

City Commission Special Meeting
Executive Session
January 23, 2024
4:30 PM

ELECTED/APPOINTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Adrian Petrila, Mayor
Rich Lorenzen, Vice Mayor, Commissioner, District 4
Karen Marriott, Commissioner, District 1
Nick Filtz, Commissioner, District 2
Betty Rzewnicki, Commissioner, District 3

STAFF PRESENT:

Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Wayne Saunders, City Manager
Amber LaRowe, City Clerk— (left after the close of the public portion and returned upon the reopening)
Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Petrila called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attorney Dickman announced that the meeting today is an Executive Session, closed meeting, according to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, as requested at the last City Commission meeting, to discuss the litigation with Protect St. Pete Beach Advocacy Group, et.al. versus the City of St. Pete Beach., Case No. 24-00004-CI; Sixth Judicial Circuit in and for Pinellas County, Florida.

Attorney Dickman stated that the court reporter will transcribe the meeting today; a copy of this transcription will be available as a public record after the litigation with the case has concluded. The two attorneys present in Chambers today are Samuel Salario, Jr., and Jason Gonzalez; Attorney Alexander Brockmeyer was present via Zoom.

Pinellas County resident Tom Rask provided public comment on the process of the executive session and on public comment.

Mayor Petrila closed the meeting to the public at 4:37 p.m.

Mayor Petrila reopened the public portion of the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

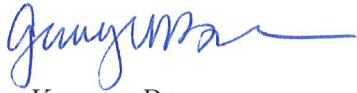
Attorney Dickman stated that he is recommending the City Commission ratify the use of the Lawson Law Firm as the defense council in this case and authorize City Administration and/or the City Attorney's Office to pay whatever the monetary balance is that Public Risk Management (PRM) will not cover. The rate for the Law Firm is \$475/hour and PRM is willing to contribute \$210 or \$215/hour with the expectation that the City will be responsible for the difference.

Motion: Vice Mayor Lorenzen moved, Commissioner Marriott seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 to approve the usage of the Lawson Law Firm for Protect St. Pete Beach Advocacy Group, Case No. 24-00004-CI, and authorize the City to make payments not covered by the insurance.

Attorney Dickman requested the scheduling of an executive session for the settlement offer that was proposed to the City Commission a few hours ago. He would prefer to hold the meeting on February 6th or February 13th. This executive session may cover a potential settlement with Red, White, and Booze versus St. Pete Beach. The Commission discussed dates and decided to bring this up at tonight's 6:00 p.m. meeting.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Petrila adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: February 13, 2024



GINNY KEETER-BODKIN
DEPUTY CITY CLERK



ADRIAN PETRILA
MAYOR