



City of Gulfport Florida

City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019; in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 2401 - 53rd Street South, Gulfport, Florida.

Paul Ray, Vice Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilmember Christine Brown followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present were: Councilmember Daniel Liedtke, Michael Fridovich and Christine Brown; Vice Mayor Paul Ray; City Manager James O'Reilly; City Attorney Andrew Salzman and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth. Mayor Samuel Henderson asked to be excused.

Presentations

Wow! Cable Internet, Richard LaGanga, Construction Supervisor – Rescheduled

Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas Planning Manager, reviewed a PowerPoint on the 2045 Advantage Pinellas Plan.

Rachel Cataldo, Senior Center Supervisor, provided an overview and introduced Jason Wood, Hartsook Companies, Inc., who reviewed a PowerPoint and answered questions from council on their proposal to do a Senior Center Capital Project Funding Feasibility Study. There was a consensus of council to place the consideration of entering into a contract on the May 21, meeting.

David Alvarez, CPA, CVA, CGMA, Partner, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC, presented the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

1. Public Comment

Bev Newcomb, 921 Freemont Street S. and member of the Senior Center Foundation, was sure the city will have their full support in whatever means they can manage.

Richard Fried read a letter he wrote to the IRS which he submitted for the record, spoke on a solar component for all new city buildings or relocations to other buildings and requested a response from his verbal requests for last fiscal year electric bills.

The Chair of the Gulfport Library Circle of Friends and the Library LGBTQ Resource Center spoke on the library's latest award for excellence from the Institute of Museum and Library Services - National Medal of Museum and Library Services, the highest Federal Honor. Greg Stemm, member of the LGBTQ Resource Center Board, spoke on the activities planned for June, Pride Month, extending an invitation to councilmembers to participate in events on May 30, and a LGBTQ student Scholarship.

Sharon Dante, Italian American Society Board Member, spoke on their wish to have a new and better Senior Center built.

Kate Seidman, 2613 Beach Boulevard S., spoke on her appreciation for the Senior Center.

April Thanos, 5850 27th Avenue S., spoke on charging people from outside the community to use Senior Center, limiting the Centers use to Gulfport people, using space in other buildings, her concerns with spending money when there are infrastructure problems that need to be corrected and she questioned if a competitive bid was done for the study.

Joe Murphy, New Horizon Band, spoke on the need to expand the Senior Center.

Mark Bradwick, 800 61st Street S., spoke on the City of St. Petersburg's proposal to put high density apartment housing on the Grace Connection Church property and the impact to the neighborhood.

Karean Dorn, 2226 Beach Boulevard S., volunteer and Senior Advisory Committee Member, spoke on the need to expand the senior center and pointed out that other city buildings are currently being used for classes. Ms. Dorn thanked Rachel, Walter and staff for their efforts at the Center.

Bob Newcomb, 921 Freemont Street S. and Board Member of the Senior Center Foundation, felt we are solving a major problem and creating an element of why Gulfport is what it is and said he will fight to get the study and project done and will cooperate in what every way he can with the fundraisers the council will employ.

Eileen Navarro, 2308 58th Street S., on behalf of the Gulfport Community Players, announced an upcoming play at the Catherine Hickman Theater during Pride Month to benefit Metro Inclusive Health in St. Petersburg and commented that the Senior Center needed to be expanded; expressing concerns for parking and suggesting the city purchase the Bank of American building on 58th Street as a Senior Center Annex.

Lisa Priest, 61st Street at 9th Avenue S., spoke on the community's great concerns regarding the proposed development on 64th Street by the City of St. Petersburg.

Margarete Tober, 59th Street, spoke on the upcoming Junk in the Trunk, beach clean-up, clean-up at Ms. Shirley's yard and Welcome to the Neighbor seminars. She congratulated Dave, Cheryl and Rachel.

Alexis Bond, New Horizon Dog Rescue, spoke on a building she would like to use within the city that is not zoned correctly for a project they are trying to put together and she was asked to provide her contact information for follow-up.

Vice Mayor Ray called for a recess; reconvening the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

2. City Manager Report

City Manager O'Reilly reported:

-The city has been notified the PYCC Culvert Project Phase II that was submitted to the State Legislature for appropriation project funding has been reduced to \$300,000 and has gone to the Governor for consideration;

-He and Fire Chief Marenkovic met with the Assistant County Administrator and County EMS Staff and they anticipate their support to the Board of County

Commissioners for the expansion of the city's emergency medical program to fund the paramedic position for each shift and half of a rescue vehicle;

-Funding has been received from the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for a generator at the 49th Street Neighborhood Center. The two grant applications submitted for a lift station generator and three generators for city hall is still under consideration;

-PSTA has received a trolley they will be transferring to the city as a replacement for our present trolley which will be moved to 49th Street Trolley Market Square;

-The Gulfport Merchants/Chamber has made a request to close 54th Street from Essex to Shore Boulevard on August 10, during the GeckoFest Pub Crawl; there was no objection;

-Justin Shea was named St. Petersburg College, Clearwater Campus, student of the year; and

-He will be out of town Wednesday afternoon through Saturday and Mr. Nicholls will be in charge.

3. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Salzman requested a Shade Meeting on the Suncoast Waterkeeper case on Monday, May 13, at 4:00 p.m. in Chambers; there was no objection.

4. City Clerk Report – No Report

5. Consent

- 5.a Consider approval of the Council Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2019.
- 5.b Resolution No. 2019-22: A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida, authorizing the city manager to award the bid and enter into a two-year contract with High Sources Inc., for janitorial services; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Brown, second by Councilmember Fridovich to approve the Consent Agenda.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION

6. Ordinances

- 6.a First Reading of Ordinance 2019-09: An ordinance of the City of Gulfport, amending Chapter 15, Pensions, Article VI, Retirement System for City Employees, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport pertaining to the City of Gulfport General Employees' Pension Plan; amending Section 15-91, Definitions; amending Section 15-93, Board of Trustees; amending Section 15-99, Optional Forms of Benefits; amending Section 15-112, Reemployment After Retirement; adding Section 15-116, Deferred Retirement Option Plan; providing for codification; providing for severability of provisions; repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith and providing an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance No. 2019-09 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the ordinance.

Vice Mayor Ray opened public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Vice Mayor Ray closed the public discussion.

Motion of Councilmember Fridovich, second by Councilmember Brown to approve Ordinance No. 2019-09.

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| Roll Call: | Councilmember Brown | Yes |
| | Councilmember Fridovich | Yes |
| | Councilmember Liedtke | Yes |
| | Vice Mayor Ray | Yes |

Motion Carried

7. Resolutions

7.a Resolution No. 2019-23: A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida, authorizing the city manager to enter into a contract(s) with ADA Site Compliance, LLC for remediation, template creation, and training for American with Disabilities Act and WCAG document compliance; providing for the waiver of competitive bidding requirements; providing for a budget amendment; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Resolution No. 2019-23 by title only.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the Resolution.

Vice Mayor Ray opened public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Vice Mayor Ray closed the public discussion.

In response to a question by Councilmember Liedtke, Dave Mather, Library and Information Technology Director, advised the city is remediating only what is legally necessary. He spoke on future proofing through training and advised this evening's audit document has been remediated and will be made available tomorrow online.

Councilmember Brown asked how soon before agendas, etc. can be seen and Director Mather advised today's agenda is up as there is a template for that until the new Granicus is up and running which will be sometime in June. He mentioned all the budgets that needed to be remediated are remediated and available on the city's site, the same as budget amendments.

Councilmember Liedtke inquired about a video archive at the library and Director Mather advised this is still being looked into with the PRM Lawyers and he addressed closed captioning.

Councilmember Fridovich asked if the city will be able to provide hearing impaired accommodations, to which Director Mather advised yes.

Motion by Councilmember Liedtke, second by Councilmember Fridovich to approve Resolution No. 2019-23.

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| Roll Call: | Councilmember Brown | Yes |
| | Councilmember Fridovich | Yes |
| | Councilmember Liedtke | Yes |
| | Vice Mayor Ray | Yes |

Motion Carried

8. Council Comments/Informational Reports

Councilmember Brown reported on the passing of former Councilmember Jack Olsen, her daughter’s graduation from Florida State University, CERT will be participating in Fire OPS 101, and asked for council’s approval for her to hold Coffee with a Cop at Scout Hall; there was no objection.

Councilmember Fridovich congratulated Director Mather and Library Staff on their award.

Councilmember Liedtke thanked Tom Nicholls for the work being done on the expansion of the sidewalk on 59th Street, Tim Connors, Brian VanSlyke and the Parks Department Staff for their efforts in keeping the parks looking good and pointed out Chief Vincent is coming-up on his quarter century of duty in law enforcement.

Councilmember Brown mentioned the upcoming employees’ luncheon and asked City Manager O’Reilly when the pavilion at Chase Park will be replaced, to which he advised this will need to be discussed during the budget.

Vice Mayor Ray provided council with a handout on the Gulfport Safety Around Water Program with the YMCA and requested council consideration of a \$500.00 donation to the YMCA; there was no objection. He reported on the upcoming Friends of Dorothy March, Pride Flag raising and ArtOut, a successful Spring Festival, this week is City Clerk’s and Teacher Appreciation Week and requested council approval to hold a community meeting on Monday the 13th in the Neighborhood Center on the proposed development by the City of St. Petersburg on 64th Street. In response to Councilmember Liedtke, Vice Mayor Ray explained the goals and objectives of the meeting and after discussion there was a consensus of council to approve the request, with Councilmember Liedtke cautioning against it.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Fridovich, second by Councilmember Brown to adjourn.

Date Approved: _____

Samuel Henderson, Mayor

Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk