

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

September 12, 2012

6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Steve McFarlin, Mayor
Marvin Shavlan, Vice Mayor
Lorraine Huhn, Commissioner
Jim Parent, Commissioner
Bev Garnett, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Mike Bonfield, City Manager
Susan Churuti, City Attorney
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk
Elaine Edmunds, Finance Director
Steve Hallock, Public Services Director
George Kinney, Community Development Director
Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director

1. Changes to the Agenda

City Manager Bonfield requested to place Items 6(d) and 6(e) directly after the Consent Agenda and act upon them prior to addressing other items.

2. Presentations

- a. Proclamation declaring September 12, 2012 as "Pass-a-Grille Beach Community Church Day" in honor of its 100th Anniversary.
- b. Proclamation declaring September 21, 2012 as "POW-MIA Recognition Day"
- c. Proclamation declaring the month of October 2012 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month"

3. Audience Comments

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, questioned the order of agenda items and length of time to speak.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, requested the minutes of meetings include more detail.

Sean McAuley, St. Pete Beach Police Department, commented that the majority of police department employees support transferring law enforcement services to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and read a document from the union supporting the change.

4. Consent

City Manager Bonfield recommended approval of the Consent Items as presented.

a. Approval of the August 28, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

b. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for installation and maintenance of crosswalk signage and flashing beacons.

c. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a professional service agreement with Genesis Group for \$15,900 for landscape lighting design for medians on Gulf Blvd. and Blind Pass Rd.

d. Approval to close 8th Ave on 10/13/12 for a Block Party.

Commissioner Parent made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Shavlan and unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

Items 6(d) and 6(e) were taken out of order.

6. Ordinances

d. Ordinance 2012-18, First Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida adopting a final millage rate for fiscal year ending September 30, 2013; providing for an effective date.

City Manager Bonfield commented on the budget workshops held between the Finance & Budget Committee and the City Commission. Staff's recommendation is to raise the operating millage rate to 3.2819, an increase of .425 mills over the current rate, and will raise approximately \$833,932. There are no significant changes in either revenues or expenditures. Mr. Bonfield noted that the ordinance needs to be read in its entirety.

Commissioner Parent made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-18, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida; establishing the ad

valorem tax levy of 3.2819 mills and a debt service levy of .0878 mills for the general fund for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2012 and ending September 20, 2013; providing for an effective date to be approved on first reading; reading the ordinance in its entirety. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garnett.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments.

Joanne Melodayo, Belle Vista Drive, urged the Commission to retain the current millage rate.

Dave Stravich, Belle Vista Drive, requested Commission consider raising the millage rate once the economy improves.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, spoke against raising the millage rate.

Paul Pfister, Gulf Boulevard, commented that residents need to pay to live in paradise and maintain the infrastructure properly.

Rosemary Manning, 1st Avenue, spoke in favor of raising the millage rate because the 'band-aid fix' doesn't work anymore.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isla Drive, urged the Commission to look elsewhere for additional revenue, such as the bed tax.

Deb Edney, 73rd Avenue, spoke in opposition of the rate increase and suggested the city become unincorporated.

Mayor McFarlin called for Commission comments.

Vice Mayor Shavlan spoke against the increase and suggested waiting until after the election to take any action.

Mayor McFarlin noted the recommended millage increase was balanced between the lowest/highest the Commission could adopt.

Commissioner Garnett reported that St. Pete Beach generally has the lowest tax rate amongst the full-service beach communities.

Commissioner Huhn commented on maintaining the City's infrastructure.

The motion was approved by a 4-1 individual roll call vote, with Vice Mayor Shavlan voting 'no'.

e. Ordinance 2012-19, First Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida adopting a budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013; providing appropriations; providing for an effective date.

City Manager Bonfield reported that the largest portion of the budget increase is due to pension costs. The total budget is \$23,540,489 with General Fund expenditures at \$15,719,188.00.

Commissioner Garnett made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-19, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Pinellas County, Florida adopting a budget for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2012 and ending September 30, 2013, providing appropriations, providing an effective date be approved on first reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, criticized the Commission and accused them of political blackmail.

The motion was approved by a 4-1 individual roll call vote, with Vice Mayor Shavlan voting 'no'.

5. Action Items

a. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Waste Services, Inc. (WSI), a Progressive Waste Solutions Company, to provide city-wide solid waste services.

City Manager Bonfield reported the City has contracted with WSI for several years and the contract expires at the end of September. Requests for Proposals were solicited and four were received by the proposal deadline. This is a seven-year contract with four two-year extensions.

Commissioner Huhn moved to approve Item 5(a), Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Waste Services, Inc. (WSI), a Progressive Waste Solutions Company, to provide city-wide solid waste services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garnett and unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

6. Ordinances

a. Ordinance 2012-13, Final Reading and Public Hearing, providing that wastewater rates be reviewed annually during fiscal year budget preparation and adjustments recommended to City Commission based on monies needed to pay Wastewater Enterprise Fund expenditures.

City Manager Bonfield noted the proposed ordinance follows the other enterprise funds providing for an annual review.

Commissioner Parent made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-13, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for amendment of Subsection (e) of Section 86-31 of the Code of Ordinances of the City, pertaining to wastewater use charges; providing for annual wastewater rate review; providing for severability; providing for repeal of ordinances or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Huhn.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, asked if the fund is for cost only.

The motion unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

b. Ordinance 2012-14, Final Reading and Public Hearing, Providing for amendment of the Land Development Code deleting all references to the City's Coastal Construction Excavation Setback Line.

City Manager Bonfield reported that the City set a Coastal Construction Line in 1972 prior to the State setting its own line. The state line will now become the rear setback line.

Vice Mayor Shavlan made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2012-14, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for amendments to the Land Development Code as it relates to the City Coastal construction Excavation setback line; deleting all references to said line; providing for the repeal of ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Parent.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, spoke in favor of a more restrictive line to protect the beach and wildlife.

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, spoke as a resident and president of Silver Sands Condominium Association, objecting to the elimination of the City's Coastal Construction line because it would allow for the construction of high-rise condominium hotels.

Deborah Martohue, Blind Pass Road, noted the residence of the previous speaker is built past westward of the Coastal Construction Line.

The motion was unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

c. Ordinance 2012-16, Final Reading and Public Hearing, Providing for amendments to Division 26 the Land Development Code of the City of St. Pete Beach Sign Code.

City Manager Bonfield noted the changes include vehicle wraps and non-conforming signs.

Commissioner Garnett made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-16, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Pinellas County, Florida providing for amendments to Division 26 of the Land Development Code as it relates to signage; providing for severability; providing for the repeal of ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Shavlan.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments.

Rosemary Manning, 1st Avenue, commented on signs with spelling errors and letters missing.

The motion was unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

f. Ordinance 2012-20, First Reading and Public Hearing, prohibiting bicycle riding on the city sidewalk that is west of the private properties on Sunset Way between 28th Avenue and 30th Avenue.

City Manager Bonfield introduced the proposed ordinance that would eliminate riding a bicycle on the sidewalk.

Commissioner Garnett made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-20, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for amendment of

Chapter 74 – Streets and Sidewalks, Article I - in general, Section 74-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City, prohibiting bicycle riding on the city sidewalk that is west of the private properties on Sunset Way between 28th Avenue and 30th Avenue; providing for severability; providing for repeal of ordinances or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Huhn.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments. There were none.

The motion was unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

7. Resolutions

a. Resolution 2012-11 establishing the date for the 2013 election and the qualification period in Districts Two and Four

City Manager Bonfield reported that the municipal election for Districts Two and Four will take place on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 and the qualification period will be held from 12:00 p.m./noon on December 10, 2012 through 12:00 p.m./noon on December 21, 2012.

Vice Mayor Shavlan made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-11, establishing the date for the 2013 election and the qualification period in Districts Two and Four. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garnett and unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

b. Resolution 2012-12 approving the fiscal year 2012-13 non-ad valorem assessment rolls for storm water management services and authorizing the City Manager to certify the storm water service assessment rolls to the Tax Collector prior to September 15, 2012.

City Manager Bonfield noted this is the second year of funding the waste water account. Projects funded include the master plan, storm drain routine maintenance and emergency repairs.

Commissioner Huhn made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-12 approving the fiscal year 2012-13 non-ad valorem assessment rolls for storm water management services and authorizing the City Manager to certify the storm water service assessment rolls to the Tax Collector prior to September 15, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garnett and unanimously approved by individual roll call vote.

8. Items for Discussion

There were no items for this agenda.

9. City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports

City Manager Bonfield announced the after-school program at the Community Center has reached maximum participation, the October concert series will begin October 5 in Horan Park, Gulfport lent a fire truck for use while ours is being repaired, the Force Main project is progressing but adjustments can be made if necessary, and seawall repair will begin soon. Mr. Bonfield then noted Human Resources Administrator Gary Behnke will retire on September 25th and the new Administrator will begin on September 24th. The City Manager followed up with listing the upcoming agenda items.

City Manager Bonfield requested a special meeting be held Thursday, September 27, 2012 for second reading/adoption of the pension ordinances. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Garnett commented on the October Music in the Park series, reported there is an October 13 celebration on 8th Avenue and the Fish Broil celebration in Hurley Park on October 20th. Ms. Garnett reported her community meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on September 19th at the Warren Webster Community Center and encouraged everyone to support their local merchants.

Vice Mayor Shavlan reported on an article regarding Citizens Insurance.

Commissioner Parent reported on the Florida League of Cities conference he is scheduled to attend and reminded everyone about the Corey Avenue Car Show this upcoming Saturday.

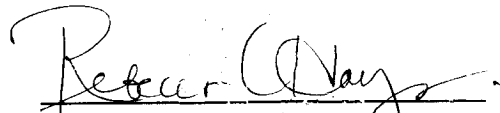
Commissioner Huhn noted the car show is rain or shine, reported that 'Gone to the Dogs' received the Retailer of the Year award, commented on a palm tree that was knocked down in the north end of town and discussed the Small Town Redevelopment conference she is scheduled to attend in October.

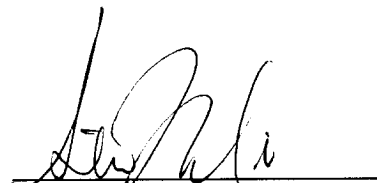
Mayor McFarlin reported that Corey Avenue businesses are 100% occupied and requested drivers remain patient with the road work currently underway along Gulf Boulevard.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Attest:


Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk


Steve McFarlin, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 10/23/2012