



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Broadcast

[21-5255](#)

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

Mayor Feinsod called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Moore to excuse Brian Kelly's absence due to illness from the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

Present: 6 - Mayor Ron Feinsod, Vice Mayor Richard Cautero, Council Member Helen Moore, Council Member Nick Pachota, Dr. Joseph Neunder and Dr. Margaret Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Council Member Brian Kelly

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Information Technology Director Christophe St. Luce, Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Fire Chief Frank Giddens, Police Captain Charlie Thorpe, and Director of Human Resources Alan Bullock.

In-person: Mr. Pachota, Dr. Fiedler, Dr. Neunder, and Ms. Moore

Via video conference: Mr. Cautero and Mayor Feinsod

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. RECOGNITION

[21-5256](#)

Proclaim the Week of October 3-9, 2021 as "Fire Prevention Week", Presented to Fire Chief Frank Giddens

Mr. Pachota presented this Proclamation.

[21-5257](#) Retirement Certificate, Len Bramble, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Lavallee presented this Certificate.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Justin Bloomquist, 19131 Mangieri Street, Venice, spoke regarding city ordinance prohibiting the sale of alcohol at the beach, The Pilot House on Venice Beach, and request to reconsider the option of selling alcohol at this location.

Dave Wimberly, 101 Inlets, Venice Aviation Society, Inc. (VASI), thanked Mr. Bramble and Ms. Stelzer for their assistance through the years, spoke in favor of the Taxiway E extension project funded by the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), and is a much needed safety improvement for the airport.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Moore, to approve items in the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item No. 21-5261. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

A. CITY CLERK

[21-5258](#) Minutes of the September 14, 2021 Regular Meeting, September 15, 2021 Interview for City Clerk Candidate Meeting, and September 15, 2021 Budget Public Hearing

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

[21-5259](#) Set the Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 2021-37 (Petition 21-06RZ) at 9:00 a.m. or Shortly Thereafter on October 12 and 26, 2021 for City Initiated Rezone Petition (Booster Pump Station)

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY MANAGER

Airport

[21-5260](#) Approve Contract with Wright Construction Group, Inc. to construct Taxiway E Extension in the Amount of \$1,888,008.14

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Human Resources

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT[21-5261](#)

Approve Employment Agreement with Kelly Michaels as City Clerk

Discussion took place regarding experience, comparisons, supply and demand, due diligence, a fair contract, workload, demand, six month evaluation, longevity, high level position, support of contract, evaluations, salary increases, longevity, market conditions, and skills.

Ms. Fernandez spoke regarding the contract having no yearly increase and will be at the discretion of city council.

Dr. Neunder stated salary figures for other fields and other jurisdictions. He also stated that Ms. Michaels is a qualified candidate, but cannot support the contract as presented.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Moore to approve Item No. 21-5261. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota and Dr. Fiedler

No: 1 - Dr. Neunder

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

Recess was taken from 10:20 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION[21-5264](#)

Approval to Appoint Captain Thorpe as Police Chief

Mr. Lavallee spoke to Captain Thorpe's credentials.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to approve the appointment of Captain Thorpe as Police Chief. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS[21-5262](#)

Dedication of Easement Between Florida Power and Light (FPL) and the City of Venice Concerning Property at 245 Saint Augustine Avenue, Venice, Florida also Known as Dr. Fred Albee Park

Mayor Feinsod opened the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Dr. Neunder, that Item No. 21-5262 be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

A. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING

[ORD. NO. 2021-30](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 86, Land Development Code, Article V, Use Regulations, Division 9, Specific Use Regulations, by Adding Section 86-158, Mobile Food Vendor; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Feinsod opened the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Dr. Neunder, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that Ordinance No. 2021-30 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

Discussion took place regarding council feedback on the ordinance, concerns about food vendors parking near restaurants, advertisements, and banners.

Ms. Moore stated she is in favor of this ordinance, and was interested to hear if the council had received any feedback.

Mr. Pachota stated local restaurants had concerns about food vendors parking near their establishments, advertisements, and banners.

[ORD. NO. 2021-35](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 54, Solid Waste, Article VI, Rates and Charges; Billing Procedure, Section 54-161, Fee Schedule; Deposits; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Feinsod opened the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that Ordinance No. 2021-35 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

[RES. NO. 2021-28](#)

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Requesting Sarasota County to Designate Laurel Road as a Priority Road Project and Expand and Improve the Segment from Knights Trail Eastward to Jacaranda Boulevard; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Dr. Neunder, that Resolution No. 2021-28 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

Mr. Lavallee spoke regarding the road impact fees involved in the resolution and the relationship between the city and county, mobility fees (road) and park impact fees belonging to the county.

Discussion occurred regarding support of the resolution, request to the county, condition of the road, and safety.

[RES. NO. 2021-21](#)

A Resolution Providing for the City of Venice General Municipal Election to be Held on November 2, 2021, to Elect Two Councilmembers, for Three-Year Terms; and Designating Polling Places for the Election; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Neunder, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that Resolution No. 2021-21 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

RES. NO.
2021-24

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Accepting Utilities and Improvements Installed by Forestar (US) Real Estate Group, Inc., and Accepting a One Year Developers Maintenance Bond and Bill of Sale, and Providing an Effective Date (Palencia Phase 1)

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Moore, that Resolution No. 2021-24 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

RES. NO.
2021-25

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida; Relating to the State Revolving Fund Loan Program; Making Findings: Authorizing the Loan Application; Authorizing the Loan Agreement; Establishing Pledged Revenues; Designating Authorized Representatives; Providing Assurances; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Pachota, that Resolution No. 2021-25 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

RES. NO.
2021-27

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Venice, Florida, Adopting Procedures for Temporary Road Closures for Special Events, Acknowledging Florida Department of Transportation Requirements Regarding Same, Designating a City Official to Authorize Temporary Road Closures for Special Events Within the City; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Council Member Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that Resolution No. 2021-27 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

B. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION-continued**21-5263**

Determine Use of Mobility Fees for the Pinebrook Road/Venice Avenue Intersection and Sarasota Memorial Hospital Intersection on Pinebrook Road

Mr. Lavallee spoke regarding use of mobility fees for the Pinebrook Road/Venice Avenue intersection, comprehensive plan, capital improvement schedule, mobility fees, pending grant, Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH) Pinebrook Road entrance, and options.

Discussion ensued regarding the relationship with the county, agreement with the Laurel Road resolution, Pinebrook Road-Venice Avenue intersection, recommendations, having a balanced plan, multiple projects, and mobility fees.

Mayor Feinsod passed the gavel to Mr. Cautero at 11:32 a.m. and left the meeting.

Mr. Cautero passed the gavel to Mayor Feinsod at 11:35 a.m. upon his return.

Mr. Lavallee noted that council would make recommendations regarding mobility and impact fees, not staff, and that council may look at options and pass a resolution.

Discussion continued regarding data, roads, staff explanations, impact fees being finite, and capital improvement schedule.

[21-5265](#)

Request from Charter Review Committee to Hold a Joint Meeting with City Council to Review their Recommendations

Discussion took place regarding the request for a joint meeting between the charter review committee (CRC) and city council, whether a meeting was necessary, if a meeting should be scheduled before or after the election, and having the CRC chair present to city council instead of having a joint meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Pachota, seconded by Council Member Moore, that council request the Chair of the Charter Review Committee to present their findings and recommendations at a scheduled council meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder and Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Mr. Kelly

VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

Ms. Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

Ms. Stelzer stated the budget public hearing is at 5:01 p.m.

City Manager

Mr. Lavallee spoke regarding contract with the county to re-sod the soccer fields.

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS***Council Member Moore***

Ms. Moore spoke on the grand opening for the Venice Housing Authority facilities and noted the city special event permitting process is cumbersome.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler had no report and complimented Mr. Clinch regarding a bench.

Council Member Pachota

Mr. Pachota had no report.

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder thanked Mr. Clinch and Mr. Lavallee for working with the county to re-sod the soccer fields, Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) On Demand ridership is up and there has been an increase in Venice, and that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is working on River Road.

Council Member Kelly

Mr. Kelly was absent.

Council Member Cautero

Mr. Cautero asked Mr. Lavallee about the plan for replacing the assistant city manager.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod acknowledged Mr. Clinch for Public Works staff keeping the beaches cleaned and raked.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was

adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk