

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, November 15, 2022, at Noon.**

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Buzzett extended condolences to Commissioner Hoffman in the death of his mother. He also thanked the Veterans for their service to our Country.

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 1, 2022. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

City Engineer – Josh Baxley

Long Avenue Water / Sewer / Paving –

The lateral lining is expected to be completed by November 23, 2022. L & K say they have completed the City Punch List items except for the brick pavers at the Elementary School. They expect to have the pavers completed this week.

The Notice Of Award and Agreement have been provided to the City for the Base Bid and all Alternates. Total awarded amount for paving is \$952,428.

Avenues C and D Paving –

The NOA and Agreement have been provided to the City for the Base Bid amount of \$449,499.70.

First Street Paving –

This project is under construction.

Beacon Hill Sewer Design –

The Lift Station is out for bid.

CEI Services for Paving Projects – Task Order

This was Tabled so that City Staff may talk with Dewberry to try to value engineer the project.

City Attorney –

ESAD Sewer Purchase Agreement

On November 8, 2022, Attorney McCahill provided the final offer to Mr. Seifert and his attorney.

Mr. Seifert asked, during the 20-day closing period, what the compensation would be to ESAD while the City was hooking up to the system.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the ESAD Purchase Agreement, and should it be necessary, the City would pay \$500 per day during the 20-day closing period while the City is in the process of hooking up to the system. The City has reviewed the financials and feels this is a good deal for the City. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0. Mr. McCahill will add a sentence to the agreement to pay the \$500 per day compensation.

Clifford Sims Park Agreement

After a discussion, this item was Tabled. A response has not been received from the FL Attorney General and there were concerns about citizens being allowed to fish from the City owned bulkhead.

Old Business

City Projects

Mr. Anderson shared that Haven Road Sewer has been finished, the Maddox Park Gazebo is near completion, and the shade cover for the Washington Site should be delivered this week. The covers for the exercise equipment at Dooder Parker Park and the Washington sites have been ordered. The new piece of equipment should be in this week for cleaning ponds.

Hurricane Ian – Mayor Buzzett

Mayor Buzzett announced that there will be a check presentation Thursday at 11 A.M., at City Hall for the funds raised to help the victims of Hurricane Ian. He shared that Gulf County, the Sheriff's Department, Cities of Mexico Beach and Port St. Joe provided seed money of \$15,000 and approximately \$30,000 will be given to Samaritan's Purse that has been raised for this project. He asked that citizens continue to remember those effected by the hurricane as they are still hurting.

New Business –

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Agency

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to add two more members, Chester Davis and Eddie Fields, to the PSJRA. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Employee Appreciation Luncheon

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to have the Employee Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, December 22, 2022, at noon, allow the employees to end their work day with the luncheon, and include the PSJRA members in the luncheon. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Reid Avenue Sidewalks

Mr. Anderson asked that the Commissioners look at the options for Reid Avenue and give their recommendations for repairs.

Chamber Workshop – Mayor Buzzett

Mayor Buzzett requested that a Workshop be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 5 P.M., with the businesses to discuss their suggestions on improvements for the downtown area.

Public Works –

ESAD Wastewater System Evaluation Task Order

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook to approve the Task Order with Anchor CEI in the amount of \$23,640. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

Mr. McClamma expects the delivery today of the new Aquatic Vegetation Rake that will be used to clean City ponds.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis

Mr. Pettis shared that there is 2' of freeboard in the lagoon, they are making more room in the lagoon and the plant is pushing water. A pump went out yesterday and he is getting quotes for repairs. The new lagoon treatment of Algae has started and will take about 3 months to see any changes. The Consent Order ends at the end of this month and the Dewberry Survey Team has not met with Duke Energy yet.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour

FEMA Update

Mr. Lacour has responded to a Request for Information from FEMA on this. He hopes that we are moving to the final peer review for this project.

Code Enforcement –

Mr. Anderson shared that Code Enforcement is working on the Commercial District and unrepaired buildings.

Police Department – Chief Richards

Chief Richards did not have anything to update the Commission on.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce

Grants Update

Clerk Pierce noted that City Staff continues to work with our grant writers on the availability of grants, and providing needed required reports.

Christmas Parade December 10, 2022, at 6 P.M.

Ms. Pierce reminded the Commissioners of the Christmas Parade and asked that they let her know after the meeting if they will be available for the parade.

Citizens to be Heard –

Cheryl Steindorf and Chester Davis asked about the possibility of Pioneer Bay using some of the land where the proposed new city hall would be located. Mayor Buzzett explained that the City is walking away from that land and would no longer have an interest in it.

Bertha Quinn shared her concerns about the ditch next to her house. Mr. Grantland responded that the City does not cover ditches nor determine the size of driveways, but Ms. Quinn can purchase pipe and cover the ditch. Ms. Quinn shared her opinion about a recent selection process for someone to represent the City. Mayor Buzzett explained that was a private business and the City had nothing to do with the process.

Lyn Willis stated that she attested to Mayor Buzzett's explanation on the selection process and that she would work to resolve the issue.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Hoffman requested that Attorney McCahill write a letter to the St. Joe Company concerning the contaminated land and the possibility of a land swap.

Mr. McCahill shared that he had spoken with a representative of the title insurance company and anticipates a response from them soon on this issue.

Commissioner Lowry questioned if the piece of property being considered for a land swap is contaminated. Mr. Anderson responded that it was not on the same list from FDEP that the Avenue A property is on.

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

Commissioner Langston commended those who sponsored the Veterans Service at Zion Fair Baptist Church on November 11, 2022, and stated that it was a good event.

Mayor Buzzett shared that senior citizens on a limited income will need help with the Septic to Sewer hookups and asked that accommodations be considered for them.

Motion to Adjourn –

There was no other business to come before the Commission and Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 1:20 P.M.

Approved this 6th day of December 2022.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

12/6/22

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

12/6/22

Date