

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10, 2015

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

Maria Lowe, Mayor
Melinda Pletcher, Vice Mayor
Terri Finnerty, Commissioner
Rick Falkenstein, Commissioner
Gregory Premer, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Wayne Saunders, City Manager
Andrew Dickman, City Attorney
Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk
Elaine Edmunds, Administrative Services Director
Jennifer McMahon, Recreation Director
Stephen Yurcaba, IT Specialist

1. Presentations

There were no presentations for this meeting.

2. Changes to the Agenda

City Manager Saunders requested to move the City Attorney's Report to the immediately following the Consent as the first action item.

3. Audience Comments

Harry Metz, Pass-A-Grille Way, requested information in regard to the installation of a 30' flag pole.

City Manager Saunders will explore and provide an answer to Mr. Metz.

Jan Paalberg, 70th Avenue, discussed the community redevelopment area and monies spent outside the district.

Gerry Brown, Seminole, discussed an organization dedicated to ending world poverty.

Bill Paalberg, 70th Avenue, stated a Neighborhood Watch for District 2 meeting is scheduled on Monday, February 23, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. Mr. Paalberg thanked Commissioner Falkenstein for his participation and invited the Commissioners to attend the meeting.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, reported that a sexual offender has moved into the City and she inquired what the City can do to prevent further offenders from moving within the City limits.

4. Consent

- a. Authorization to approve a special event application for Island Festival scheduled for March 7, 2015. The event would require street closures on March 7, 2015

City Manager Saunders reviewed the Consent item and recommended approval as presented.

Vice Mayor Pletcher made a motion to approve Consent Item 4(a) as presented. Commissioner Falkenstein seconded the motion.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

10. Reports – City Attorney

It was previously requested and approved to move the City Attorney's reports to immediately following the Consent as the first action item.

City Attorney Dickman updated the Commission on the DOAH Case, Case #13-003401-GM, brought against the City of St. Pete Beach by Petitioners, James Anderson, Joseph Kody and John Miller. Mr. Dickman explained that the agreement will be brought before the Commission at their February 24th meeting for consideration with the modifications agreed to during negotiations. The agreement also requests payment of attorney fees. Attorney Dickman stated that two items will be presented: one is the resolution requesting approval of the agreement (which contemplates approving comprehensive plan amendments), and the second document is the ordinance that provides for the approval of remedial plan amendments specified by the compliance agreement. Two

public hearings will be held and the documents are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

Vice Mayor Pletcher made a motion to recommend that the City Attorney and City Manager enter into an agreement tomorrow, February 11, 2015, for a remediation agreement negotiation on the DOAH Case and allow for minor substance issues to be resolved in order for the agreement to be signed by the litigants, in exchange for compensation in the amount of \$35,000 towards the litigants' attorney fees.

The motion died for lack of second.

City Attorney Dickman requested to reword the motion.

Vice Mayor Pletcher made a motion to authorize the City Manager and the City Attorney to negotiate with the petitioners with the authority to commit \$35,000 as reimbursement for attorney fees with the understanding that we have the discretion to entertain non-substantial changes to the compliance agreement, and staff must leave the negotiations with signatures. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Falkenstein.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Deborah Schechner, Boca Ciega Isle Drive, discussed attending the negotiation meetings.

Janet Paalberg, 70th Avenue, expressed her appreciation to all participants.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, questioned the difficulty in obtaining signatures.

Mayor Lowe requested City Clerk Haynes to read back the motion.

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

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

5. Action Items

- a. 2015 City Commission Meeting calendar changes

City Manager Saunders reviewed the proposed changes to the Commission meeting calendar during 2015.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 5(a), changes to the City Commission meeting schedule as follows: schedule June 9 and June 10,

2015 instead of June 9 and June 23, 2015 as meeting dates. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

- b. Authorization to approve an event request with various components such as funding, City staff and resources, and street closures for the Bayway Bridge Dedication event scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2015. Closures would be 15th Avenue and 16th Avenue from 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., and Pinellas Bayway Road and East Maritana Drive at Barcelona Drive to cross the parade participants from 10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Recreation Director McMahon reviewed the special event request dedicating the Bayway Bridge to Command Sergeant Major Gary Littrell, Medal of Honor Recipient, with military demonstrations, a walking parade, and distribution of medals for participants. The Veterans of South Pinellas County will hold their special event immediately following along 9th Avenue in Pass-A-Grille. This will include an antique car show, commando parachute jump landing on the beach south of 9th Avenue, the presentation of the American flag, new recruit ceremony, music by five bands, and food and beverages provided by vendors.

Vice Mayor Pletcher moved to approve Item 5(b), to authorize the approval of the event request that includes various components such as funding, City staff and resources, and street closures for the Bayway Bridge Dedication event scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2015. Closures would be 15th Avenue and 16th Avenue from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Pinellas Bayway Road and East Maritana Drive at Barcelona Drive to cross the parade participants from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

- c. Authorization for the City Manager to execute an agreement with the University of Florida in the amount of \$5,000 to assist in preparation of the Beach Ordinance.

City Attorney Dickman recommended utilizing the expertise of the University's professionals, who have experience working with other municipalities, in regard to beach access issues.

Commissioner Finnerty moved to approve Item 5(c), to authorize the City Manager to execute the Research Service Agreement with the University of Florida to retain the clinic to assist in the preparation of the beach ordinance in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Falkenstein seconded the motion.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, spoke in support of using the University's resources and materials and suggested asking for direction from surrounding beach communities.

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

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

6. Ordinance

- a. Ordinance 2015-01, Final Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach providing a supplemental appropriation and revenue for fiscal year 2015 to the General, Wastewater, Reclaimed Water, Stormwater and Capital Project Funds and providing for funding.

City Manager Saunders reported that the routine budget adjustments include carry-over from the prior budget year and any changes to previously approved items.

The City Commission and City Manager briefly discussed holding a workshop to discuss a five year concept/strategy meeting on projects, budgets, etc.

Commissioner Premier moved to approve Item 6(a), Ordinance 2015-01, an ordinance of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida providing for a supplemental appropriation to the General, Wastewater, Reclaimed, Stormwater and Capital Project Funds for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2015; providing for funding; providing for an effective date. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finnerty.

Mayor Lowe called for audience comments.

Hearing no audience comments, Mayor Lowe called for the vote.

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

7. Resolutions

There were no resolutions presented for this agenda.

8. Items for Discussion

Commissioner Premier requested to schedule on a future agenda a discussion in regard to publicly-owned community broadband system.

Mayor Lowe recommended looking at different graphics for the City logo.

Vice Mayor Pletcher requested a review on encroachments and performance-based codes.

Commissioner Falkenstein requested to review the City's impact fees, and City Manager Saunders responded that staff is currently moving forward with a review of impact fees.

9. Audience Comments

Joanne Lentino, Boca Ciega Drive, commented on having a business plan.

Bill Paalberg, 70th Avenue, commented positively about the St. Pete Road Runners Program.

10. City Clerk, City Manager, City Attorney and City Commission Reports

City Manager reported on the following:

- Currently recruiting for a Human Resources Administrator and requested authorization to hire a recruiting firm to assist with hiring a Fire Chief
- The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office will sponsor a meeting in regard to the new re-entry pass program on February 16th

Commissioner Falkenstein reported on the following:

- Subscribe to the City's newsletter at spbinfo@stpetebeach.org
- Current events at the Library
- The Municipal Election is scheduled for March 10th for District 2

Commissioner Premier reported on the following:

- The Compass Grille will host the Suncoast League of Cities conference/lunch on Friday, February 20th
- Gulf Beaches Elementary School will host a Valentine's Day Dance on Friday, February 13th
- Bayway landscape status and completion date
- The Wyndham Grand Resort broke ground in Clearwater Beach on a 480-room resort hotel on three acres of land

Commissioner Finnerty reported on the following:

- Gulf Beaches Elementary School honored Crossing Guard Tempe Eldridge for her service to the school children
- Volunteers packed 30 boxes for Support Our Troops
- Expressed appreciation to Mr. Millard Gamble for his donation
- Sunset Park event and bell ringing on February 14th
- Treasure Island public access channel runs City meetings on a 24-hour cycle
- Met with a representative from Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority regarding ridership, shelters and benches
- Working with an FDOT representative in regard to signage for Gulf Beaches Elementary School area; will meet with City Manager, the superintendent, the principal, a board member and an FDOT representative to discuss further

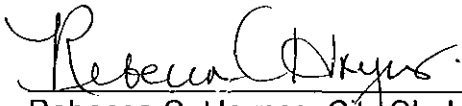
Mayor Lowe reported on the following:

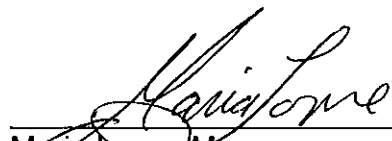
- Expressed appreciation to Commissioners Finnerty and Falkenstein in regard to the "Public Stuff" test application
- She attended the opening of the travelling Viet Nam War Memorial Wall at the Florida State Fair
- Requested permission to attend legislative sessions in Tallahassee to meet with representatives and committee members in regard to appropriations for the City of St. Pete Beach
- Extended an invitation to hoteliers to adopt a park
- Explored shopping opportunities at local businesses
- She is celebrating her 4th Wedding Anniversary on February 14th

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Attest:


Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk


Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 4-14-2015