

**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 20, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M.**

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Buzzett, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, and Attorney Clinton McCahill were also present. Commissioner Ashbrook was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of March 6, 2018. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PSJRA)

Parking on Reid Avenue – Bill Kennedy shared the PSJRA is working on improvements for downtown. He suggested a Parking Ordinance should be created and modeled after the one High Springs, FL uses.

Mayor Patterson noted that employees should not park on Reid Avenue and employers have been asked to have their employee's park elsewhere. This request has not made a difference. Additional off street parking is provided for employees which would free up parking for guests.

Philip and Renee Carroll reiterated their problems with employees parking in front of their store and asked for help with this issue.

Amy Rogers also made a suggestion of an off-street parking location.

Consensus was parking meters are not the solution due to the cost and enforcement issues. Unless people will use the off street parking, there is no need to purchase additional parking space.

Attorney McCahill will review the High Springs Ordinance, meet with the Gulf County Clerk of Court, and Judge Tim McFarland to discuss the finer points of establishing the Ordinance, the collection of fines, and imposing consequences.

CITY ATTORNEY –

Kerrigan Lease Agreement – Attorney McCahill requested the Commissioners review the lease and be prepared to vote on it at the next meeting. The lot is on Reid Avenue, this would be a 30 year lease for \$1 per year and be used to provide public restrooms. This would be a PSJRA Project.

Logging Request – Access to Water Canal Road: A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Lowry, to deny the request due to the safety of the water supply to the City of Port St. Joe. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

10th Street Park – Commissioner Buzzett: The 10th Street Park Workshop meeting scheduled for earlier today was cancelled and rescheduled as a Joint City – County Workshop on April 11, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. Commissioner Buzzett asked that the City Commission be unified in their decision on this issue prior to the Workshop.

The following residents spoke on this issue:

Beverly Beard Maddox and Jill Bebee gave a presentation entitled "It's Not Empty Land" which shared their concerns of development of the park complex.

Pallas Gandy noted the impact parking would have on the area and suggested the Field of Dreams area would be more suitable for this type project.

Clare Morris shared that 24 homes back up to this area and expansion should not be made in a residential section.

Carol Weber suggested that the area be turned into a dog friendly park.

Fred Morris suggested that the fields be left intact for children to play on and questioned if the City had an evacuation shelter. It was noted that the City does not have a shelter and one is not feasible due to the land elevation and closeness to water.

Mayor Patterson stated that nothing was set in stone and everything is in the planning stages. He shared a text message he received a resident who likes the ball parks in the area and enjoys seeing children play there. Mayor Patterson apologized that better notice of the meetings were not given on water bills.

MLK Landscaping – Commissioner Langston: A request was made by Commissioner Langston for approximately \$5,000 in BP Funds to be used for landscaping improvements to MLK. After discussion, Commissioner Langston will get a concrete proposal on cost, meet with County Commissioner Quinn on what he will be able to provide, coordinate with John Grantland on the improvements to be made, and bring it back to the Commission.

New Business

CCR Report – Mr. Anderson shared that the City had passed all phases of the CCR Report, and copies of the report are available at City Hall.

Special Event Permit Request – Junior Service League Paint Party on 3rd Street between Reid and Williams Avenues on April 5, 2018, from 3 P.M. – 8:P.M.:

Consensus was given to move forward with this project.

Jones Homestead Sewer – Rate Structure for Customers on Wells: A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Lowry, to use the ERC Equivalency of 300 gallons per day for customers on wells. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. This will be the base rate plus usage and will effect approximately 3-4 customers.

Planning Board Membership – Mayor Patterson: After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Lowry, to add Letha Mathews and David Alvarez to the PDRB. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Golf Carts – Mayor Patterson: Golf carts continue to be an issue and Mayor Patterson feels a Workshop is needed, more frequent inspections should to be done, and he offered to volunteer his time to inspect them. Under aged drivers are increasing as well as a continued disregard for roads to be driven on. Officer David Graham noted that rules are given out with the Golf Cart Permits. Jill Bebee stated that she feels public education is needed.

Resolution 2018-03 Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Policy: A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to adopt the policy. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works – John Grantland did not have anything to discuss.

Commissioner Buzzett complimented Mr. Grantland and the Public Works Department on the fencing around the train at the Centennial Building. A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Lowry, to go out for bid to paint the train and provide a historical plaque telling about the train. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma did not have any updates for the Commission.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis did not have anything to update the Commission on.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour shared that 21 of the 55 interested persons for Jones Homestead Sewer had paid their fee.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Project Updates -

Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp Improvements – Mr. Smallwood has not signed off on the pay request yet as he has not completed the final inspection.

Resolution 2018-02, Long Avenue SRF Facilities Plan – Public Hearing and Request to submit to SRF:

Mr. Smallwood presented the Facilities Plan discussing each of the 3 alternatives. The recommendation of the plan is to proceed with alternative #3 which includes replacing the gravity sewer and force mains under Long Avenue between 1st Street and 19th Street. This alternative also includes replacing the 1st Street Master Lift Station. The total estimated cost of alternative #3 is \$2,789,633.26. The schedule is to submit the Facilities Plan to SRF for their review and hopefully obtain approval in May so design can begin, submit design documents and permits to SRF in December 2018, obtain SRF approval for the construction money in February 2019, and have construction finished by December 2019. After discussion by the Commission, Mayor Patterson called for a Public Hearing on this issue. No one from the public spoke. A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Lowry, to adopt Resolution 2018-02, and submit the Facilities Plan and Request for Inclusion to SRF. All in favor, Motion carried 4-0.

Code Enforcement no action was required.

Police Department – Officer David Graham shared the Family Fun Day was a big success. He thanked the local sponsors and the Public Works Department for their help.

City Clerk - Charlotte Pierce

Election Notice – Clerk Pierce reminded the Commissioners of the upcoming election, pertinent dates and times. She noted that, as of today, 4 people have expressed an interest in running for a city office with the Gulf County Supervisor of Elections.

Mrs. Pierce shared that the funding for the state Historical Preservation Grants had been released and slightly over \$2,000,000 was awarded which did not cover the Centennial Building Grant. This amount covers the first five grants and a portion of the sixth.

Clerk Pierce shared information on a free Ethics Training opportunity by the Northwest FL League of Cities and asked that any Commissioner wanting to attend let her know.

Citizens to be Heard –

Pallas Gandy asked where funds received from Golf Cart Inspections are deposited. Mr. Anderson responded that they are deposited in the General Fund Account and offered to provide a Financial Statement for her review.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Langston thanked his neighbors for attending the meeting to support the MLK Project.


Commissioner Lowry did not have anything else to discuss with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Buzzett requested the funds remain in the budget for the match to the Centennial Building Grant and reapply for the grant in the coming cycle. He also asked that the needed Resolution be prepared for the April 3, 2018, meeting.

Mayor Patterson thanked those present for attending the meeting. He asked Commissioner Buzzett if he was seeking reelection. Commissioner Buzzett said he would decide by the end of the qualifying period.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 P.M.

Approved this 3rd day of April 2018.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

4/3/18
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

4/3/18
Date