

# **MINUTES OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET SPORTS PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN WORKSHOP FOR THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE FLORIDA, HELD IN THE COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 2775 GARRISON AVENUE, January 30, 2024, AT 5:00 P.M.**

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

## **Call to Order**

### *10<sup>th</sup> Street Sports Complex Conceptual Plan*

The purpose of the Workshop was to discuss the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Sports Park Conceptual Plan that has been recently suggested by a group of concerned parents.

Mayor Buzzett welcomed everyone to the Workshop.

Josh Baxley, Dewberry Engineers, reviewed the proposed Conceptual Site Plan – Option 2.

Commissioner Hoffman gave an overview of the long, problematic process that has been on going about the facility and stated that the train has left for the Field of Dreams. He wants to stay focused on the fields and children and in the long run, be able to accomplish the goals set.

Commissioner Lowry supports improvements of the site and noted that the City cannot do what is on the agenda today. He feels that the storm water issue has to be resolved and a safe place to play ball be provided for our children.

Mayor Buzzett wants to improve the complex with the help of the County and focus on what we can do. He asked that speakers keep their comments brief and not repeat what has already been shared.

## **Citizens to be Heard**

The following individuals shared their concerns, both for and against, the project: Deborah Barnes, Josh Dailey, Denise Soholt, Robert Branch, Jim Martin, Gina Jamison, Kristal Smallwood, Lanny Blair, John Fadio, Sam Amerson, Sr., and Jeremy Novak.

County Attorney Jeremy Novak shared that the TDC funds can be used for improvements to the existing park, that plans in place meet their criteria, encouraged the Commissioners to continue with what they are doing, and stated that he is proud of them.

## **Discussion Items by Commissioners**

*Commissioner Hoffman* feels that the closing of 10<sup>th</sup> Street is a valid concern. Water flow is also an issue and the City will be utilizing the experts at the Corp of Engineers and Northwest Florida Water Management District rather than local self-appointed experts.

Commissioner Lowry thanked Mr. Dailey for his proposal, wants to move forward with the project, and look at different designs.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Mayor Buzzett thanked those attending for their input, encouraged everyone to work together, and adjourned the Workshop at 6:10 P.M.

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024.

Rex Buzzett  
Rex Buzzett, Mayor

2/6/24  
Date

Charlotte M. Pierce  
Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

2/6/24  
Date