

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Steve McFarlin, Mayor
Lorraine Huhn, Vice Mayor
Jim Parent, Commissioner
Ward Friszolowski, Commissioner
Melinda Pletcher, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Mike Bonfield, City Manager
Mike Davis, City Attorney
Rebecca C. Haynes, CMC/City Clerk

1. Changes to the Agenda

Mayor McFarlin requested that Item 5(a) be continued to the next City Commission meeting on March 25, 2014.

Commissioner Parent moved to continue Item 5(a), Conditional Use/Variance 2014-0004, to date certain March 25, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Friszolowski.

Mayor McFarlin called for audience comments. There being no comments, Mayor McFarlin called for the vote.

The motion was unanimously approved by an individual roll call vote.

City Manager Bonfield noted for the record that there will be no additional advertising for this item.

2. Presentations

a. Supervisor of Elections Office – Presentation on new electronic poll books

Julie Marcus, Deputy Supervisor, Supervisor of Elections (SOE) Office, reported on the history of high voter turnout rate in St. Pete Beach and the early voting from Saturday, March 1, through Sunday, March 9, in the three SOE offices.

Ms. Marcus explained the process of using the new electronic poll books that will replace the paper ledgers at the polling sites. The device will scan a signed, photo identification card such as a driver's license or Florida identification card, and display the voter history and eligibility. Ms. Marcus explained that the electronic method will link to several programs and vastly improve the voting process. She scanned several licenses to demonstrate the process.

3. Audience Comments

John Michael, Bay Street, discussed water rates and requested the Commission to monitor the rates city-wide.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, complimented the staff with the Supervisor of Elections Office and noted she was pleased they were utilizing St. Pete Beach to begin use of the electronic poll books during the March election. Ms. Schechner spoke about public attendance at City Hall meetings/workshops and bed tax monies.

Carol Walker, Gulf Boulevard, suggested developing a method to track the number of people who attend the meetings.

4. Consent

There were no consent items presented.

5. Action Items

- a. Conditional Use/Variance 2014-0004, Request to permit the establishment of a commercial off-premise parking lot and relief from Section 23.8(a) of the St. Pete Beach Land Development Code, Quasi-Judicial Hearing. (Applicant requests item to be continued to March 25, 2014.)

By previous action, this item was continued to date certain March 25, 2014.

6. Ordinances

There were no ordinances presented.

7. Resolutions

There were no resolutions presented.

8. Items for Discussion

There were no resolutions presented.

9. City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports

City Manager Bonfield reported that the General Election is March 11, 2014 and polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mr. Bonfield reiterated that the March 11, 2014 City Commission Meeting is cancelled due to the election; the first of the Spring Concert Series at Horan Park is Friday, February 28th; and that the Library Fundraising balance stands at \$5,000. He reported that the Baker Group will present their Corey Avenue Revitalization plans as follows: March 26th at the Community Center from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; March 27th in the City Hall lobby from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and March 27th in the City Hall Commission Chambers from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. during a special City Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Pletcher reported on the ribbon cutting on 8th Avenue for Lockhart Realty, the Pass-a-Grille (PAG) Home Tour on March 25th sponsored by the PAG Women's Club and the Beach Goes Pops Celebration on April 4th and April 5th. Ms. Pletcher talked about the bell-ringing ceremony held in honor of Mr. Frank Hurley, a long-time and well respected community member.

Commissioner Friszolowski reported on his experiences with Mr. Hurley and noted his passing was very sad. Mr. Friszolowski reported that road work in the Belle Vista neighborhood had begun and urged residents to be patient during the construction process.

Commissioner Parent reported on the Big C Meeting the morning of February 26th and his roundtable meeting at the Library the evening of February 26th, the Island Festival March 1st at the Gulf Beaches Historical Museum and the Salute to Veterans Pancake Breakfast and Street Fair on March 29, 2014. Mr. Parent discussed audience attendance at meetings and encouraged residents to participate.

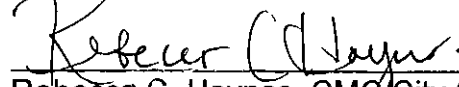
Vice Mayor Huhn welcomed citizen input and attendance at City Hall meetings. Ms. Huhn reported on the Spring Concert Series in Horan Park and the Sunday Market along Corey Avenue. She encouraged residents to vote in the March election and thanked the representatives of the Supervisor of Elections Office for their presentation.

Mayor McFarlin also encouraged resident participation at City Hall meetings and noted that the local business, 7-11, is the Presenting Sponsor for the Spring Concerts.

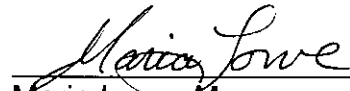
10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Attest:



Rebecca C. Haynes, CMC City Clerk



Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 3/25/2014