



City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
www.venicegov.com

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

[22-5543](#)

Instructions on How to Watch and/or Participate in the Meeting

Broadcast

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Feinsod called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Ron Feinsod, Vice Mayor Nick Pachota, Dr. Joseph Neunder, Dr. Mitzie Fiedler, Mr. Jim Boldt, Ms. Helen Moore and Mrs. Rachel Frank

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, City Manager Ed Lavalley, Assistant City Manager James Clinch, Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia, Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda Master Officer Paul Joyce, Acting Information Technology Director Eric Tanner, and Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk Michaels provided the invocation and Vice Mayor Pachota led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. RECOGNITION

[22-5544](#)

Proclaim April 29 through May 8, 2022 as Suncoast Remake Learning Days, Presented to Stacy Sternberg on behalf of the Patterson Foundation

Mayor Feinsod presented this Proclamation.

[22-5545](#)

Proclaim April 2022 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Presented to Jessica Johnston, SPARCC Lead Sexual Assault Victim Advocate, and Police Sergeant Sean Hammett

Mayor Feinsod presented this Proclamation.

[22-5546](#) Swearing in: Firemedics Andrew Diemer, Neil Collison and Hunter Thomas
City Clerk Michaels swore in Firemedics Diemer, Collison, and Thomas.

[22-5547](#) Swearing in: Police Officer Robert Santa
City Clerk Michaels swore in Officer Santa.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Tommye Whittaker, 630 West Venice Avenue, complimented the City regarding Old Betsey and Lord-Higel House.

Susan Neumyer, 220 Santa Maria Street, spoke in support of historic preservation, downtown Venice, and height restrictions.

Pat McDonald, 250 Santa Maria Street, expressed concern regarding the airport, number of flights, and opposition to a tower.

Nancy Galbraith, 126 Bolanza Court, spoke in opposition to a potential shopping center development across from the Venetian Golf and River Club.

Debbie Schafer, 121 Bolanza Court, spoke in opposition to the Neal Laurel Road shopping center and impact on local residents.

Chris Davis, 340 Shore Road, expressed concerns about an airport tower

James Cannon, 1255 Mohawk Road, expressed concerns about an airport tower.

Brad Link, did not disclose address, spoke against an airport tower.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Mrs. Frank, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A. MAYOR

[22-5548](#) Appoint Robert Safadi to the Citizen Tax Oversight Committee to Serve a Term from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2026
This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY CLERK[22-5549](#)

Minutes of the March 8, 2022, March 22, 2022 Regular Meetings, and March 29, 2022 Capital Improvement Workshop

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT**V. PUBLIC HEARINGS****A. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING**[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-07](#)

An Ordinance Amending City of Venice Ordinance No. 2021-32 Which Adopted the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2021 and Ending September 30, 2022; by Increasing the Total Revenue by \$414,000 and Total Expenditures by \$414,000; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Feinsod opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications and no one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that Ordinance No. 2022-07 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-08](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article IV, Marine Activities, Section 46-183, Launching and Docking Watercraft; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read by title only.

City Attorney Fernandez recommended deleting number 6 in the proposed ordinance.

There were no written communications.

Charles Hand, 34577 S Tamiami Trail #164, expressed concerns about the ordinance, as he lives on his boat part-time, and requested a dock for temporary dinghy docking.

Master Officer Joyce spoke regarding Sarasota County's rules, mooring fields versus anchoring area, and noted Higel Park is an anchoring area. He commented that City ordinances do not allow for living on boats and this is not the place for temporary docking.

Assistant City Manager Clinch, noted there is not enough space to support a dinghy dock at this location and would not promote safety at the boat launch.

Master Officer Joyce cautioned tide changes can cause damage to docks when vessels are left.

Discussion took place that the City Department of Public Works, Police Department, and Sea Tow must remove derelict vessels 3-4 times per year, West Coast Inland Navigation District often incurs the cost, where supplies can be obtained, marinas available in the City, and the possibility of permits issued on an individual basis.

City Attorney Fernandez noted permitting must be fair to everyone and enforceable.

Discussion continued regarding the youth boating association, safety, and dinghy docking.

City Manager Lavalley stated Higel Park is a launch area and suggested a manual of resources for boaters could be prepared.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Vice Mayor Pachota, that Ordinance No. 2022-08 be approved as amended, deleting (6) When an emergency declaration is made by the city, mooring at docks is allowed until the emergency is terminated. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[21-5365](#)

Jean Trammell, Chair of the Historic Preservation Board, and Frank Wright, Board Member: Historic Preservation Board's Annual Report and Council Feedback (10 min.)

Discussion took place on the goals of the Historic Preservation Board (HPB), the Certified Local Government (CLG) status is part of the Land Development Regulations (LDRS) and a survey is not in the budget.

There was agreement with goals 1, 3, 4 and 6.

Vice Mayor Pachota noted that staff must be involved in marketing campaigns for education.

Discussion took place that pursuing the CLG is on the Council agenda, as opposed to the HPB.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, that the proposed 2021-2022 Historic Preservation Board Annual Report be approved with the revision of keeping the following goals:

- 1. Develop an annual plan, with timelines**
- 3. Develop a historic preservation education/outreach program;**
- 4. Develop a historic preservation brochure**
- 6. Develop a City of Venice historic marketing plan;**

and eliminating goals 2 and 5.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[22-5429](#)

Jean Trammell, Chair of the Public Art Advisory Board: Board's Annual Report and Council Feedback (10 min.)

Ms. Trammell answered a Council question regarding an income stream for public art.

Discussion took place that an income stream is too broad, researching what other municipalities are doing.

Discussion took place about ordinances, there is an existing public art ordinance, the process of updating an ordinance, and there not being need to rework the current ordinance.

City Manager clarified that this is the time for Council to agree or disagree with the board's goals.

Discussion continued on the proposed agenda.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, that the 2021-2022 Public Art Advisory Annual Report be approved with the revision of keeping the following goal:

- 2. Start a coordinated plan with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Public Works Department, showing current public art and potential locations for future public art;**

and eliminating goals 1 and 3.

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Recess was taken from 10:30 a.m. until 10:40 a.m.

[22-5427](#)

Tom Jones, Chair of the Environmental Advisory Board: Board's Annual Report and Council Feedback (10 min.)

Chair Jones, presented the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) report to Council.

City Attorney Fernandez commented on the role of the Council Liaison.

Discussion about recycling, mini reefs, green building standards, meeting county standards, education, Florida Green Building website, floating islands, and Council Liaison roles.

A motion was made by Dr. Neunder, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that the 2021-2022 Environmental Advisory Board Annual Report Agenda be approved with the following goals:

- 1. Encourage an increase in curbside and commercial recycling and look for ways to reduce contamination in the collection and transportation process.**
- 2. Research the number and locations of all public trash receptacles in Venice as it relates to the viability of adding recycling receptacles at each location including what it takes to implement along with any costs, challenges, and benefits anticipated or experiences in other communities.**
- 3. Promote the use of biodegradable food service items at special events in Venice.**
- 4. Showcase the value of mini reefs under docks and floating plant islands in retention ponds as simple and low cost methods to reduce excess nutrients in our waterways.**
- 5. Raise awareness of the long term environmental and economic value of green building standards in new construction and remodeling.**

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[22-5428](#)

Roger Effron, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Board's Annual Report and Council Feedback (10 min.)

Chair Effron presented the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board goals and priorities.

Discussion took place regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and Wellfield Park.

A motion was made by Dr. Neunder, seconded by Vice Mayor Pachota, that the 2021-2022 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report be approved with the following goals:

- 1. New Northeast Venice Parks**
- 2. Vendors to sell alcohol**
- 3. Evaluation of parks by members**

The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

[ORD. NO.
2022-09](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Providing for Placement of the Structure Located at 640 W. Venice Avenue on the Local Register of Historical Resources Pursuant to Section 86-28, Historic Preservation, of the City of Venice Code of Ordinances; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Historical Resources Manager Klinkhamer provided a presentation on the property, including the application, nominating criteria, historical, and architectural information.

There were no written communications.

Mr. Farrell, 640 West Venice Avenue, spoke regarding the importance of historic preservation in Venice, the home, the architect, features of the home, and the recommendation of the HPB.

Mr. Klinkhamer answered a Council question regarding the local register and the significance of this property as the finest representation of the post WWII housing boom.

Discussion took place about the nomination, the property, uniqueness, location, and support for the nomination.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2022-09 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

B. RESOLUTIONS

[RES. NO.
2022-08](#)

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Accepting Utilities and Improvements Installed by Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc. and Accepting a One Year Developers Maintenance Bond and Bill of Sale, and Providing an Effective Date (Venice Woodlands Phase 2B)

Clerk Michaels read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Neunder, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Resolution No. 2022-08 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

C. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

[22-5550](#) Approve Envision Venice Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to approve Envision Venice Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

[22-5551](#) Legislative Referral to Direct Staff to Review the City's Code of Ordinance, Chapter 54 Solid Waste, Article III, Storage Preparation and Collection of Solid Waste, Division 2, Preparation, Section 54-61, Preparation of Solid Waste and Article V, Storage, Preparation and Collection of Recyclables, Division 1, Preparation, Section 54-120, Preparation of Recycling, and Incorporate a Citation Process for Violations (City Manager)

Assistant City Manager Clinch presented the request to revise the ordinance.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to direct the City Manager's office to review the existing City Code Section 54-61(c), and City Code Section 54-120 (b) in coordination with the Public Works Department, and incorporate a citation process for violations and bring recommended revisions back to Council in the format of an ordinance. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[22-5552](#) Legislative Referral to Direct Staff to Schedule a Presentation from Venice Aviation Society, Inc. (VASI) at a Future Meeting Regarding an Air Traffic Control Tower at the Venice Airport (Moore)

Dave Wimberly, Venice Aviation Society, Inc. (VASI), spoke at Council's request regarding an airport tower, noting that VASI members were previously against a tower, but members are now in favor of due to increased air traffic. He stated he feels a staff study needs to be done.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to direct staff to schedule an informational presentation from Venice Aviation Society, Inc. (VASI) at a Future Meeting Regarding an Air Traffic Control Tower at the Venice Airport. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

VIII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTSCity Attorney

City Attorney provided highlights of a previously provided written summary of legislation that could impact the City if signed by the governor, including regulating smoking at public beaches and parks, floating solar allowance, legal notices on websites, business damages for impacting business profits, expenditure of public funds for items that may go to the electorate

and may impact charter amendments, shade meetings for cyber security, and restricting tree removal.

City Clerk

Clerk Michaels had no report.

City Manager

City Manager Lavallee reminded Council about Student Government Day on Monday, April 25th.

IX. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Frank

Mrs. Frank attended Junior League of Sarasota and commented on the affordable housing discussion being valuable.

Council Member Boldt

Mr. Boldt noted the informative discussion at the Junior League of Sarasota breakfast.

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore had no report.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler had no report.

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder thanked his fellow Council Members for reporting on affordable housing.

Vice Mayor Pachota

Vice Mayor Pachota had no report.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod had no report.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one signed up to speak.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk