

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, January 15, 2019, at Noon.**

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Hoffman, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, and City Attorney Adam Albritton were also present. Commissioner Ashbrook was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Lowry, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 18, 2018. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Building Department Update – Bo Creel is working with Rebecca Quinn, a consultant with the FL Department of Emergency Management, on the Flood Plain Management Ordinance. His department is handling permits, and has a full staff to handle requests made to the department.

PORT ST. JOE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (PSJRA) – Bill Kennedy shared he is working on a sign replacement package for downtown, the contract for the public restrooms on Reid Avenue has been completed, engineers are working on the trail lighting project, and there is a group working to revise the Scope of Work for George Core Park. He noted the need for help in cleaning up the waterfront area of the park. The lights on the lighthouse will remain up until the time change and then be relit on October 10, 2019.

City Attorney –

Ordinance 551 - City of Port St. Joe Flood Plain: Mr. Albritton anticipates having a recommendation on the Ordinance at the February 5, 2019, meeting.

Resolution 2019-01 SRF Funding Request – Hurricane Damage: Mr. Albritton requested that this be moved to the Wastewater Plant Section.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Jim Anderson

Old Business

103 Monica Drive – Health Department Update: Sarah Hines, Gwen Allen, and Zack Hodges shared the limitations of the health department in dealing with this issue and noted they are tasked to deal with removing sanitary nuisances. Unless new issues are presented, they have done all they can do. They did offer to work with the City in any way possible to resolve this issue.

WastePro Contract – Chester Davis stated that WastePro will not raise their prices for the coming year. Loyd Childree and Vic Williams of WastePro shared they are not implementing the 2% CPI for the coming year, that more trucks and employees will be coming on board, and they would like to have their contract renewed.

Commissioners Langston and Lowry shared some of their concerns and issues with WastePro and their service. Mayor Patterson and Commission Hoffman asked about yard debris and the possibility of WastePro handling that for the City. WastePro is to prepare a price package for the City and City Staff is to review the bids that have been submitted to the county.

Hurricane Michael:

FEMA – No one representing FEMA was in attendance.

Debris Removal Deadline January 31, 2019 - Mr. Anderson reiterated the deadline and noted it is for residential pick up only.

SBA – Liliانا Tschannett, Public Affairs Specialist with SBA shared that she would be here for a few days and late applications for SBA Loans are being accepted at the public library in Wewahitchka.

New Business

Election Qualifying Fees – Mayor Patterson requested that the possibility of qualifying by the petition method be considered for the City for the election next year. Attorney Albritton is working on a draft ordinance.

RFP 2018-19, 2018-20, 2018-21 Emergency Lift Stations Repairs – A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Lowry, to approve RFP 2018-19, 2018-20, and 2018-21 in the amount of \$417,767. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Lighthouse Keepers' Quarters Roofs – Request to Bid Repairs: A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to request bids for roofs on the two keepers' quarters. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Beaches Sewer System (ESAD) – Commissioner Ashbrook: This was Tabled due to the absence of Commissioner Ashbrook.

Long Term Recovery Consultant – Joint City / County Bid: A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to bid this out with the county but to have a separate contract. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Legislative Budget Request – Mr. Anderson requested that the Commission get their thoughts together on what project they want to submit and noted that the request must be in by February 11, 2019.

Mayor Patterson asked that the Clifford Sims Park status be discussed at this time. Bill Little, owner of the Fishing Express, shared that he needed a place to dock his new boat and would appreciate any help the City could give to help him keep his business here.

Public Works – John Grantland

Sixth and Seventh Streets Drainage – A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Lowry, to advertise an RFP for materials for this project. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma did not have anything to update the Commission on.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis

Biological Dredging –

Mr. Pettis noted that the Biological Dredging must begin in February and funds from SRF will be used with this project. Sea-Today was the low bidder on the dredging project in the amount of \$426,000. This is a three year contract with the City doing the labor in years 2 and 3. Cost are \$166,000 for year 1, years 2 and 3 \$130,000 each.

Attorney Albritton read Resolution 2019-01 by Title only.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to adopt Resolution 2019-01 requesting funding assistance from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) for hurricane damage. All in favor, Motion carried 4-0.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour was with FEMA adjusters visiting different sites and unable to be here today.

City Engineer – Clay Smallwood, III

Langston Drive Sidewalk Update – The County has awarded the project to GAC with the Inspection Firm being Southeastern Consulting Engineers. He anticipates the project will begin in the next few weeks.

Trail Lighting Update – This was discussed in the PSJRA Report and the committee is working to provide a revised Scope of Work to the state.

Road Paving – Update on current projects: Roberts and Roberts has not done the work on Eighth Street, Williams Avenue, and the intersection of First Street and Reid Avenue. It is anticipated that work should be started in February.

John Grantland requested that, if there is any funding after these projects are completed, it be directed to Baltzel Avenue between Fifth Street and the tennis courts.

Code Enforcement no action was required.

Police Department – Chief Matt Herring did not have anything to update the Commission on.

City Clerk - Charlotte Pierce

City Election Time Line – Clerk Pierce shared the upcoming City Election Time Line with the Commission.

Citizens to be Heard –

Letha Mathews asked if the Community Garden would be available this year or if it would be 2020 before anything is done. Commissioner Langston responded that he is working on it but the hurricane had pushed all projects back. She also questioned how word would be disbursed concerning voter registration for felons' voting rights being restored. Commissioner Langston shared that he has been spreading the word, but if the felon was on probation or had unpaid fines, they cannot register to vote. The Supervisor of Elections office, local medial, and social media are also being used to make felons aware of the new law.

Jill Bebee, a Master Gardener and member of the St. Joe Garden Club, offered to help the City recover green space, make plant selections for parks, assist with the beautification of the City, help merchants on Reid with planter flower choices, and assist with the North Port St. Joe Garden.

Rex Buzzett commended Commissioner Ashbrook for looking for extra revenue for the City to purchase the beaches (ESAD) sewer. Mr. Buzzett stated that he does not support going out for purchase unless it is at the right price as the City is struggling and does not need any new projects. He noted the pot 3 money might be available for repairing lift stations and sewer in the City rather than something outside of it.

Mr. Buzzett also asked if buildings would be required to be 1' above the base flood elevation. The response was "Yes" and that the Preliminary Flood Maps are currently being used.

Commissioner Hoffman shared that before he would support purchasing the ESAD sewer he would have to know the value of it and that it would need to be a money maker. He noted in 2014 a Cost Analysis was done by Roberson and Roberson and improvements in the amount of \$267,000 would need to be made. He feels that repairs and updates are needed, ESAD has lost 76 customers, and the owner would love to sell. Commissioner Hoffman would require the following items before making a decision on the system: Updated Coast Analysis, Appraisal of the system, and copies of the last 5 years of state inspections of the system. The purchase would be contingent on Restore Pot 3 money being available as the City cannot buy it with our funds, a lift station will be needed, and the sale price is fair and reasonable. He would also want to know if the plant is needed, will it help the City, and is it funded with Pot 3 money.

Mr. Buzzett again cautioned the Commission to go slow and not buy anything right now.

Robert Branch asked if debris would be removed from behind the houses on Marvin Avenue from 10th to 16th Streets. Mr. Grantland responded that debris must be placed beside the road or alley.

Mr. Branch questioned the election qualification fees and stated that he felt that if you were running for office, you should pay the qualifying fee.

Chester Davis asked about the possibility of the NPSJ PAC and the CDC having office space next to the Likely Building at the Washington Gym. Mr. Davis will get a cost estimates to close up the open space.

Chris Brumbaugh shared his frustrations with the continued use of a generator at 103 Monica Drive. Mr. Albritton noted that this is being addressed and cautioned the Commission to use discretion in discussing the issue.

Clair Morris addressed debris in the park and from other homes that have accumulated behind her home.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Hoffman noted that all of his issues have been covered.

Commissioner Lowry did not have anything to discuss.

Commissioner Langston stated he would be meeting with the garden club to see if they could help with the community garden.


Mayor Patterson shared that after doing some soul searching, he will be seeking another term as mayor.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Lowry, to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 P.M.

Approved this 5th day of February 2019.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

2/5/19
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

2/5/19
Date