

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY  
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE  
COMMISSION CHAMBER AT CITY HALL, April 21, 2015, AT 6:00 P.M.  
The Meeting was held in the Port St. Joe Fire Department Meeting Room due  
to a request for accessibility from a citizen.**

The following were present: Mayor Magidson, Commissioners Buzzett, McCroan, Patterson and Thursbay. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce and Attorney Tom Gibson were also present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes**

A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to approve the Minutes of the April 7, 2015, Meeting. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

**Port St. Joe Redevelopment Association (PSJRA)**

No one was present from the PSJRA. Draft Minutes of the April 14, 2015, meeting were provided.

**CITY ATTORNEY – Tom Gibson**

*Port Authority Update* – The Port Authority continues to work with the Legislature on funding.

*Sailboat at Core Park* – A grant application has been submitted to the Florida Wildlife Commission for funding assistance to remove the sailboat.

*Ordinance 515 St. Joe Gas Company – Public Hearing and First Reading*

Attorney Gibson recused himself as the City's Attorney for discussion as he is related to the Costin and Shoaf Families that own St. Joe Gas Company.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Patterson, to have the First Reading of Ordinance 515 and to advertise the Ordinance in the paper. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Gibson read Ordinance 515 by Title only.

Bill Reid and Nathan Peters, Jr., each asked for clarification of Ordinance 515 and opposed a Franchise Fee that would be passed on to the citizens.

Jason Shoaf of St. Joe Gas Company stated the gas company was not asking for an exclusive contract as Duke Energy currently has for power.

*State of Florida v/s State of Georgia*

Attorney Gibson shared that the State of Florida has sued the state of Georgia concerning the Apalachicola River water and that the City has to provide numerous records relevant to our water system at our expense.

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

**Old Business**

*Gulf Pines Hospital Site* – Fill dirt continues to be hauled in, removal of the driveway continues and a survey needs to be done by Preble Rish.

Attorney Gibson shared that once the elevation is determined, there needs to be a Workshop concerning the Deed Restrictions.

*Centennial Building Roof* – There continues to be a leak behind the stage. A Workshop, on site, has been scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2015, at 6:00 P.M. The roofer, fire department and staff will meet to review the issues and come up with a plan to resolve the leaks.

*Road Bond Money* – The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will have a Special Meeting at Noon on April 22, 2015, to discuss this. They will meet with the different cities after they determine their action plan.

Commissioner Patterson noted that there is not enough Road Bond Money to complete Long Avenue and that he has spoken with Gulf County Commissioners Sandy Quinn and Warren Yeager and each of them has committed a portion of their district's funds to complete the Long Avenue improvements.

*Boat Dock Improvement Project* – The contractor has money in hand for the materials to proceed with the project and anticipates that it will be completed before Memorial Day.

Dr. Dusty May did not make his presentation at the previous meeting and could not attend tonight's meeting but has talked with local individuals and is asking that the City provide funding for signage and brochures to be placed at entry points of St. Joseph Bay to make boaters aware of the need to protect the bay sea grass.

### **New Business**

*Computer Backup Server* – A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Patterson, to proceed with the lease agreement for offsite backup file management system. Cost will be \$2,000 per year for a three year lease to purchase agreement. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

*WastePro Amnesty Days* – Mr. Anderson, County Staff and WastePro are working to provide these days for citizens.

Commissioner Buzzett requested that this item remain on the Agenda.

*Fee Waiver Request: Prom and North Florida Child Development*

A Motion was made by Commissioner Patterson, second by Commissioner McCroan, to grant the Fee Waiver Request from both entities. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

### **Public Works – John Grantland**

*Likely Building Roof Quotes* – A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Patterson, to accept the quote of \$4,900 from Barfield Roofing to replace the roof and use BP Funds to cover the cost. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

### **Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma**

Mr. McClamma did not have anything to report.

### **Wastewater Plant – Lynn Todd**

Ms. Todd anticipates delivery of the 4" Thompson Pump in 5 – 7 weeks. Kevin Pettis passed the state Class B Water License exam and the plant is spraying 8 hours per day to keep the lagoon level down.

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

Mr. Smallwood did not have anything to report.

Mr. Anderson noted that the Department of Economic Opportunity has approved the \$40,000 grant for the engineering of water and sewer in the downtown area. A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to accept the Task Order from Preble Rish in the amount of \$40,000. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

### **Code Enforcement**

Mr. Burkett's report was reviewed, no action was taken.

### **Police Department – Chief Herring**

Chief Herring did not have anything to report.



## City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce

Clerk Pierce shared, on behalf of Bruce Ballister of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, that three of the six members of the Citizens Advisory Task Force Committee do not meet the income based criteria to serve on the CATF and will need to be replaced. A copy of the criteria will be placed in the City Hall Mail Box of each Commissioner for their review before making any nominations to the Committee.

## Citizens to be Heard

Ann White thanked the Commission for their encouragement and well wishes during her recent accident and recovery.

Mrs. White also inquired about the correct way to deal with a barking dog that is a disturbance during the night. Mr. Anderson shared that it should be reported to the City and asked Mrs. White to get with him as he would provide the needed information.

## Discussion Items by Commissioners

*Commissioner Thursbay* expressed his appreciation to the many citizens that had called him concerning the St. Joe Gas Company Franchise Fee. For the record, he stated that he was not for any increases to the citizens; if anyone had been told that he supported an increase, it was not true; he had not lied to anyone, certainly not Jason Shoaf; and to please give him a call anytime about issues.

*Commissioner Patterson* shared that many citizens do not understand that voting in the City Election is not by group and asked what could be done to remove the group designation.


Mr. Gibson noted that the City Charter would have to be amended to remove the designation.

Neither *Commissioner McCroan* nor *Commissioner Buzzett* had anything to discuss.

*Mayor Magidson* referred to an earlier statement concerning 3-2 votes and noted that he had never supported raising taxes; the budget has been held down each year he has been on the Commission; the millage rate has not gone up and he is 100% opposed to increasing a Franchise Fee. He also noted that he did vote to support the Ordinance on Water Rates to keep the City out of bankruptcy and prevent the bank from calling the loan on the water plant as these steps were necessary due to the closing of Arizona Chemical Company which left a tremendous deficit in the City's finances. His vote to increase the water rates was made after a professional rate study was done by Burton and Associates. The bank requires a revenue stream and loan rates are contingent upon that.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner McCroan, to adjourn the Meeting at 6:45 P.M.

Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2015.

  
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Mel C. Magidson, Jr., Mayor

  
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Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

5/6/15  
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Date

5/6/15  
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Date