

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBER AT CITY HALL, March 4, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Magidson, Commissioners Buzzett, McCroan, Patterson and Thursbay. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce and City Attorney Tom Gibson were also present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2014, Regular Meeting. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

CITY ATTORNEY – Tom Gibson

Legacy Trust Program Update

Mr. Gibson anticipates updated information will be received this week.

Gulf Pines Hospital

Mr. Gibson will research how to resolve the tax issues, what steps need to be taken to remove the building and he noted the tax certificates will have to be paid. The land will be divided into lots and the lots would be sold to generate revenue to cover the expenses. Mr. Gibson will compile revenue and expense numbers for the next meeting.

Ann White, a neighborhood resident, asked that the property be cleaned up and the building secured.

Competitive Florida Partnership: Public Hearing Date and Survey

Mr. Gibson shared that the meeting went well last week. Meetings will be held Wednesday, March 5, 2014 and Friday, March 7, 2014, from 10 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. for the six subcommittees to address the Capital Improvement Elements of the City's Comprehensive Plan.

A Community Assessment Survey of the Economic Development Index has been prepared and will be given to all stakeholders. Mr. Gibson will provide a copy for each Commissioner.

A Public Hearing will be held for all stakeholders on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at 5:00 P.M. in the Commission Chamber.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Old Business

Centennial Building Roof Quote

A Motion was made by Commissioner Buzzett, second by Commissioner Patterson for discussion, to approve the proposal provided by Jerry Wilson to enlarge the scuppers, repair damaged sections of the roof with Bitec materials and provide an eight year warranty for a total of \$21,760. After discussion, Commissioner Patterson second the motion. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Lighthouse Update

Mayor Magidson shared that he is waiting on a phone call from Dewayne Butler with Duke Energy concerning the relocation of power lines on County Road 30 to move the lighthouse.

Julia Cunningham once again shared her issues with moving the lighthouse from the cape.

Sign Ordinance – Commissioner Patterson

Commissioner Patterson noted that the Sign Ordinance is being revised and that he is still adamant that all non-conforming signs be grandfathered in.

New Business

Jetty Park: Vessels of Opportunity, Jennifer Jenkins

Jennifer Jenkins, Gulf County TDC Executive Director, shared that Travel Dynamics International – Gulf Coast Cruise will have a Port of Call to Port St. Joe on April 1, 2014. The visit is being listed as an Eco-tourism visit for the 135 passengers on the vessel. The Commissioners reiterated that they are willing to support improvements to the low docks at Jetty Park but do not support busing the guests out of county to shop. Ms. Jenkins shared the planned activities and that opportunities are provided for local shopping.

Docking Fees

Clara Landry reported that the St. Joe Company has agreed to split the Docking Fees for the Fishing Express vessel on a 50-50 basis. The St. Joe Company will put in a power station and pay the electrical bill. A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner McCroan, to have attorney Gibson draft a contract. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Buzzett expressed his concerns about liability issues and asked that research be done to determine the feasibility of selling the property.

Resolution 2014-02 Boat Launch Fees – Commissioner Thursbay

Commissioner Thursbay proposed that fees be charged to use the Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp. City Residents would not be charged; County Residents would pay \$5 per day or \$25 for a season pass and Out of County visitors would pay \$10 per day or \$50 for a season pass. Staff will review the proposal and have a recommendation for the next meeting.

Mark Howze cautioned the Commission to consider the revenue and expense of the proposal.

Tim Nelson shared that he had researched boat ramp fees and found the proposal to be in line with other areas.

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Association (PSJRA) Re-organization – Commissioner Thursbay

Commissioner Thursbay requested that the process be started to dissolve the PSJRA Board. Mr. Gibson noted that it would require an Ordinance and will take several meetings.

Commissioner Thursbay shared that this was nothing personal against anyone on the PSJRA Board; Ms. Alsobrook would still be the Executive Director, he is not after her job but he feels that a volunteer board should not be making the decisions to spend tax dollars. He has received numerous calls concerning this issue and wants to be responsive to these concerns.

Aaron Farnsley, Patrick Jones and Joanna Bryan spoke of the advantages of having the PSJRA Board, the members' contributions to the City through volunteering their time on the Board, their ability to leverage tax dollars and asked that the issue be tabled until Ms. Alsobrook could be present.

Mayor Magidson encouraged the Commissioners not to try to fix something that is not broken.

Commissioner Buzzett noted the City Commissioners approve the appointments to the PSJRA Board, he lauded the volunteer board's service to the community and felt the Commission would be doing the wrong thing to dissolve the board.

Commissioner McCroan questioned how dissolving the board would impact staff.

Mr. Gibson responded that the City Commission would be a separate, independent board, they could hire a director and increase the number of the board to seven.

After a lengthy discussion, a Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner McCroan, to begin the process to dissolve the PSJRA Board. Voting in Favor were Commissioners Thursbay, McCroan and Patterson. Voting No were Mayor Magidson and Commissioner Buzzett. The Motion carried 3-2.

Public Works – John Grantland

Water Distribution Phase II

Work is progressing on Palm Boulevard and good weather will move the project along.

Long Avenue Sewer Line

This is still being reviewed at the Staff level.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

Mr. McClamma did not have anything to discuss.

Wastewater Plant – Lynn Todd

Ms. Todd shared information on the following:

- Disinfectant by Products testing showed great results.
- Consumer Confidence Report stated no primary violations were noted for the past year.
- Lead and Copper – Citizens with copper plumbing are needed for inclusion in a monitoring program. A request for volunteers to participate in the monitoring will be included in the water bills and advertised on the City's website.
- Department of Health – Six responses have been received from the health departments providing a list of permitted liquid waste haulers. Ms. Todd is waiting to hear from the remainder of those who received a letter.

She also noted that the SolarBees and Grit Kings are working well.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

The Water Study

Dave Cozan of CDM will be here on March 17, 2014, to meet with Staff and review the Virginia Tech Water Study Report.

CDBG Water Line and USDA Sidewalk Replacement Update

Ground was broken today to begin the project.

Code Enforcement

Mr. Burkett's report was reviewed. No action was taken.

Police Department

Sergeant Burch attended the meeting and was relieved by Officer Tolbert at 7:00 P.M. Chief Barnes arrived at 7:40 P.M. There was no report from the Police Department.

Port St. Joe Redevelopment Association (PSJRA)

Ms. Alsobrook was absent.

January 26, 2014 Meeting Minutes were provided for the review of the Commission.

Langston Drive Lighting - Payment of \$2,600 for lighting has been approved by the PSJRA Board.

Provisional Directors – Commission approval was requested for Provisional Directors Darius Chambers and Kaye Haddock. No action was taken.

Open Air Information Center at Billy Joe Rish Parking Lot RFQ Status – The PSJRA will enter into negotiations with Littlejohn Engineering Associates on the design cost.

Small Vessel Committee – Potential Grant Opportunity THE PSJRA has approved Ms. Alsobrook's time to write the grant to improve the Jetty Park Low Docks to accommodate boutique cruise lines.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce

Mrs. Pierce did not have anything to discuss.

Citizens to be Heard

Bo Spring expressed his disappointment in the decision made tonight to dissolve the PSJRA Board. He congratulated the City on the grant from the Northwest Florida Water Management District for the #2 pump at the Chipola Station, noted that he had read the VT Water Study and encouraged the City to continue applying for grants.

John Parker shared that he felt it was cowardly of the Commission to take action to dissolve the PSJRA Board when Ms. Alsobrook was not present. He noted that she does give feedback to the Commission and felt that tonight's action was inappropriate.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Thursbay did not have anything to discuss at this time.

Commissioner Patterson did not have any issues to address.

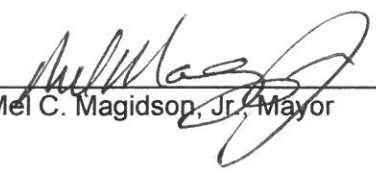
Commissioner McCroan did not have anything to bring before the Commission tonight.

Commissioner Buzzett shared that Dr. Dusty May has volunteered to bring suggestions to the Commission for the preservation of St. Joseph Bay, boat basin improvements and serve on an environmental committee.

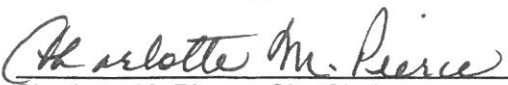
Mayor Magidson expressed his concerns of the grass beds in St. Joseph Bay being destroyed from boat propellers. Displays are available at the Buffer Preserve of the damage that has been done.

A Motion was made by Commissioner McCroan, second by Commissioner Patterson, to adjourn the Meeting at 7:46 P.M.

Approved this 18th day of March 2014.


Mel C. Magidson, Jr., Mayor

3/24/14
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

3/19/2014
Date