

MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING FOR THE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 UPDATE AND CITY BOAT RAMP BECAUSE OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT 2775 GARRISON AVENUE, April 14, 2020 AT 12 NOON.

Teleconference as allowed under Executive Order 20-69; App – ZOOM; Phone 1-646-876-9923, Meeting ID: 978 8149 3399; Password 039959

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Hoffman, Langston, and Lowry. Commissioner Ashbrook participated via the Zoom App. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, Attorney Clinton McCahill, Chief of Police Matt Herring, and Administrative Assistant Brie Scheibe were also present.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the Coronavirus COVID-19, and make a decision on the City Boat Ramp.

Call to Order

Agenda

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Mayor Buzzett shared that he felt citizens have done well dealing with the Coronavirus COVID-19 issues, but is concerned that we are becoming complacent. We received a B- on Social Distancing this week and he encouraged all citizens to be vigilant about what needs to be done to prevent the spread of the virus.

Commissioner Lowry noted that people from outside are continuing to come to this area and encouraged residents to be mindful they are coming to our area from hotspots around the country.

Boat Ramp

A lengthy discussion concerning options, challenges, and solutions for the boat ramp was held, including input via the Zoom App from Jennifer Barwick and Dr. Dusty May.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to keep the City Boat Ramp closed through April 21, 2020. All in favor, Motion carried 5-0.

Another lengthy discussion on restricting the opening of the City Boat Ramp to Gulf County residents or State of Florida residents, enforcement of the Ordinance, vehicle stickers, and signage was held.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Hoffman, for Attorney McCahill to draft an Ordinance for consideration of the Commission at the next meeting on April 21, 2020, to restrict use of the City Boat Ramp to permanent Gulf County residents only, and provide for a \$500 fine for violating the Ordinance once the boat ramp is open. All in Favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Barnhill thanked the Commission for their efforts on behalf of the local residents.

Citizens to be Heard

There were no comments.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Neither Commissioners Ashbrook, Hoffman, nor Lowry had anything else to share with the Commission.

Commissioner Langston expressed his concerns about the repeated gathering of more than 10 people in a group and asked that Chief Herring have his department disburse the groups and issue a Notice to Appear to repeat offenders. Emergency Management Statute 252 will be used for this.

Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 1:07 P.M.

Approved this 21st day of April 2020.

Rex Buzzett
Rex Buzzett, Mayor

4/21/20
Date

Charlotte M. Pierce
Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

4/21/20
Date