

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, May 7, 2019, at Noon.**

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Ashbrook, Hoffman, and Langston. City Manager Jim Anderson and City Clerk Charlotte Pierce were also present. City Attorney Adam Albritton was absent. Attorney Corina Streekmann filled in for Mr. Albritton. Commissioner Lowry was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 16, 2019, and the Workshop of April 22, 2019. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Building Department Update – Kelly Simpson updated the Commission on the number of permits that have been issued by the Building Department since Hurricane Michael: Demolition Permits 53; Residential Reroof 303; Commercial Reroof 49; Residential Remodel 210; Commercial Remodel 17; Temporary Power Poles 38; Electric Service Repair 92; Accessory Structures 17; New Single Family Structures 6; Temporary Structure Permits 26, and Increased Cost of Compliance Letters 21.

The Commission advised the Building Department that only an update sheet is needed for future Agendas.

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency Update – Commissioner Ashbrook stated the Port Theatre would not be getting a grant from the state this year and that will free up \$50,000 of their budget.

City Attorney – Corina Streekmann

Ordinance 554 CIP Plan, 2nd Reading and Consideration of Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to have the Second Reading of Ordinance 554. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney Streekmann read Ordinance 554 by Title only.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to adopt Ordinance 554. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Boat Dockage Agreement Update –

A draft copy of the Agreement was received on May 3, 2019, that would be in effect until December 31, 2019.

Commissioner Hoffman stated that he was offended by the lease, the City owns the bulkhead, Clifford Sims Park, and the City should not have to ask for permission for things we own.

Attorney Streekmann noted that more time was needed to review and work on the Agreement.

After discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to Table this for 2 weeks before moving forward.

Attorney Streekmann shared that an Injunction could be issued if anything was done to bring the boats into the docking area before an agreement was signed. The Injunction would stop all work, would most likely eliminate the use of the docking area for this fishing season, legal fees would mount up, and the City needed to allow time for a counter offer.

Cindy Little, owner of Fishing Express, shared their concerns about being able to let clients know they would be opening for business and asked the Commission to do what they could to expedite getting the docking open for the charter boats. They have been waiting since February for relief, their boat is currently at Scipio Creek in Apalachicola.

Mayor Patterson stated he supports moving the boats in.

Commissioner Langston shared that he wanted to get the boats in as quickly as we can to support the fishermen.

Mel Magidson noted that an Injunction may not be granted, both the City and St. Joe Resort Operations, LLC, would be stopped from doing anything, and it could be leverage for the City.

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to move forward with the boats as of today; Table the agreement until our attorneys have time to look over it, and if this does more forward into litigation, he will strongly support denying all permits to the St. Joe project down at the Marina by the St. Joe Resorts, LLC. Voting in favor of the Motion were Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Hoffman and Langston. Voting against the Motion was Commissioner Ashbrook because of the possibility of litigation. Motion carried 3-1.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

ESAD Sewer – Mayor Patterson Wholesale Sewer Rate Study Proposal

Mr. Anderson noted the City was scheduled for a review of the current rate structure next year, but Andy Burnhan could do a Wholesale Sewer Rate study this year.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to have a Wholesale Sewer Rate study done by STANTEC. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Storm Coordinator – Anya Conlin shared that SBP is willing to reduce the cost of the coordinator to \$16,100 for the City. She noted opportunities for the person to help residents and look for funds for projects.

Commissioner Hoffman reminded the Commissioners of the previous meeting where this was discussed, noted SBP had not signed up an additional municipality, and there are still City job positions that have not been filled due to funding. He stated he would not support this until what had been requested of SBP had been done.

Commissioner Langston noted he could not support this because of current City needs.

Mr. Anderson suggested that this be given to the citizen's advisory committee to see if this is a program that would fit into their mission.

Christy McElroy asked that the Commission hear from Cassie Studstill that is on the Gulf County Long Term Recovery Team.

Cassie Studstill shared this could be a good fit with their program.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook to hire a Storm Coordinator using BP Funds. Mayor Patterson passed the Chair to Mayor Pro tem Ashbrook to second the Motion. Voting in favor of hiring a Storm Coordinator were Mayor Patterson and Commissioner Ashbrook. Voting against the Motion were Commissioners Hoffman and Langston. The Motion failed, 2 to 2.

Hurricane Michael – Residential Roadside Pick-up Deadline May 1, 2019:

Mr. Anderson noted that the debris removal is moving along, BCC will begin picking up roadside debris when their contract starts, and the City will assist until the new contract begins.

Inter-local Agreement Triumph Funds –

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to enter into the Inter-local Agreement for the Triumph Funds. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Anderson noted that the funds will have to go into a segregated account, and if the Ad Tax loss is less than the amount received, the difference will have to be returned.

New Business

Sidewalks on Garrison Avenue – Mayor Patterson

After discussion, a letter will be sent to the residents of Garrison Avenue to see if they would like to have sidewalks or not.

Clay Smallwood shared that a Safe Route to School Grant may be available as an option to fund the sidewalks if they are wanted.

Workforce Lease Agreements

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to renew Workforce Lease Agreements for the Washington Gym Summer Program and the Incubator Building. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Patterson asked where the City was on the July 3, 2019, event and stated that the advertisements looked like strip tease events.

Commissioner Langston stated that he was not going to have this type event in a park because it should be family oriented, and the kids kept in mind. He will not support an open bar, the planner will need to provide her own off duty police and security. He wants this to come before the Commission so they will know what is going on.

Mr. Anderson noted that an application has not been received for the event. Cora Curtis called Mr. Anderson earlier to say that she and Tommy would be assisting with the application and the event. He also pointed out that a permit was needed for the event, it must be a safe event, and if there was going to be alcohol served, they would need to obtain insurance listing the City of Port St. Joe as additional insured.

Surplus and Sale of Fire Truck to County –

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to declare the 1993 International Fire Truck, VIN # 1HTSDPCR4PH501925 surplus and to sell to Gulf County for \$20,000. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works – John Grantland

Electricians are working on three of the electrical panels for the lift stations. Mr. Grantland anticipates three more will be completed this week and three next week.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

Allen Bradley System Upgrade

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to approve EESCO as the sole source for this purchase in the amount of \$41,444.13. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Surplus and Request to Accept Sealed Bid – Highland View Booster Station

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to Surplus the Highland View Booster Station and receive Sealed Bids for the equipment. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. The system came off line in 2014 and is no longer needed.

Roof – Request to Bid

Due to the serious cracks in the roof, a Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to request bids for the roof at the Surface Water Treatment Plant. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. There is a possibility that insurance will cover this.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis was running the plant and unable to be at the meeting.

Headworks Pumps – Request to Purchase on State Contract

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to purchase the pumps on State Contract in the amount of \$35,397 and \$68,248. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour

Mr. Lacour continues to work with FEMA and the insurance company on hurricane issues. There are several more open issues and he noted the finances look good.

Commissioner Langston asked about setting up an account where purchases can be made by those working with the Port St. Joe Garden Project and having supplies charged to the City. Mr. Lacour will take care of this.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Frank Pate Park Task Order Update – The bidding process is about two weeks out.

Trail Lighting / Upgrades Grant Update – There was nothing to update on this project.

Baltzell Avenue Paving Update – There was a contractors' meeting today on this.

Mr. Smallwood noted that striping has been completed on Williams Avenue.

Code Enforcement no action was required.

Police Department – Chief Matt Herring

Chief Herring did not have any Agenda items to discuss.

He made a suggestion that something be done with the air conditioning in the building as it is not sufficient. Mr. Anderson will contact the HVAC person for help with the system.

City Clerk - Charlotte Pierce

City Election

Clerk Pierce shared that a Code Red Call had been made to remind citizens of the Early Voting opportunity for the upcoming City Election. She also noted that Tim Croft has been covering the Early Voting and upcoming Election in the Star, and reminded the Commission that the Election will be held at the Supervisor of Elections Office.

Citizens to be Heard –

Janis Tankersley asked who the additional named entities should be on their boat insurance.

Attorney Streekmann stated that she should cover the City and St. Joe Resorts.

Robert Branch again asked about the time for City meetings.

He also asked Mayor Patterson who sponsored a Fish Fry for him at Frank Pate Park. Mayor Patterson referred him to his website for this information. Mr. Branch asked if it was provided by Frank Seifert to which the Mayor did not respond.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Hoffman shared that he supports a social media page for the City that will be for announcements only and does not allow for comments. He noted he had contacted an individual, anticipated a \$2,400 setup cost, and a \$100 per month stipend for the person to handle the page. He volunteered to be the page administrator.

Mayor Patterson noted this was not an item on the Agenda and that it would need to be Tabled.

Chief Herring shared that the Port St. Joe Police Department has a Face Book Page, it is a necessary evil, and there are recent guidelines that the City has been made aware of.

Commissioner Ashbrook noted there are a number of broken poles for the PSJRA Banners that need to be repaired.

He asked about repairs for the parking lot on Williams Avenue owned by the Rich Family. It was noted that this was privately owned and the owner should be contacted.

Commissioner Langston asked if the fees for the Juneteenth Celebration could be waived. He also asked if the softball park at Peters Park could be fixed up.

Robert Branch thanked Commissioner Hoffman and John Grantland for unplugging a ditch.

Mayor Patterson did not have anything to discuss with the Commission.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 P.M.

Approved this 21st day of May 2019.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

5/21/19
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

5/21/19
Date