The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, and when permitted or required by the subject matter, the Panama City Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, held on January 25, 2018.

ROLL
MAYOR MIKE THOMAS
COUNCILORS:
JOHN REICHARD
JOSIE STRANGE
PHIL CHESTER
HECTOR SOLIS
CITY MANAGER:
MARIO GISBERT
CITY CLERK:
JO SMITH
CITY ATTORNEY:
AMY MYERS

Mayor Thomas called the Regular Meeting to order at 9 A.M. with all Council members, City Manager, Acting City Clerk and City Attorney present.

Councilman Chester gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Thomas announced the upcoming Community events.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2018 were read and approved as written per motion by Councilwoman Strange. Second was by Councilman Chester. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester    Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Aye
Councilman Solis      Aye
Councilman Reichard   Aye
Mayor Thomas           Aye

Mayor Thomas asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. Hearing none, Councilman Solis made the motion to approve the Agenda as written. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester    Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Aye
Councilman Solis      Aye
Councilman Reichard   Aye
Mayor Thomas           Aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS (REGULAR NON-PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONSENT ITEM)

The Mayor opened the Public Comments portion of the meeting at 9:05 A.M. There were no comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Smith read the Consent Agenda Items by title.

1  RESOLUTION 18-47, BID AWARD- IRRIGATION BOOSTER PUMP SYSTEM AT FRANK BROWN PARK. "A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with Culligan Water in the total amount of $43,430 for the purchase and installation of the irrigation booster pump system at Frank Brown Park."

2  RESOLUTION 18-48, BID AWARD- FRANK BROWN PARK UNDER THE PALMS PLAYGROUND. "A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with PPLT Farmington, Inc., C/O Playvrx Playsets, LLC in the amount of $69,590.39 for the purchase and installation of playground equipment for the Frank Brown Park Under the Palms Playground."

3  RESOLUTION 18-49, BID AWARD- FRANK BROWN PARK LITTLE RASCALS PLAYGROUND. "A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with PPLT Farmington, Inc., C/O Playvrx Playsets, LLC in the amount of $44,427.45 for the purchase and installation of playground equipment for the Frank Brown Park Little Rascals Playground; and providing an immediately effective date."
4  RESOLUTION 18-50, BID AWARD- SEA OATS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PHASE 1. “A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with GAC Contractors, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $463,000 for Phase 1 of the Sea Oats Drainage Improvement Project.”

5  RESOLUTION 18-51, JEEP BEACH JAM PARADE ROAD CLOSURES. “A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach authorizing temporary road closure of a portion of South Pier Park Drive and authorizing rerouting of traffic on a portion of Front Beach Road, on Saturday May 19, 2018, for the “Jeep Beach Jam” Parade; and providing an immediately effective date.”

6  RESOLUTION 18-56, VERTICAL TURBINE PUMP REPAIR. “A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving a purchase from AAG Electric Motors & Pumps, Inc., relating to the repair of a vertical turbine pump for the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plant in the total amount of $16,928.80”.

Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Aye
Councilman Solis  Aye
Councilman Reichard  Aye
Mayor Thomas  Aye

ITEM 1  RESOLUTION 18-52, CALLING FOR REFERENDUM ON THREE CHARTER AMENDMENTS AND SETTING BALLOT LANGUAGE. Ms. Myers read Resolution 18-52 by title and explained the purpose of this Resolution and its efficiency for all three questions to be on one document. Councilwoman Strange asked what if she disagreed with one of these items, and Ms. Myers replied that the Ordinances had already been adopted. This Resolution merely called for the referendum and set the questions for the ballot. The Mayor asked if there were any more questions and there were none. Councilman Reichard made the motion to approve Resolution 18-52. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Nay
Councilman Solis  Aye
Councilman Reichard  Aye
Mayor Thomas  Aye

ITEM 2  RESOLUTION 18-53, PURCHASE OF BUILDING OFFICIAL VEHICLE AND BUDGET AMENDMENT #7. Ms. Myers read Resolution 18-53 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any questions. Councilman Chester asked about the piggybacking and Mr. Gisbert replied that the process followed the current rules. Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 18-53. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Aye
Councilman Solis  Aye
Councilman Reichard  Aye
Mayor Thomas  Aye

ITEM 3  ORDINANCE 1446, AMENDING LDC RE LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, 1ST READING. Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1446 by title. She said the Planning Board recommended approval at their November meeting. The Mayor asked if there were any questions and there were none. Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Ordinance 1446. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye
Councilwoman Strange  Aye
Councilman Solis  Aye
Councilman Reichard  Aye
Mayor Thomas  Aye
ITEM 4 RESOLUTION 18-54, DEWBERRY ENGINEERS TASK ORDER GWSRU 2018-01 AND BUDGET AMENDMENT #8, PCB PARKWAY RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEM EXTENSION TO CAULEY AVENUE. Ms. Myers read Resolution 18-54 by title. Councilman Reichard asked Mr. Shortt where the project started. Mr. Shortt responded that that the system currently stopped at North Glades Trail and this extension would add another mile eastward. He said this would allow the City to bring water into the future subdivision and serve the future sports park and future school with reclaimed water. The Mayor asked if there were any more questions and there were none. Councilman Reichard made the motion to approve Resolution 18-54. Second was by Councilwoman Strange and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye  
Councilwoman Strange  Aye  
Councilman Solis  Aye  
Councilman Reichard  Aye  
Mayor Thomas  Aye  

ITEM 5 RESOLUTION 18-57, PURCHASE OF VACANT LAND FROM KENNETH AND JENNIFER PURVIS, LAGUNA BEACH SEWER AREA LIFT STATION SITE. Ms. Myers read Resolution 18-57 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any comments or questions; there were none. Councilman Reichard made the motion to approve Resolution 18-57. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye  
Councilwoman Strange  Aye  
Councilman Solis  Aye  
Councilman Reichard  Aye  
Mayor Thomas  Aye  

ITEM 6 RESOLUTION 18-60, ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT HOLLAND AND KNIGHT AND BUDGET AMENDMENT #9. Ms. Myers read Resolution 18-60 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any questions and there were none. Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Resolution 18-60. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester  Aye  
Councilwoman Strange  Aye  
Councilman Solis  Aye  
Councilman Reichard  Aye  
Mayor Thomas  Aye  

DELEGATIONS

The Mayor opened the Delegations period at 9:15 A.M.
1  Mr. Paul Dalton, 107 Manistee. Mr. Dalton asked if three more Patrol positions were posted. Chief Whitman confirmed there were three vacancies
2  Mr. Tom Klomps, 614 Poinsettia Court. Mr. Klomps asked Counsel how the Fire Department could continue to respond to medical calls when the Charter specifically stated they could only respond to fight fires. He urged the Council to appoint a Fire Commission to oversee the use of the Fire Assessment to ensure its proper use. He also suggested contracting with the Bay County Sheriff for law enforcement at half the cost and be able to double the number of officers for the current budget.
3  Mr. Mathew Bush, 170 Crane. Mr. Bush spoke of his mother Eva and respect. The Mayor asked if there were further comments. There were none. The Delegations section of the meeting was closed at 9:20 A.M.

Mayor Thomas asked Ms. Myers to clarify the figures referenced by Mr. Klomps and if any were inaccurate to clarify the information. Ms. Myers stated she would do so. She also clarified the comments by Mr. Klomps on the Fire duties as outlined in the Charter. She stated the wording was in our Code from 1973 and had not been changed since the City was formed. She said it was not a mandatory statement and “protection of life and property” would not exclude EMS services. She continued that Florida Statutes expressly authorized the Fire Department to provide First Responder and EMS services. They also limited the City’s ability to recover from the people who benefited from those services. The Charter did not limit the City’s ability to provide those services.
Ms. Myers had no Attorneys report.

Mr. Gisbert announced the job postings and Bids posted on the website. He also said the TDC was bringing three events Emerald Coast Boat & Lifestyle Show on March 2, Emerald Coast Cruizin’ Car Show on March 7, and UnWinEd on March 23 to Aaron Bessant Park during the blackout period, and asked Council if they would agree these events would be a benefit to the community and give him the authority to approve these events. The Mayor asked if there were any questions or opposition, and there was none. The Mayor confirmed the City Manager had the authority requested.

Councilman Reichard and Councilman Chester had no comments. Councilman Solis said this was First Responder Week in Florida. He also commented that Ms. Bush was a wonderful woman and recounted their conversations. Councilwoman Strange had no comments.

Mayor Thomas said the City needed a Public Information Officer (PIO) to ensure accuracy, help the City tell the story and prevent confusion among the public. He said a recent News Herald story was a good story but not completely accurate. He said the Fire Assessment was not to build a fire station but to provide the residents with good fire services. He said he had been told that an Ad Valorem tax was necessary, and he stated that he did not believe that would ever be necessary on the beach. He added that in five to six years, the rest of the 1% Gross Sales receipts that were currently going to Pier Park would then be coming to the City. He said a PIO would correct misinformation. He continued that it had been stated that hotels and motels paid a different usage rate than the residents which was also inaccurate.

Councilman Reichard spoke of the condominium water fees and stated each condo owner paid the minimum rate even if the units were vacant most of the year. Councilwoman Strange said hotels and motels pay a lower rate for water. Mr. Shortt explained that water had a base rate with single family homes and condominiums having the same base rate. Hotels and Motels had a lower base rate because they had no kitchens and less water demand but they were charged the same gallonage as residences and condominiums. He said they were about $3.50 per month base rate per unit less than residences or condominiums. Councilwoman Strange said that would be a savings if changed.

Mayor Thomas said in the County, the news media use the PIO and the TDC use the PIO, and he thought it would help to authorize the City Manager to go out for a Public Information Officer for the City. Councilman Reichard said he supported that idea. There were no other comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 A.M.

READ AND APPROVED this 8th of February, 2018.

IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FOREGOING MINUTES AND A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THESE MINUTES, THE FOREGOING MINUTES SHALL CONTROL.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor