



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Broadcast

[22-5414](#)

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

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, Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia, City Manager Ed Lavalley, Assistant City Manager James Clinch, Acting Information Technology Director Eric Tanner, and Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Finance Director Linda Senne, Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark, and Planning Manager Amy Nelson.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

I. RECOGNITION

[22-5415](#)

Swearing in: Sergeant Louis White Promoted to Police Lieutenant

Clerk Michaels swore in Lieutenant White.

[22-5416](#)

Swearing in: Lieutenant Andrew Leisenring Promoted to Police Captain

Clerk Michaels swore in Captain Leisenring.

[22-5417](#)

Swearing in: Captain Charlie Thorpe Promoted to Police Chief

Clerk Michaels swore in Chief Thorpe.

[22-5418](#)

2021 Employee of the Year Award: Anthony J. Rosen, Electrical Maintenance Technician 1, Public Works Department

City Manager Lavallee presented this award to Anthony Rosen.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Jon Barrick, 409 Nassau Street S, spoke in favor of Certified Local Government (CLG).

Frank Wright, 521 Harbor Drive S, spoke in favor of CLG.

Curt Whittaker, 613 West Venice Ave, spoke in favor of CLG.

Nancy DeForge, 332, Laurel Hollow Dr., Nokomis, spoke in favor of CLG.

Chris Johnson, 2000 Tarpon Center Dr., spoke regarding the request to serve beer and wine at Venice public beaches.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Vice Mayor Pachota, to approve items in the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item No. 22-5421, which was removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of Vice Mayor Pachota. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A. CITY CLERK

[22-5419](#)

Minutes of the January 6, 2022 and January 11, 2022 Meetings

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY MANAGER

Finance

[22-5420](#)

Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Partnership Funding Agreement with Family Promise of South Sarasota County, Inc.

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Police

[22-5422](#)

Authorize the Mayor to Sign Project Lifesaver Active Membership Operational Agreement and Standards

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

Vice Mayor Pachota pulled Item 22-5421, Authorize the Mayor to Sign Letter to Historic Property Owners in Venice on Considering Listing their Property on the Local Register of Historic Places, from the Consent Agenda.

CITY MANAGER

Historical Resources

[22-5421](#)

Authorize the Mayor to Sign Letter to Historic Property Owners in Venice on Considering Listing their Property on the Local Register of Historic Places

Discussion took place regarding concerns with the letter, packet, proper procedure, logistics, and adding it to a future agenda for discussion and possible action.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, to deny Item 22-5421. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

V. PRESENTATIONS

[22-5423](#)

Mariah Justice, Certified Local Government Coordinator, Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources: Presentation on the Certified Local Government Program (10 min.)

Ms. Justice provided a presentation on the CLG program to include grant funding, support, education, benefits, the National Register, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) variances, local tax credit programs, responsibilities, and resources. She answered Council questions regarding cost, revisions of ordinance, review of amendments, and merging the architectural review and historic preservation boards.

[22-5424](#)

Martin Black, Certified Planner, Land and P-3 Advisors: Presentation on Future Use of the Six Acre Parcel Located at 210 Laurel Oaks Road, Nokomis, Florida (10 min.)

Mr. Black questioned the future use of the six acre parcel located at 210 Laurel Oaks Road, Nokomis, and requested a list of other properties the City owns.

City Manager Lavallee answered Council questions regarding the property and indicated the City owns one other parcel that is 39 acres noting 15 acres of it will house the booster station for the Utilities Department. He also answered questions regarding possible City uses for the six acre parcel.

Mr. Black noted his organization will come before Council with a formal request or application.

[22-5425](#)

Michael Sollitto, Chief Operations Officer, Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County: Request to Release Parcel Restrictions on the Two Acre Parcel Located at 749 Knights Trail Road, Nokomis, Florida (10 min.)

This presentation was postponed by the presenter.

[22-5426](#)

Kara Morgan, Chief Executive Officer, Venice MainStreet Inc.: Annual Report (10 min)

Ms. Morgan and Tracy Silver, Board President, Venice MainStreet, provided their Annual Report, including their mission, staff, board of directors, organization focus, events, 2021 highlights, social media and marketing reach, financials, and volunteers. She expressed appreciation for continued support, and answered Council questions regarding the strategic plan and report.

[22-5427](#)

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

Mr. Jones provided the board's annual report and answered Council questions regarding city liaisons, guidance on the strategic plan, Land Development Regulations (LDRs), and floating islands.

Mayor Feinsod requested a report of the Environmental Advisory Board's (EAB) recommendations given, and those that were accepted and rejected by the Planning Commission for the LDRs. He also asked for the EAB to bring to Council the water quality expert and recommendations that the Planning Commission did not accept. No Council action was taken on this request.

[22-5428](#)

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

Mr. Effron provided the board's annual report for the year. Dr. Fiedler informed him that the Planning Commission would be requesting the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to finalize and adopt the master parks plan. No Council action was taken on this.

[22-5429](#)

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

Ms. Trammell provided the board's annual report.

Dr. Fiedler gave feedback regarding parks and signage. She requested a plan for the gateways to the historic districts, and recommended working in conjunction with the City Engineer and partnering with the Parks and

Recreation Advisory Board and Venice MainStreet. No Council action was taken on this.

[22-5430](#)

Finance Director Linda Senne: One Cent Sales Tax Referendum Project Priority List (10 min.)

Finance Director Senne provided a presentation on the One Cent Sales Tax, gave examples of surtax funded city projects, process, project list and detail. She answered Council questions regarding solar panels, what funds can be used for, capital vs. maintenance, electricity bills, for utilities, and government buildings.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. EASEMENT

[22-5431](#)

Convey a Permanent Drainage Easement to Sarasota County for Stormwater Conveyance and Treatment on the City-owned Booster Pump Station Property Located at 500 Gene Green Road, Nokomis, Florida

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 Item No. 22-5431 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

B. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-02](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 86, Land Development Code, Article II, Administration and Review Authorities, Section 86-25, Architectural Review Board; 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 Feinsod opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2022-02 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.
2022-04

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 \$337,000 and Total Expenditures by \$337,000; 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.

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Ordinance No. 2022-04 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

VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

City Attorney Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

Clerk Michaels had no report.

City Manager

City Manager Lavallee had no report.

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler had no report.

Council Member Boldt

Mr. Boldt had no report.

Council Member Frank

Mrs. Frank provided an update on the Venice Housing Authority.

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore had no report.

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder shared an update from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that there would be a public forum regarding River Road on January 27th, 2022.

Vice Mayor Pachota

Vice Mayor Pachota provided an update on the Council of Governments (COG) and the Convocation of Governments.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod provided a comment on the Seaboard area as a possible arts district with affordable housing.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one signed up to speak.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk