

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT
2775 GARRISON AVENUE, October 20, 2020, at Noon.**

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 6, 2020. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

City Attorney –

Resolution 2020-07 Garrison Avenue Phase II SCOP Grant

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to adopt Resolution 2020-07. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0. Attorney McCahill read Resolution 2020-07 by Title only.

Tennis Court Lease

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve the Tennis Court Lease as revised by the Gulf County School Board. The length of the Lease was reduced from 20 years to 10 years.

Gulf Coast Workforce Development Lease

After discussion, this was Tabled for more information.

Old Business –

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update – Resolution 2020-02 – State of Emergency Still in Place

Mr. Anderson encouraged everyone to be safe, practice social distancing, and work to keep the numbers down.

CDBG -DR Grants

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Ashbrook, to use insurance proceeds to cover the cost of a Task Order in the amount of \$41,000 to The Ferguson Group for an Emergency Facility to house the Fire and Police Departments, and to cover Sewer System repairs. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

New Business –

Plat Approval – Barefoot Cottages Phase II, Parcel # 04559-065R

Jack Husband, representing Charles Haskett, shared this Development was previously approved, approximately 75% of it has been completed, and the original Development Order is in place. The request for today is for the Phase II Plat which is 4.29 acres, will contain 48 units, a pool and Mr. Husband noted there is no deviation from the previous plan. Mr. Husband stated that he would be working on the As Built for the stormwater. A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to approve the Phase II Plot for Barefoot Cottages. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Cheryl Steindorf shared her concerns about a single entrance / exit and Mr. Husband noted that was the original design, the area is surrounded by wetlands, there is nothing that can be changed at this time.

FAMU/NPSJ EDA Recovery Project – Professor Chin

Professor Chin reviewed the North Port St. Joe Recovery Project with a goal of implementing the multiple objectives identified in the community plans developed by the NPSJ PAC, and identifying funds to pay for the NPSJ PAC plan. There are four parts to the plan which include Infrastructure Improvement, Affordable Housing, Workforce Development, and Economic Development.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to provide a letter of support for the project and provide a Point of Contact for the project. Grants will be written by FAMU and there will be no expense to the City. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

League of Cities Conference – Commissioner Ashbrook

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Langston, for Commissioner Ashbrook to attend the Conference to be held on November 11th and 12th. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works – John Grantland

916 20th Street Drainage –

Commissioner Hoffman noted that the issue needed to be resolved and wanted to see the City do what they could to correct the issue.

Steve Goff and Lance Watson each voiced their concerns about the issue.

After a lengthy discussion, consensus was Mr. Grantland should meet with the County to see what their plan is and work from there.

Request to Purchase 3 Trucks on State Contract

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Langston, to purchase three trucks on state contract. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Grantland noted that the stormwater project in the alley between 6th and 7th Streets is moving along well.

Surface Water Plant – Larry McClamma

Mr. McClamma shared that Cameron Harmon had passed his state Class C Surface Water Operator's test. As of October 13, 2020, all Surface Water Treatment Plant Operators are state certified and this is a first for the City.

Wastewater Plant – Kevin Pettis

Employees are working two shifts while the plant is pushing water out. There is currently 2' 4" of free board in the lagoon and when it reaches 3' they will return to the pipe project.

Finance Director – Mike Lacour

FEMA Update

Mr. Lacour did not have any updates from FEMA. The \$272,000 has been released, but has not been received yet.

SRF Application Update

The application for the Long Avenue Project has been submitted.

Mr. Lacour noted that the new Fiscal Year is moving along well.

City Engineer – Josh Baxley

NRDA Stormwater Grant Update

The conference call with the agencies was completed on October 7, 2020, and the next steps will be to discuss options for moving forward. There was not a favorable response from the agency to replace the ditch pipe between Eighth and Tenth Streets.

Christy McElroy expressed her thoughts on this, noted there had been good suggestions given for the project, and would like to see another Workshop to improve the bay and flooding issues.

Stormwater Master Plan

Mr. Baxley anticipates the Master Map will be completed by October 23, 2020, and the draft report should be ready for review by the Commission at the November 17th meeting.

Walking Path FDOT Grant Update

Mr. Baxley is currently waiting on the DOS Letter and a signed easement from Duke Energy.

CDBG Sewer Improvements Grant Update

Tentative construction start date is November 1, 2020, with Dewberry doing the CEI for the project.

Garrison Avenue SCOP Grant Update

Project completion is expected within the next two weeks.

First Street Lift Station and Long Avenue Update

The project is ready to proceed with the development of bid documentation.

Commercial District – Water / Sewer TRIUMP Grant Application

Dewberry is working to complete a cost estimate for the CIPP lining of the entire downtown system.

City Pier

The project is in progress.

FRDAP

The applications have been submitted.

NRCS

Mr. Baxley is working with NRCS to develop the appropriate bid documentation.

CDBG-DR

Dewberry is working on a cost estimate and will be working with the grant administrator to complete the application process by November 30, 2020.

Code Enforcement –

Mr. Anderson shared the structure at 242 Avenue B will be coming down on Thursday, and there will be a hearing next week on five additional properties that are out of compliance.

Police Department –

There was no update from the Police Department. Mr. Anderson shared that the Police Department has moved into the renovated building and all seems to be going well.

City Clerk – Charlotte Pierce

Ghosts on the Coast Update

Clerk Pierce noted everything is moving forward and appears to be on schedule for October 31, 2020.

Citizens to be Heard –

Christy McElroy noted her concerns about the Southern Advocacy Group, LLC, and that they had been reinstated on September 29, 2020.

She shared her emails with Jorge Gonzalez of the St. Joe Company concerning using the Field of Dreams Property for housing.

Chester Davis offered suggestions for use of the Washington Gym and noted that what Professor Chin shared is the fruit of what the PAC has been working on for a number of years.

Letha Mathews reminded everyone that Early Voting starts Saturday.

Cheryl Stendorf noted the work being done by Pioneer Bay, stated they had received \$31,000 from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund for food to help 80 seniors in the community.

Discussion Items by Commissioners –

Commissioner Ashbrook stated he will continue to work to bring Work Force Housing to our town.

Commissioner Langston noted the need for a light at the Gateway Entrance so students that reside there can see to board the school bus. He noted BCC is again falling down on their debris pickup, and is concerned that the lights at the Washington Gym Pavilion are being left on when people leave the site. Commissioner Langston also asked about qualifying by petition rather than paying a qualifying fee.

Commissioner Hoffman did not have any updates for the Commission.

Mayor Buzzett did not have any additional issues to discuss with the Commission.

Motion to Adjourn –

There was no other business to come before the Commission and Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 1:50 P.M.

Approved this 3rd day of November 2020.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

11/3/20

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

11/3/20

Date