

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, September 19, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M.**

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Buzzett, Lowry, and Thursbay. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, and Attorney Clinton McCahill were also present. Commissioner Ashbrook joined the meeting at 6:10 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of September 5, 2017; the Emergency Meeting of September 7, 2017, and the Special Meeting of September 14, 2017. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PSJRA) There was nothing new to report.

CITY ATTORNEY

Ordinance 543 Medical Marijuana – First Reading and Request to Advertise

Mayor Patterson asked if anyone from the Public wished to speak on this and there was no response.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Buzzett, for Attorney McCahill to read Ordinance 543 by Title only. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney McCahill read Ordinance 543 by Title only.

Commissioner Ashbrook joined the meeting at 6:10 P.M.

Attorney McCahill updated the Commission on 1303 McClellan Avenue and asked that he be allowed to negotiate a resolution to the \$3,268.18 Code Enforcement fines accruing daily that have been levied against the property. There are also Tax Liens on the property in excess of \$4,000 and the property is scheduled to for auction shortly.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to allow Mr. McCahill and Mr. Anderson to come up with a resolution so that it will not have to come back to the Board. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

City Non-Departmental Contribution Fund – Mr. Anderson shared that the fund currently has a balance of \$147.00 and asked for direction on how to disburse it. A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Thursbay, to disburse the amount evenly between the following entities: Life Management, Gulf County Humane Society, Gulf County Senior Citizens Association, Gulf County ARC Travel Assistance, Early Learning Coalition, Gulf County Public Library, and the Gulf County Chamber of Commerce.

New Business

Speed Bumps on Sixth and Seventh Streets – Commissioner Thursbay: After a series of Motions with the second to the Motion withdrawn, the issue will be researched with Public Works and brought back to the Commission.

Delineators at Highway 98 and Third Street – Mayor Patterson: A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to remove the delineators at the Intersection of Third Street and Highway 98. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Patterson stated that the Entertainment District Item had been pulled from the Agenda and because of the number of people attending the meeting, asked if anyone wished to speak on the issue.

Mayor Patterson stated he was not in favor of the Entertainment District as it was presented to him. Commissioner Thursbay stated he felt like Mayor Patterson, and Commissioner Lowry stated he was not for it and would like to hear from everyone.

Reverend James Wiley, Pastor of Oak Grove Church and President of the Ministerial Association, spoke and said that he was encouraged by the statements Commissioners had made stating they were not in favor of the Entertainment District. He also shared that the Ministerial Association would be opposed to an Open Container Zone.

Mary Lou Cumbie spoke and assured the Commission of the prayers of her church. She noted the Commission has a huge responsibility, they are responsible for the trust of the community, and their job is difficult. Mrs. Cumbie thanked the Commission for their service, and noted people were praying for the Commission to have the wisdom to lead the community in a way that God would be proud of.

City Charter Revision Discussion – Commissioner Thursbay asked that Commissioners review their City Charter book, note things they think need to be changed, and plan to put it on the ballot at the next City Election. He would like to have an outside source review the Commissioner's suggestions when they are through with their review.

Donation Request – Port St. Joe High School Varsity Cheerleaders: A Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Lowry, to contribute \$100 from BP Funds. Voting in favor of the Motion were Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Thursbay, and Lowry. Voting against were Commissioners Ashbrook and Buzzett as they felt this is opening a big "can of worms" for untold organizations to request contributions. Motion carried 3-2.

PDRB Membership Terms –The terms of Chairman Jay Rish and members Rawlis Leslie and Minnie Likely expire in November. The Commission would like to see applications requested for these positions.

Public Works – John Grantland was not present. Mr. Anderson noted RFPs have been requested for Alternates A and B of the CDBG Grant; Dewberry / Preble Rish is working on the Jones Homestead Sewer Project paper work, sidewalks for Avenue D are being scheduled, and the Frank Pate Boat Ramp Project is moving along.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

RFP 2017-12 Clarifier #3 Renovation – Request to Award Bid: A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Buzzett, to reject the bid from Crystal Coatings, Inc., in the amount of \$69,500 and readvertise for renovations to Clarifiers #3 and #4. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis was absent due to illness and Mr. Anderson noted the plant was running.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour

2017 – 2018 Budget Update – Mr. Lacour reminded the Commission of the Final Budget Hearing to be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017, at 5:01 P.M.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Project Updates -

Frank Pate Park Boat Ramp Improvements - Mr. Smallwood noted the grant was set to expire at the end of this month but FWC has granted a 90 day extension. He presented several options to the Commission to complete the project using the balance of the grant: Add sidewalks on the North side to walk on; replace all the concrete in front of the ramp; add rub rails to the step downs on the South side; replace riprap on the North side, and run electrical conduit. It will be necessary to close the boat ramp

for three weeks to complete the work. Mr. Smallwood will go back to FWC for approval of these improvements and should have them before the Commission in two weeks.

Long Avenue Water / Sewer / Road Paving – A Workshop needs to be held on this.

Jones Homestead Sewer – Permits were submitted to DEP last week and Mr. Smallwood expects to have a response from them in 30 days.

Code Enforcement –

General Update – Mr. Burkett's report was reviewed, no action was required.

Police Department – Chief Herring did not have any updates for the Commission.

Mayor Patterson requested that Chief Herring contact DOT to review the Intersection at First Street, Marina Drive, and Highway 98. He would like to see a left hand turning lane from First Street on to Highway 98.

Commissioner Lowry was concerned about the Golf Cart Crossing Signs at the same intersection and asked that Chief Herring talk with DOT about them.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce reminded the Commissioners of their Open Enrollment appointments and noted the Final Budget Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 5:01 P.M., will be held at the Ward Ridge Building.

Citizens to be Heard –

Christy McElroy expressed her feelings about the raises the Commissioners are giving themselves. She noted different statistics on the impact their raises would have on the community. While providing additional information, Mayor Patterson asked Ms. McElroy to finish her presentation and gave her 3 minutes to wrap it up in. An exchange of opinions continued.

To end the debate, a Motion was made by Commissioner Thursbay, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 P.M. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

The Agenda Items below were not discussed.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Buzzett

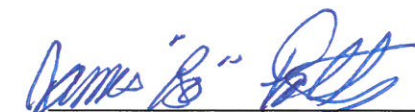
Commissioner Lowry

Commissioner Ashbrook

Commissioner Thursbay

Mayor Patterson

Approved this 3rd day of October 2017.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

10/3/17
Date

10/3/17
Date