

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT 2775 GARRISON AVENUE, November 10, 2020, at 1:00 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Buzzett, Commissioners Ashbrook, Hoffman, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, Police Chief Jake Richards, Finance Director Mike Lacour and Public Works Director John Grantland were also present. Attorney McCahill was absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

NRDA Grant Discussion

Josh Baxley, City Engineer, shared that after several conversations with NFWMD, it was determined that flood protection would not be considered by NWFLWMD, the grant would not cover drainage and stormwater, and could only be used for water quality issues. Mr. Baxley reviewed the grant options of digging a large hole, digging a large hole with enhanced wetlands, or installing a Baffle Box. After discussion, it was determined none of these options were financially feasible and would probably create more issues.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Ashbrook, second by Commissioner Lowry, to provide alternate options to the NFWMD, request that the project be placed on hold, and allow the Commissioners to look at other options for the funding. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

NRCS Grant Task Order

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to request additional funding for our project title EWP-5074 Wettapo Creek debris removal. The funds would be used to clean the ditch from St. Joseph Bay to the end of Chicken House Branch. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0. This is an increase of \$179,444 over the previous request and would bring the total request to \$492,806.97 with a required 25% City match. It was noted that if the project came in at a lower amount, the City would not have to request the full amount. \$75,000 has already been allocated for this project for the City's match portion.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to approve a Task Order for Dewberry to provide Technical Assistance for this project for 7.5% of the total construction cost up to \$21,862.50. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Community Garden License Agreement

Mr. Anderson shared that the St. Joe Company will lease the land for the garden to the city for 2 years and noted the company must be listed as an additional insured on the City's Liability Insurance.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Langston, to enter into the lease with the St. Joe Company for the garden area pending review and approval of the lease by City Attorney McCahill. All in favor; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Langston thanked the City Staff and fellow Commissioners for their work on this project and bringing it to conclusion.

Citizens to be Heard –

Christy McElroy shared her concerns about being unable to work on the stormwater issues with the NRDA Grant.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

There were no additional concerns to be shared by any Commissioner.

Mayor Buzzett noted that the streets in the City are an embarrassment and asked that the Commissioners be thinking of ways to provide funding to pave the streets.

Motion to Adjourn

There were no additional items to come before the Commission and Mayor Buzzett adjourned the meeting at 1:40 P.M.

Approved this 17th day of November 2020.



Rex Buzzett, Mayor

11/17/20

Date



Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

11/17/20

Date