

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, February 16, 2021, at Noon.**

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 2, 2021. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Buzzett recognized Gulf County Commission Chairman, Sandy Quinn. Chairman Quinn requested that Mayor Buzzett, City Manager Jim Anderson, Gulf County Administrator, and he meet once each month on projects. The meetings will be held the last Thursday of each month beginning in March from 3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

The City Engineers Report was moved forward in the meeting.

City Engineer – Josh Baxley

NRDA Stormwater Grant Update

The Master Map and Draft Report have been submitted to NFWFMD for review.

Walking Patch FDOT Grant Update

This project is under construction.

CDBG Grant Update

The Contractor is working on the CIPP lining.

First Street Lift Station and Long Avenue SRF Application Update

The City has received approval to complete bid documents and advertise for project.

NRCS Grant

This is out for bid.

City Attorney –

Attorney McCahill requested that the Ordinances be taken in a different order than they appeared in the Agenda. His request was granted.

Ordinance 583 Flood Plain Amendments; Second Reading and Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to have the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 583. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 583 by Title only.

Ordinance 581 Boat Ramp Parking Ordinance; Second Reading and Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioners Hoffman, to have the Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance 581. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 581 by Title only.

Ordinance 580 Commissioners Length of Terms; Second Reading and Adoption:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to have the Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance 580. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 580 by Title only.

Ordinance 587 City Election Date; First Reading and Request to Advertise:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to have the First Reading and Request to Advertise Ordinance 587. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 587 by Title only.

Ordinance 579 Election Qualifying Process; First Reading and Request to Advertise:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to have the First Reading and Request to Advertise Ordinance 579. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 579 by Title only.

Resolution 2021-01 SCOP Grant Application:

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to approve the SCOP Grant Application for Madison Street from Long Avenue to Garrison Avenue. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Resolution 2021-01 by Title only.

Old Business –

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update; Resolution 2020-02 – State of Emergency. Currently still in place.

Mr. Anderson noted the downward trend in the positivity rate for Gulf County. Mayor Buzzett reminded everyone to get their COVID Vaccine shot and shared that 51% of citizens 65 and over had received their vaccination.

The moratorium continues on the rental of City facilities and a decision will be made in March on renting the Centennial Building for the Port St. Joe High School Prom to be held on April 10.

New Business –

Long Avenue Grant / Loan Agreement

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to sign the Grant Agreement for an 80 – 20 Grant / Loan for the project. The Loan amount would be \$970,520 with no interest charged to the City.

Maddox Park Gazebo and Restroom – Request to Bid

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to bid the Gazebo and Restroom. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Hoffman reminded the Commission of their commitment to the Maddox Family and stressed that he wanted the family's approval of the Gazebo plan.

Current City Projects

The projects are listed on pages 59 and 60 of the Agenda for the Commissioner's review.

Public Works – John Grantland

Mr. Grantland shared that work on the Washington Gym Pavilion starts tomorrow and he has a call into Raven's Marine for an update on the pedestrian bridges.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

Mr. McClamma did not have anything new for the Commission.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis

Mr. Pettis noted that the plant is discharging 24 – 7. There has been another delay in receiving the parts he has ordered and he anticipates they will be here on the 25th. Free board in the lagoon is approximately a foot and one half.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour

Mr. Lacour did not have anything to update the Commission on today.

Code Enforcement –

Structure Cases

203 MLK Parcel #05741-000R, Tisha Bell

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to advertise for a Demolition RFP for this property and Parcel #05702-001R, Earnest Jones. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Parcel #05702-001R, Earnest Jones

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Ashbrook to advertise for a Demolition RFP for this property and Parcel #05741-000R, Tisha Bell. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

RFP 2020-26, 104 MLK Parcel #05700-000R, Ruby Farmer

Tan Smiley, a brother of Ms. Farmer, provided a handout asking for time to improve the property. After a lengthy discussion, noting what would be needed to bring the house up to code and be inhabitable, consensus of the Commission was to allow Mr. Smiley to present a plan at the April 6th Commission Meeting.

Chester Davis expressed his concerns that issues like this should not fall back on the City to resolve.

Police Department – Sgt. Uitts

Sgt. Uitts did not have any updates for the Commission.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce

Grants Update

Clerk Pierce shared that the Hurricane Michael NPS Subgrants Application Review by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, for funding had been completed. The Cape San Blas Lighthouse Project ranked 9th and the Centennial Building 12th. She noted the rankings will be reviewed by the Secretary of State and then the National Park Service before award decisions are made.

Citizens to be Heard –

Eddie Fields asked about projects around the Washington Gym Complex. It was noted that most of these projects have been completed or are a work in progress.

Discussion Items by Commissioners –

Commissioner Hoffman stated that he appreciated the offer from the County to work together.

Commissioner Langston noted that he felt the Commission and City Staff are doing a good job cleaning up the City and the Commission is making the right decisions. He thanked the Commission and City Staff for the work that is being done.

Commissioner Ashbrook asked for signage and striping at the First Street and Monument Avenue Intersection for turning lanes.

Mayor Buzzett reminded everyone of the Madi Gras Parade today.

Motion to Adjourn –

There was no other business to come before the Commission and Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 1:38 P.M.


Approved this 2nd day of March 2021.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

3/23/21

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

3/2/21

Date