discharge Agreement

City Manager Rey mentioned that this Agreement expired 11/2022 and this Agreement is for the renewal, to expire in 2027.

Motion: Commissioner Pletcher moved, Commissioner Friszolowski seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the Interlocal Agreement providing for control of illicit discharges within Pinellas County.

6. ORDINANCES

a. Ordinance 2023-01: Supplemental Budget Appropriations

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.

Vince Tenaglia, Assistant City Manager, gave a presentation on this Ordinance. A copy of the presentation is made a part of the record. The presentation included:

- Annual budget and finance calendar
- Reappropriations summary to include fund balance policy range
- Current financial positions

- Proposed new expenditures
- Pending changes
- Finance and Budget Review Committee meeting 1/20/2023

Discussion ensued on projects, scope, and costs. Commissioner Grill opined the City should review the projects and stay within the budget for the much-needed project if that means scaling back on the “nice to haves”. The Commission discussed that idea and mentioned that an engineer may need to be hired regarding some projects to see what can be done.

Motion: Commissioner Friszolowski moved, Commissioner Grill seconded, and the motion carried 4-0 to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-01.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No items.

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

Amber LaRowe, City Clerk—briefly explained that mail-in ballots, registering to vote, checking registration, and identifying polling places are all coordinated through the Pinellas County of Supervisor of Elections (SOE). Statutorily, the SOE must mail out ballots to those requesting them by February 9th. The final day to request a mail-in ballot from the SOE is March 4th. This information and the SOE contact information will be placed on the City Clerk’s page of the website under the “General Election” tab.

Alex Rey, City Manager—recognized staff who have been diligently working on the red tide cleanup; those seven key staff members will be receiving a one-time bonus for their efforts.

He touched on the tragic accident that happened on Gulf Boulevard and mentioned an awareness campaign that was discussed by several citizens who will be meeting with staff. The idea is to bring more information to the hotels, restaurants, and businesses about how to be safe while walking and where the crosswalks are.

Commissioner Pletcher—commented on the tragedy as well and agrees that the City needs to work with the citizens and businesses to bring more awareness about safe crossing, where to cross, etc.

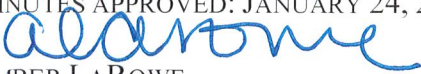
Commissioner Friszolowski—thanked the Fire Department who were on the scene for the tragic accident. He echoed the comments of the City Manager about what the City can do in coordination with the businesses about pedestrian safety.

Commissioner Grill—stated he received feedback about the holiday decorations in the City; some were positive, but most were negative. He would like to see how the City can get businesses involved to help, especially along Gulf Boulevard.

Mayor Johnson—mentioned the St. Pete Beach Classic race that will be happening this weekend; expect traffic delays and lane closures.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: JANUARY 24, 2023


AMBER LAROWE
CITY CLERK


ALAN JOHNSON
MAYOR