



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

[23-6060](#)

Meeting Instructions and Request to Speak Form

Broadcast

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Nick Pachota, Vice Mayor Jim Boldt, Ms. Helen Moore, Mrs. Rachel Frank, Mr. Dick Longo and Mr. Rick Howard
Absent: 1 - Dr. Mitzie Fiedler

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Assistant City Manager James Clinch, Deputy City Clerk Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Finance Director Linda Senne, Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark, and Airport Director Mark Cervasio.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk Michaels offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Longo.

I. RECOGNITION

[23-6061](#)

10-Year Service Award, James Eppley, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor

City Manager Lavallee and Airport Director Cervasio presented this recognition.

[23-6062](#)

Proclaim May 2023 as "Jewish American Heritage Month", Presented to Rabbi Sholom Schmerling, on Behalf of the Jewish Community

Mayor Pachota and City Manager Lavallee presented this proclamation.

[23-6063](#)

Proclaim May 2023 as "Historic Preservation Month", Presented to Mark Beebe, Chair of the Historic and Architectural Preservation Board (HAPB)

Mayor Pachota and City Manager Lavallee presented this proclamation.

[23-6064](#)

Proclaim April 30th to May 6th, 2023 as "Municipal Clerks Week", Presented to City Clerk Kelly Michaels and City Clerk Staff, and Presentation on the Office of the City Clerk

Clerk Michaels provided an overview of the Clerk's office and duties.

Mayor Pachota and City Manager Lavallee presented this proclamation.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Margaret Jean Cannon, 516 Harbor Drive South, spoke on changes to Siesta Key and commended the City of Venice for keeping Venice a vibrant community.

Dan Urkhart, 321 Cabana Road, requested the Venice Yacht Club not be allowed overnight moorings, and expressed concern regarding public access to Higel Park's grassy picnic area.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Boldt, seconded by Mr. Howard, to approve items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

[23-6065](#)

Approve Venice Falcon Soccer Club's 5k Event at Maxine Barritt Park on September 23, 2023

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

A. CITY CLERK

[23-6066](#)

Minutes of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Meeting March 30, 2023 and Regular Council Meeting April 11, 2023

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[23-6067](#)

Appoint Nancy Dixon to the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Term from April 25, 2023 to March 31, 2026

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[23-6068](#)

Appoint Brandon Levar to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to Complete the Unexpired Term of Kelly O'leary from April 25, 2023 to August 31, 2026

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY MANAGER

Engineering

[23-6069](#) Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Locally Funded Agreement for Use of Park Impact Fees Between Sarasota County, Florida, and the City of Venice for Wellfield Park Croquet Club Expansion

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[23-6070](#) Authorize the Mayor to Execute Agreement Regarding Improvements to Croquet Courts Between the City of Venice and the Sarasota County Croquet Club

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were none.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[ORD. NO. 2023-09](#) An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 87, Land Development Code, Section 1.2. Common Review Procedures, Section 2.2.4.5. Planned District Standards, Table 2.2.7 Traditional District Use, Table 2.3.4 Downtown Edge Development Standards, Table 2.3.14 Mixed Use Districts Use, Section 2.4.5 Commercial Uses, Section 3.1.1 Building Height, Section 9.1 Defined Terms, and Chapter 89, Environmental Regulations, Section 2.3, Unique Habitats and Protected Species, Pursuant to Text Amendment Petition No. 23-11AM; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

Council expressed appreciation to staff and citizens for working together and compromising.

A motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Longo, that Ordinance No. 2023-09 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Longo and Mr. Howard

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

B. ORDINANCE – FINAL READING**[ORD. NO.
2023-10](#)**

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 2, Administration, Article VI, Code Enforcement, Division I, Generally, by Amending Section 2-301, Definitions, Section 2-302 Special Magistrate; Amending Division 2, Code Enforcement Board; Deleting Section 2-321, Established; Membership, Section 2-322, Appointment, Qualifications and Term Members; Vacancies; Removal of Members, and Section 2-323, Chair; Quorum; Compensation of Members; Amending Section 2-324, Function And Jurisdiction, and Section 2-325, Powers; Deleting Section 2-326, Legal Counsel; Amending Section 2-327, Enforcement Procedure, Section 2-328, Hearings, Section 2-329, Imposition of Fine; Amount of Fine; Fine and Costs to Constitute Lien, Section 2-330, Appeal of Code Enforcement Orders, and Section 2-332, Provisions of Division Supplemental; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Mr. Longo, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2023-10 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Longo and Mr. Howard

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

VI. NEW BUSINESS**A. RESOLUTION****[RES. NO.
2023-13](#)**

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Accepting Utilities and Improvements Installed by Vistera Associates, LLC, and Border Road Investments, LLC, and Accepting a One Year Developers Cash Maintenance Bond and Bill of Sale, and Providing an Effective Date (Vistera Phase 1, 2nd Segment)

Clerk Michaels read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Boldt, seconded by Mr. Howard, that Resolution No. 2023-13 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Longo and Mr. Howard

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

B. PRESENTATION WITH ACTION

[23-6071](#)

Executive Assistant Cordy Crane: Leadership Venice Proposed Class Project Presentation (10 min.)

Executive Assistant Cordy Crane and Alison McGowan provided a presentation on behalf of their Leadership Venice class, including an overview of the program, class project guidelines, project proposal, flagpole and restoration, location and background of Heritage Park, benefit to the community, and request for approval of the project.

Council expressed appreciation for the project.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Boldt, seconded by Mr. Howard, to approve the Leadership Venice 2023 Class Project Proposal to construct a tribute to first responders in Heritage Park. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Longo and Mr. Howard

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

C. PRESENTATION

[23-6072](#)

Finance Director Linda Senne: Quarterly Financial Report (10 min.)

Finance Director Senne presented the quarterly financial report, including general fund revenues, reserves, and expenses.

D. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

[23-6073](#)

Appoint Richard Clapp to the Planning Commission to Complete the Unexpired Term of Lissa MacDonald from April 25, 2023 to January 31, 2026, or Keep Applications Open

Discussion took place regarding keeping applications open, appointing Mr. Clapp, and the Planning Commission wishing to have a full board.

A motion was made by Mr. Longo, seconded by Vice Mayor Boldt, to appoint Richard Clapp to the Planning Commission to complete the unexpired term of Lissa MacDonald from April 25, 2023 to January 31, 2026. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Mrs. Frank and Mr. Longo

No: 4 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mr. Howard

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

Discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of keeping applications open longer, including getting the highest qualified candidate, potential candidates not seeing the posted opening, and having the Planning Commission being fully seated.

A motion was made by Mayor Pachota, seconded by Ms. Moore, that the application period for the open position on the Planning Commission be extended 14 days. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Pachota, Vice Mayor Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mr. Howard

No: 2 - Mrs. Frank and Mr. Longo

Absent: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

City Attorney Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

City Clerk Michaels stated Dr. Fiedler had been unable to join the meeting virtually but had contacted her that Council could excuse her if they desired to do so.

City Manager

City Manager Lavallee had no report.

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Longo

Mr. Longo reported on his United Way appointment, the Economic Development Commission's (EDC) priorities being hospitals, light industrial space, and affordable/workforce housing. He announced he will not be seeking re-election at the end of his term.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler was absent.

Council Member Howard

Mr. Howard had no report.

Council Member Frank

Mrs. Frank relayed Public Art Advisory Board's concerns about the potential board dissolution. She noted the difficulty recruiting members and indicated Board Members would assist in finding members. She also

commented on the success of the Earth Day event at Blalock Park.

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore had no report.

Vice Mayor Boldt

Mr. Boldt offered congratulations to Venice Main Street (VMS) on a successful Sharks Tooth Festival.

Mayor Pachota

Mayor Pachota provided a summary of events, proclamations, and the success of the Earth Day celebration and Sharks Tooth Festival. He offered a reminder for Commissioner Nancy Detert's upcoming funeral and reception.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk