

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

APRIL 8, 2014

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Maria Lowe, Mayor
Melinda Pletcher, Vice Mayor
Terri Finnerty, Commissioner
Gregory Premier, Commissioner

ABSENT:

Jim Parent, Commissioner (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT:

Mike Bonfield, City Manager
Mike Davis, City Attorney
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk
Steve Hallock, Public Services Director
Phyllis Ruscella, Library Administrator
Lieutenant Gerretz, PCSO
Deputy Mancusi, PCSO
Sergeant Fleming, PCSO
Captain Danzig, PCSO

1. Presentations

a. Corey Area Activity

The representatives from the Sheriff's Office provided current statistics concerning the area including drug and alcohol issues, blinking street lights, pedestrian crosswalks and speed limits.

Mayor Lowe requested suggestions on how citizens could provide assistance to the Sheriff's Office to help alleviate the problems. The Citizens' Academy and Neighborhood Watch Program were recommended as beneficial groups.

b. Progressive Waste Solutions

Ian Boyle, Government Affairs Manager for Progressive Waste Solutions, announced that he and Fred Olsen, Division Manager for Pinellas County, were available to answer questions and offer solutions to existing issues.

Commissioner Finnerty cited early morning trash pickup at her residence and the noise level involved. Mr. Olsen said he would arrange for a later morning pickup time at that location.

Commissioner Premer inquired about the yard waste policy and Mr. Olsen replied that an amendment to the contract was recently passed assessing \$15 per yard for anything greater than two cubic yards of waste.

Mr. Olsen noted that residents can contact a Progressive Waste Solutions representative for additional information or assistance at (727) 572-6800.

c. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Lowe read the Arbor Day Proclamation, requesting all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day on April 25, 2014.

2. Changes to the Agenda

Mayor Lowe announced that starting with the present meeting, 'Presentations' will be placed at the beginning of each agenda in order to allow participants the opportunity to leave the meeting upon completion of their presentation.

City Manager Bonfield shared a recommendation by City Attorney Davis regarding the stipulation for abatement of the Anderson case and requested it be added as Action Item 5(e).

Mayor Lowe proposed the approval of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) inter-local agreement be placed on the Consent Agenda and that Resolution 2014-03 appointing Mayor Lowe as representative to the MPO is added as Item 7(b).

Commissioner Finnerty requested discussion of the Welcome Video on the City's website be added as Item 8(b).

3. Audience Comments

John Michael, Bay Waters Inn, described loud, exploitive banner airplanes flying low in his area.

Deborah Edney, 73rd Avenue, shared positive comments and feedback regarding the Progressive Drug Rehab Center.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, remarked that citizens' questions answered during the meeting is a positive approach; for pedestrian safety, Ms. Schechner recommends the yellow blinking lights at pedestrian crossings be programmed to turn red to alert drivers.

4. Consent

a. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a one-year contract extension with Ashbritt, Inc., for Disaster Debris Removal for Storm Events.

The City Manager noted that Exhibit A, not included with the original packet, was obtained for distribution and that a separate contract is required for monitoring.

b. Authorize the City Manager to sign a proposal with Duke Energy in the Amount of \$32,224.32 for upgraded electrical at Lift Station 12.

Mayor Lowe noted the proposed amount is currently included within the City's budget.

c. Authorize the City Manager to waive the bid requirement and enter into a Fireworks Display Contract with Pyrotecnico in the amount of \$35, 000 for the July 4, 2014 fireworks show.

Commissioner Finnerty inquired if business entities contribute to the fireworks presentation. City Manager Bonfield replied that minimal donations were received in previous years but the City has funded the event in full for the past seven or eight years.

Commissioners Pletcher and Premier expressed concern that many island citizens are unable to see the fireworks display due to low elevation levels and inquired as to the possibility of renting a barge for the event. Mr. Bonfield will ask staff to check for area barge availabilities.

d. Authorize the City Manager to accept a quote from Rowland Inc. in the mount of \$13,315.00 to install reclaimed water taps to three (3) landscape medians on SR 699 (Blind Pass Road).

Commissioner Pletcher expressed concern with the destruction of new sidewalks during the procedure and county reimbursement of the project costs.

e. Authorize the City Manager to accept a proposal from MTM Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$46,736.80 for sidewalk and curb replacement.

Commissioner Pletcher asked if replacement sidewalks are stamped or regular style.

Steve Hallock, Public Services Director, replied the process has involved replacing what is presently in place but he will check on the cost when using the stamped version only.

It was the consensus of the Commission to remove Item 4(e) and return to a subsequent meeting for discussion.

f. Interlocal Agreement merging the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC).

Commissioner Pletcher moved to approve the Consent Items 4(a), (b), (c), (d) and (f) as presented, with the removal of Item (e). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premer.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were no audience comments.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

5. Action Items

a. Election of Vice Mayor

Mayor Lowe called for Vice Mayor nominations.

Commissioner Finnerty nominated Commissioner Pletcher and Commissioner Premer nominated Commissioner Parent.

Mr. Bonfield responded to Commission inquiries as to the policy of appointing a vice mayor and noted that the longest serving commissioner is generally selected if he/she has never served; otherwise, the next longest serving commissioner is selected as vice mayor.

Commissioner Premer withdrew his nomination.

Commissioner Finnerty moved to nominate Commissioner Pletcher to serve as Vice Mayor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premer.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were none.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

b. Board Appointments

Commissioner Premier moved to approve the following appointments: Mayor Lowe to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Mayor Lowe to the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Commissioner Premier to the Suncoast League of Cities and Vice Mayor Pletcher to the Pinellas County Flood Insurance Coalition. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

John Michael, Bay Waters Inn, requested Commissioners incorporate the bed tax issue with appropriate committee discussions and spoke against pension plan provisions.

Deb Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, spoke in favor of employees who have paid into a pension fund receiving retirement payments.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, thanked the Commission for professional and thoughtful methodology in handling the Big C appointment.

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

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

c. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with SPB Classic, LLC to provide sponsorship in an amount not to exceed \$12,000 for law enforcement and other services related to managing the race course for the 2014 Walgreen's St. Pete Beach Classic.

Commissioner Finnerty made a motion to approve Item 5(c), the agreement with St. Pete Beach Classic LLC to provide sponsorship in an amount not to exceed \$12,000 for law enforcement and other services related to managing the race course for the 2014 Walgreen's St. Pete Beach Classic. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premier.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Deborah Edney, 73rd Avenue, supports the race and but feels the City should also support the military and our troops.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, believes the race is a positive influence to the community and is thankful for the St. Pete Beach Classic.

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

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

d. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Tindale-Oliver & Associates in the amount of \$22,279.54 to conduct two (2) community workshops in Pass-A-Grille to seek input and direction regarding the creation of design/development standards to protect the architectural and historic integrity of the community.

Ginger Corless, Tindale-Oliver & Associates, explained the association's background, shared concepts and her experience in working with historical structures.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 5(d), authorizing the City Manager to enter into the Tindale-Oliver and Associates agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Rick Falkenstein, 4th Palm Point, said the stamped sidewalks by his business were paid for by his family.

John Michael, Bay Waters Inn, asked why the City utilizes out of town businesses in favor of local vendors.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, believes the City spends too much money on consultant fees.

Deborah Edney, 73rd Avenue, spoke against funding Corey Avenue revitalization and stamped sidewalks when sewer and flooding issues in her area are pending.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, supported focusing on our community and working together.

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

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

e. Authorize City Attorney to enter into a stipulation for abatement of the Anderson Case, #13-003401.

City Attorney Mike Davis said the State Department of Administrative Hearings has scheduled an officer to hear this case June 3-5, 2014. The case is challenging the re-adoption by the City of the Comprehensive Plan in 2013. The City is not only attempting to minimize litigation expenditures, but is waiting to hear from the 2nd District Court of Appeals on a previous case, also involving the Comprehensive Plan. City Attorney Davis advised the abatement request should be enacted prior to trial preparation.

Mayor Lowe shared a previous request made to City Attorney Davis to review a copy of the 2009 mediated agreement for information and exploratory purposes. Mr. Davis

explained the document may be obtained for her to view but State law mandates complete confidentiality.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve entering a stipulation for abatement of the Anderson Case as presented by the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pletcher.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were none.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

6. Ordinances

a. Ordinance 2014-02, Final Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for a supplemental appropriation to the Wastewater Fund for fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, providing for funding and providing for an effective date.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 6(a) of Ordinance 2014-02 of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for a supplemental appropriation to the Wastewater Fund for fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, providing for funding and providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were none.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

b. Ordinance 2014-03, First Reading and Public Hearing, amending subsection (o) of Section 830137 of Division 1 of Article III of Chapter 82, of the Code of Ordinance, as it relates to stopping, standing or parking of vehicles.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 6(b), of Ordinance 2014-03 of the City of St. Pete Beach, First Reading and Public Hearing, amending subsection (o) of Section 830137 of Division 1 of Article III of Chapter 82, of the Code of Ordinance as it relates to stopping, standing or parking of vehicles. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pletcher.

Commissioner Pletcher deferred to Commissioner Premier, as Districts 2 and 3 are the affected areas. Commissioner Premier said much of the problem involves visitor parking, blocking areas at 49th Avenue and Punta Vista Streets. City Manager Bonfield

said the same individual owns the property on both sides of 49th Avenue and is requesting parking be prohibited.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments

John Michael, Bay Waters Inn, said parking is a serious problem throughout St. Pete Beach.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, spoke in support of residential rights for parking restrictions on personal property.

Rick Falkenstein, 4th Palm Point, supports residential rights for parking restrictions.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, requested clarification if Boca Ciega Isle Drive is included within the ordinance.

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

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

7. Resolutions

a. Adoption of Resolution 2014-02, providing for acceptance of the votes cast in the General Election held on March 22, 2014.

Vice Mayor Pletcher moved to approve Item 7(a), Resolution 2014-02, a resolution of the City of St. Pete Beach, Pinellas County, Florida, providing for the acceptance of the votes cast in the General Election held March 11, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Premer.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were none.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

b. Adoption of Resolution 2014-03, providing for appointment of Mayor Lowe to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Commissioner Finnerty moved to approve Item 7(b), Resolution 2014-03, a resolution of the City Commission of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida recommending appointment of a member to the joint Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, and providing an effective date. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pletcher.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments. There were none.

Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

8. Items for Discussion

a. Commission Meeting format

The Commission discussed the meeting format and options with City Manager Bonfield and City Attorney Mike Davis. City Attorney Davis will bring back a resolution with proposed changes.

b. Welcome Video to City Website

Commissioner Finnerty inquired as to who and what was involved with the Welcome Video production located on the City's website. Mr. Bonfield explained private business sponsorships provide the video service. Commission members agreed to continue discussion at another meeting.

a. Creation of two new advisory boards

Mayor Lowe distributed a draft proposal creating two new boards, a CRA Advisory Board and a Tourist Development Council, and requested Commissioners gather feedback from their constituents for discussion at a subsequent meeting.

9. City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports

City Manager Bonfield announced the April 13th Fishing Derby at Mary Pier and the Underwater Egg Hunt and Spring Fest scheduled for April 19th from 10:00 a.m. until noon, and noted that registration is underway for the summer recreation program. Mr. Bonfield announced the Pre-Budget and CIP meeting is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on May 8th in the Commission Chambers. The City Manager reported the Community Development Director interviews are scheduled for April 24th. Mr. Bonfield requested the Commissioners submit their Advisory Board appointments so the new members can attend the Sunshine Law and Public Records Training Session that is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers on April 22, 2014.

Commissioner Premier shared a constituent's problem with residential parking, noted there are five street end areas in need of seawall repair and reported that Lido residents are requesting a four-foot access to the beach.

Vice Mayor Pletcher shared the success of the Pass-a-Grille Women's Club Home Tour, the Veterans of Pinellas County and First Responders Pancake Breakfast and the Beach Goes Pop Festival. The Pass-A-Grille Project presentation drew a large crowd and Ms. Pletcher thanked City staff for their assistance. Due to constituent concerns, Vice Mayor Pletcher requested staffing for the Pass-a-Grille fire station be added as a

discussion item for the next Commission meeting. Mayor Lowe agreed and suggested the Fire Chief deliver a public presentation so that all residents are provided the information and the opportunity to have their questions addressed.

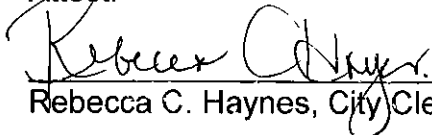
Commissioner Finnerty reported an excellent turnout of the Corey Avenue workshop with the Baker Group. She asked City Manager Bonfield for a status update on the movie theatre and Mr. Bonfield responded that the theatre remains in probate. Commissioner Finnerty read a 'Support Our Troops' thank you letter she received from overseas.

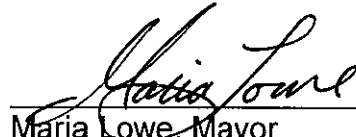
Mayor Lowe praised city volunteers who work diligently and professionally while organizing City events.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 p.m.

Attest:


Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk


Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 5-13-2014