

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY  
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT  
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, March 6, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M.**

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Ashbrook, and Buzzett. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, and Attorney Clinton McCahill were also present. Commissioner Langston joined the meeting at 6:08 P.M., and Commissioner Lowry was absent.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting on February 20, 2018, Workshop Meeting of February 27, 2018, and the Emergency Meeting of March 2, 2018. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

**PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PSJRA)** In the absence of Bill Kennedy, PSJRA Chairman Rex Buzzett shared that the North Port St. Joe PAC presented their Redevelopment Plan. The PSJRA recommended passing the plan on to the City Commission for their review and noted that packets of the proposal will be available at City Hall. He also mentioned the need for funding for the repaving of Reid Avenue.

**CITY ATTORNEY** – Attorney McCahill did not have anything to update the Commission on.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson**

**Old Business**

*Palm Blvd. Bridge* – Consensus was that a Workshop is needed; Mr. Grantland is to provide figures for a foot bridge compared to a gold cart crossing, and this should be discussed for next year's budget.

*Commissioner Langston joined the meeting.*

*SCOP Grant Application* – A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to submit an application for First Street from Highway 98 to Highway 71. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

**New Business**

*4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks* – Mr. Anderson noted that there has been an increase of \$450 in the cost to have the same size show that was enjoyed last year. The City will request use of the old mill site from the St. Joe Company. A request for increased funding will be made to the TDC to help with the expense of this year's show. A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to proceed with the \$15,450 cost for the fireworks. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

*United States Lighthouse Society Preservation Grant Program (USLSPGP), St. Joseph Historical Society, Inc. (SJHSI) – Linda G. Wood:*

Mrs. Wood shared that the Cape San Blas Lighthouse had been visited by two officers of the US Lighthouse Society recently and they encouraged the SJHSI to apply for a Preservation Grant they offer. The application must be submitted by a 501 (c) 3 organization and have the approval of the owner of the structure. Letters of Intent must be submitted by May 6, 2018, and if the request is accepted, a letter will be received by June 4, 2018, from the USLSPGP requesting a full application be submitted by July 9, 2018. Winning applicants will be notified by August 7, 2018. A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to provide a letter to the SJHSI authorizing them to submit the Letter of Intent. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

*Fire Truck Purchase* – Fire Chief John Ford requested the City purchase a new fire truck. A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, that the City go out for bid for a new truck. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. Approximately \$154,000 has been escrowed to help with the purchase. Additional funding will need to be considered, and plans are to sell Fire Engine #2 and the Rescue Truck.

*Emerald Dance Academy – Request to Replace AC Unit, Barbara Walker:*

After discussion, consensus was that the Lease with Ms. Walker needed to be followed. Her cost to rent the building is very nominal, and this becomes a Public – Private entity issue. The City could finance the repairs for her by increasing her rent to cover the cost of the AC Unit. Mr. Anderson is to discuss this with Ms. Walker.

#### **Public Works – John Grantland**

*Water Line Replacement Project Update:* Customers have been tied in, materials have been received for the loop on Highway 71 and Avenue A; patching on MLK will begin shortly, and sidewalk repairs will begin tomorrow.

*St. Joe Beach Lift Station Submersible Pump –* A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to go out for bid for the pump. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Grantland anticipates the cost to be between \$20,000 and \$30,000.

**Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma** noted the new filters are in and performing well.

**Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis** was absent due to illness and Mr. Anderson shared the plant is not spraying this month but they are working on rehabbing the plant.

**Finance Director – Mike Lacour** shared he is moving along on Jones Homestead and that by signing up now, customers will pay \$500, receive a free grinder pump, impact fees will be waived, and they will be responsible for a small charge from their plumber for his work. For individuals that do not sign up now, when their septic system fails, the costs to come on line with the City will be in excess of \$6,000.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Langston, to request proposals for the Jones Homestead Sewer Project Bores and also one for the Jones Homestead Sewer Project Materials. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

#### **City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III**

Project Updates -

*Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp Improvements –* All concrete has been poured, the sand build up will be removed from the basin before the final payment is made, and cones from the site will be removed tomorrow.

Mr. Smallwood also noted on the CDBG Project that patches will be made to MLK Wednesday and Thursday, and all customers have been tied in to the new lines.

*Jones Homestead Sewer –* was discussed earlier under the Finance Director's report.

**Code Enforcement** no action was required.

**Police Department – Chief Matt Herring** shared that complaints have been received concerning the Speed Limit on Monument Avenue in the area of the Methodist Church. There are approximately 150 children there during the week and it cannot be deemed a School Zone. A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to reduce the speed limit in that area from 30 MPH to 15 MPH from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Streets. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Herring reminded the Commission of the Family Fun Day on Saturday, March 10, 2018, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M., at Frank Pate Park. There will be free food, 20 bicycles will be given away, a petting zoo and pony rides will be offered at no cost.

Commissioner Langston feels there is a traffic issue at Highway 71 and Avenue A and asked for a police presence there.

**City Clerk - Charlotte Pierce** did not have anything to update the Commission on.

#### **Citizens to be Heard –**

*Letha Mathews* shared the water line project was finally completed but paving and sidewalks were still an issue. It was noted that this was addressed earlier by Mr. Grantland and Mr. Smallwood.

Clare Morris, Robert Branch, Tommy Lander, and Jill Bebee each addressed the issue of the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Ball Complex and the effect it would have on their property. There is a meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. in the EOC Building and those present were encouraged to attend that meeting and make their concerns known.

Mayor Patterson noted that the Commission had approved the Conceptual Plan and encouraged those present to attend the meeting on March 20, 2018.

Commissioner Buzzett shared he was on the Field of Dreams Committee and that his recommendations had fallen on deaf ears. He hopes this will slow the train down a little, felt residents should be involved in the decision making of the plans, and encouraged everyone to attend the meeting on March 20, 2018.

#### Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Buzzett would like to see the City include funds in the upcoming budget for the paving of Reid Avenue. He asked that the funds provided from the sale of the street end of 7<sup>th</sup> Street be used for their designated purpose of lights on the bay walking path, and ask for an additional Workshop on Accessory Building to be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at 5 P.M.


Commissioner Ashbrook feels the ball park is a long way from a shovel in the ground, there is not enough infrastructure in town for tournament activities, and that work out sites along the walking path would be a great addition to the trails. He also encouraged those present to attend the meeting on March 20, 2018.

Commissioner Langston shared his concerns with the grocery program handout at the WIG Building and encouraged the Commissioners to take a look at it. He thanked the citizens for being there and sharing their concerns about the ball park.

Mayor Patterson noted the ball park planning is in the early stages, there are a lot of options to look at, that the committee could possibly look at moving the site closer to Highway 71 and advised the citizens to attend the meeting on March 20, 2018.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Langston, to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 P.M.

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

  
James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

3/20/18  
Date

  
Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

3/20/18  
Date