

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT 2775 GARRISON AVENUE, August 1, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Buzzett, Lowry, and Thursbay. 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 Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of July 18, 2017, and the Workshop Meeting also held on July 18, 2017. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PSJRA) – Commissioner Buzzett shared the Gateway Arch that will be located on Fourth Street and Highway 98 should be up in about 3 weeks. Work continues on the Eglin Keepers Quarters, and they are fine tuning several other issues.

CITY ATTORNEY

Attorney McCahill thanked the Commission for the opportunity to attend the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association Annual Seminar. He felt it was very beneficial for him and will be very helpful with upcoming issues.

Easements – Wimico Timber: Mr. McCahill is waiting on a return call concerning the easements. Commissioners expressed their continued concerns for the protection of the City's water source and are committed to protecting it. Attorney McCahill has visited the sight and stated that he does not feel the canal is in imminent danger at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

Commerce Park Lot Utilities Update – The contract has been extended to August 14, 2017, and there is \$1,000 earnest money in the contract. We are still waiting on the Abandonment of Easement so the pipe can be removed.

10th Street Park – Mayor Patterson: The Mayor has not received a response to his inquiry as to whether there can be two City representatives on the committee. Commissioner Thursbay stated that he has spoken with County Attorney Jeremy Novak and he does not feel there is an issue.

Entryway Door Commission Chambers – A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Thursbay, to spend up to \$1,000 to replace the glass doors with a wooden door and complete the installation. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

2017 – 2018 Budget Update – The first Budget Workshop for Commissioners and Department Heads will be held Tuesday, August 8, 2017, at Noon in the Commission Conference Room at City Hall.

New Business

Outdoor Entertainment – Randy Carver: Mr. Carver is interested in putting a mini golf complex in across from the post office. Currently, Section 3.21 of the LDR prohibits such establishments in C-1 and C-2 Districts. City Staff and Attorney McCahill will research this and provide information for the August 14, 2017, Special Meeting.

Quen Lamb of the Gulf Coast Workforce Board stated he will be working with Mr. Carver to establish a Business Plan for this venture.

Outdoor Sales – Mark Bankord: Mr. Bankord requested that he be allowed to sell boats on the Duren Property between Second and Third Streets on Highway 98. A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, that he be given a 180 temporary license for this with the understanding that if anything is unsightly, or if there are any issues, the lease will be cancelled immediately and there will not be any extensions to the temporary license. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Bankord is looking for a permanent location to establish his business.

Healthcare Trust – Commissioner Buzzett: Currently, Commissioner Buzzett is the City's representative to the Healthcare Trust Board. The Trust oversees the spending of the ½ cent sales tax that was approved in 2005 to help with indigent care in the county and Sacred Heart Hospital. Commissioner Buzzett shared the responsibilities of the Trust and noted that the City will need to appoint a replacement for him when he completes this term. He provided information for the Commission to review and be aware of the responsibilities of the representative.

Commission Meeting Schedule for August – A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, to move the Regular Meeting of August 15, 2017, to a Special Meeting on Monday, August 14, 2017. Three Commissioners will be attending the annual FL League of Cities Conference and will not be available for the meeting on the 15th. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works – John Grantland noted the Port St. Joe High School Lift Station was put in the ground today and anticipates it will be operational by the opening of school.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma was absent due to the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Velma Pippin.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis shared there are equipment issues with the Headworks and he has reached out to Philip Jones who is working with him on this. The Grit King is down, Staff is spraying, the pond is looking good, and the sonic disrupters are about 70% effective, but are helping with the Algae.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour reported that the FRDAP Committee met. They are waiting on information from the County concerning the 10th Street Ball Fields, and they will provide a recommendation after hearing from the County. Commissioner Thursbay stated he would like for the meetings to be held after 5:00 P.M., rather than during work hours.

Commissioner Buzzett had reviewed the budget and noted some errors. Mr. Lacour noted they were keying errors and had been corrected. Commissioner Buzzett shared the City has always been transparent in their dealings, cited the need to continue this practice, and encouraged citizens to get a packet and attend the meetings.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Project Updates -

Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp Improvements – Work is continuing on the project and they should be wrapping up in the next 3 weeks.

Long Avenue – Bids for the waterline replacement are due on August 31, 2017, and Mr. Smallwood anticipates having project figures for the second meeting in September.

Jones Homestead Sewer – Dewberry / Preble-Rish continues to engineer the sewer lines for the project.

Code Enforcement –

General Update – Mr. Burkett's report was reviewed, no action was required. Commissioner Buzzett stated that he felt Mr. Burkett was on the ball and doing a good job.

Police Department – Chief Matt Herring shared the Cadet's Field Trip to the Gulf Coast State College, North Bay Campus in Southport, was a very good experience. They participated in "hands on" First Aid and other activities. The Chief thanked Matt Combs of the Star Newspaper for his coverage of the event and the nice article that was in the newspaper. Chief Herring reminded everyone of the Shark 100 Club event that will take place on Friday at Shark Field beginning at 10 A.M.

Commissioner Thursbay commended Officer Caleb Kesterson for the assistance he provided to a citizen and asked that Chief Herring convey his appreciation to Officer Kesterson.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce did not have anything to discuss.

Citizens to be Heard –

Chester Davis extended an invitation to the Commissioners to attend the joint meeting with the Big Bend CDC on Saturday at 11:30 A.M. at the Wellness Center. He asked that the Commissioners be available for the tour and to talk with the guests attending the meeting.

Letha Mathews shared that the resident at 111 Broad Street has requested a street light but has not received it. Mr. Anderson stated Staff has reviewed the request, there are street lights on either side of the address, and we need to review our options.

Ms. Mathews also asked about the section on sidewalk on Avenue D between the Church of God in Christ and MLK that has not been completed. Mr. Grantland noted it is on the work list but rain has caused everything to be behind.

A Port-a-Potty has been left on Avenue B and MLK and needs to be removed. Staff will try to find out who the owner is and have it removed.

Tim Hightower questioned a \$25 charge on his water bill. Mr. Anderson shared that Staff is researching this issue. A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, to remove the charge. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Thursbay requested that Code Enforcement write up Duke Energy for trash that has been left around town since their last tree cutting.

Commissioner Lowry did not have anything to discuss.

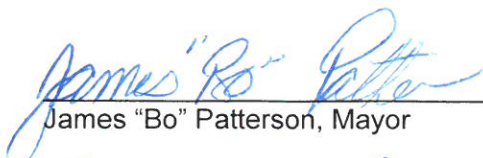
Commissioner Buzzett shared that Susie White Goodson and Mrs. Velma Pippin had both passed away and asked that their families be remembered during this time.

Mayor Patterson noted the unsightly debris that have been left on the old hospital site and asked that they be removed. He also noted that the grass has not been cut and asked that it be taken care of.

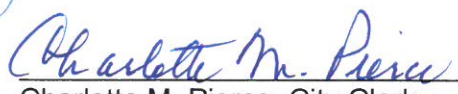
Mayor Patterson asked about the CDBG grant and Mr. Anderson shared the RFP will be in the paper. He questioned the condition of rental houses and who should inspect them. Mr. Anderson advised that the Building Inspector could review a property to see if it is uninhabitable. The mayor asked about the status of the City Pier and Mr. Grantland noted it is still under repair.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, to adjourn the Meeting at 7:25 P.M.

Approved this 14th day of August 2017.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

8/21/2017
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

8/15/2017
Date