

City of Gulfport Florida

City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019; in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 2401 - 53rd Street South, Gulfport, Florida.

Samuel Henderson, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilmember Michael Fridovich followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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

Presentations:

-Matthew Spoor, City Manager of Safety Harbor and representative of the Florida City and County Management Association (FCCMA), presented a plaque to the City Council and City Manager in recognition of the City's 65 Years of a Council-Manager form of Government.

-Pat Ellsworth, Operations Manager and Richard LaGanga, Construction Supervisor, for Wow! Cable Internet spoke on Wow! being installed in the city.

- Andrew Burnham, Vice President, Stantec Consulting Services and Deborah Kloeckner, Consultant, reviewed a PowerPoint on their Utility Rate Sufficiency Study and discussed with council the proposed water and sewer rate increases: 8% per year from FY 2020 through FY 2022; 7% in FY 2023 and 2.5% indexing each year through FY 2029; and stormwater fee adjustments: \$2 increase in FY 2020 (\$4 if stormwater culvert project cost increases) and \$1 increase each year through FY 2029.

City Manager O'Reilly advised what has happened with the PYCC culvert project is the city applied to the State for \$700,000 and subsequently \$300,000 was included in the State budget; putting the city at a \$400,000 shortfall. Staff has talked to the city's engineers about redesigning the project to an open swale system which will lower the cost to \$560,000 of which \$400,000 is set aside (\$300,000 State, \$100,000 city capital improvements monies). City Manager O'Reilly explained if council directs Staff to go into deeper detail regarding the open swale system this is something they could look at using capital improvements money for and would not have to have a \$2.00 increase; the closed culvert system will require an increase of \$2.00.

1. Public Comment

Mayor Henderson recognized Ms. Love who spoke of the great weekend events and suggested making usable parking in the dog park-tennis court-park area.

Albert Risemberg, 19th Avenue South, spoke on the volleyball tournament being allowed on Father's Day; feeling in the future this should be taken into consideration, and asked if an incentive could be given by changing the minimum water usage to 1,500 or 1,000 gallons.

2. City Manager Report

City Manager O'Reilly reported the city council did address levels below 2,000 gallons and rates. It was determined the built in sustainability of our system would require a cost pass on to middle tier users between 2,000 – 4,000 gallons.

3. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Salzman reported he was contacted by our attorney, Kevin Hennessy, who would like to have a special meeting of the council to consider the resolution of the ongoing lawsuit next week. Councilmember Brown confirmed she will be out of town. A special meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 24, at 5:00 pm. In response to a question by Mayor Henderson, there was no objection from council on cancelling the July 2, council meeting.

4. City Clerk Report No Report

5. Consent:

- 5.a Consider approval of the Council Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2019 and June 6, 2019.
- 5.b Resolution No. 2019-30: A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida, authorizing the city manager to enter into a one-year contract renewal option with Carr, Riggs, & Ingram, LLC for Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2019; and providing for an effective date.
- 5.c Resolution No. 2019-31: A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida, authorizing a budget amendment to account for insurance proceeds and expenses related to repairs at Lift Station No. 2; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read the Consent Agenda.

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

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION

6. Ordinances: None

7. Resolutions: None

8. Public Hearing:

Consider the request of Susana Gonzalez and Norman Cannella, Sr. (Owners) to appeal the decision of the Board of Adjustment to deny Variance V19-15 (1) For the proposed construction of accessory structures (cabana/teahouse):

- 1). To reduce the secondary street side yard setback requirement by 12 feet, from 12 feet to 0 feet; 2). To reduce the separation distance between the accessory structures by 1 foot, from 6 feet to 5 feet; and 3). To reduce the separation distance between the accessory structures and the principal structure by 1 foot from 12 feet to 11 feet on their property located at 5501 14th Avenue South, Gulfport, Florida, Parcel No.

28/31/16/67572/012/0090 and legally described as Lot 9, Block 12, Pasadena Heights, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 009, Page 084, Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.

City Attorney Salzman advised the applicant has withdrawn, as far as the city is aware, and this does not need to go before council in any form.

9. Council Comments/Informational Reports.

Vice Mayor Ray reported on upcoming Pride events and the building of VOGs (vertical oyster gardens) at Tampa Bay Watch.

Councilmember Brown asked to invite Leslie Waters, Mayor of Seminole, to a meeting for the presentation of her book "Good Morning Mayor What's Up" to the library; there was no objection. Councilmember Brown reported on her attendance at the FLC Municipal Administration Policy Committee Meeting, and requested a Pay and Rate Classification Study be included in the budget for all non-union employees. City Manager O'Reilly and councilmembers discussed the cost of doing a study and it was agreed that a broad study be done, in-house, of pay ranges of rank and file employees below a supervisor to see if they are comparable with other cities within Pinellas County. Councilmember Liedtke asked if the city had ever looked into doing Total Rewards Statement for employees identifying their total benefits, to which City Manager O'Reilly advised the city has not but, it could be done in-house.

Mayor Henderson reported on the upcoming Gulfport Pride Bike Ride and his attendance in Washington DC for the presentation of the National Medal for Museum & Library Services Award to the library; congratulating Dave Mather and his library staff.

10. Adjournment.

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

Date Approved: _____

Samuel Henderson, Mayor

Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk