

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING
STATE OF THE CITY**

MINUTES

MAY 1, 2015

5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk

1. State of the City Report

a. District Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Finnerty reported on the following for District 1:

- McKenney Park pavilion roof replacement and playground resurfacing
- Lift Station 12 renovation
- Master Pump Station 1 replacement
- Median palm tree replacement and up-lighting on Blind Pass Road
- School zone safety enhancements
- Sunset Park festivals and bell ringing ritual
- Blind Pass Road Reconstruction Project
- Egan Park Phase I improvements
- West Corey Avenue resurfacing
- Gulf Beaches Elementary School future community event and internet project
- Sunday Market vendor recruitment

Commissioner Falkenstein reported on the following for District 2:

- Stormwater drain pipe cleaning
- Pump Station 2 on 55th Avenue
- Blind Pass Road Reconstruction Project
- Gulf Winds Drive sidewalks
- Comprehensive Plan
- Turtle nesting
- Beach renourishment
- Trash receptacles and pick-up schedule
- Seabird sanctuary
- Support of Pass-A-Grille businesses during the reconstruction project

Commissioner Premier reported on the following for District 3:

- Impact from traffic during the Pass-A-Grille Way Reconstruction project
- Lazarillo Park renovation and future restroom installation
- Finalized construction of the Hotel Zamora which is the first new St. Pete Beach hotel in 20 years
- Record-breaking year for the hotels in this district
- Increased home values due to resolution of the Comprehensive Plan
- Parking restrictions on 45th Avenue and 46th Avenue
- Street resurfacing in the Belle Vista neighborhood
- Sunset views from Bongos Restaurant
- Successful Sports Fest on the beach in front of the Sirata Beach Resort
- Increased residential building and existing home sales in the Punta Vista neighborhood
- Potential relocation of Fourth of July fireworks in front of the County Park

Commissioner Pletcher reported on the following for District 4:

- Preservation of Historic District and zoning difficulties
- Pass-A-Grille Way Reconstruction Project
- Federal Emergency Management Agency and flood insurance rates
- Suntan Arts Center
- 8th Avenue shopping district
- Support of Pass-A-Grille businesses during the reconstruction project

Mayor Lowe reported on the following for all districts in the City:

- Vision of safe and healthy home for residents and to be the quintessential destination for visitors
- The “Three P’s” – Progress, Patience, Pathway
- Participation by residents

- Lazarillo Park upgrades and potential installation of restrooms
- Community docks and boat ramps
- State imposed nitrogen in the sewer system
- New staff members, new direction and new procedures
- City Hall and Library potential relocation
- Budget and policy set by the Commission
- Construction Improvement Projects
- Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and related enforcement
- Alcoholic beverage consumption on the beach

2. Audience Comments

Bill Pyle, Sunset Way, spoke in support of the City's progress and 'smoothing' of beach berms for turtle access.

Andi Gorton, Pass-A-Grille, requested information on the City's plan to route bicycle traffic during the reconstruction project.

John DiPietro, Pass-A-Grille, spoke about bicycle safety for riders and vehicle traffic.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Attest:


Rebecca C. Haynes, City Clerk


Maria Lowe, Mayor

Minutes approved on: 7-14-2015