



# City of Venice

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

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, September 24, 2024

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

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[24-0334](#)

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

### Broadcast

#### CALL TO ORDER

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

#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Mayor Nick Pachota, Ms. Joan Farrell, Ms. Helen Moore, Mrs. Rachel Frank, Mr. Ron Smith and Mr. Rick Howard

**Absent:** 1 - Vice Mayor Jim Boldt

#### ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, Acting City Manager James Clinch, Deputy City Clerk Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark, Information Technology Director Roger Navarro, Director of Human Resources Alan Bullock, and Public Information Officer Lorraine Anderson.

#### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk Michaels offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Moore.

#### I. RECOGNITION

[24-0335](#)

Recognition of Records Manager/Deputy City Clerk Toni Cone's Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) Designation, Presented by FACC Southwest District Director/City Clerk Scotty Lynn Kelly, MMC

**Florida Association of City Clerks Southwest District Director Scotty Lynn Kelly presented this recognition.**

[24-0336](#)

Proclaim the "70th Anniversary of the Myakka Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution," Presented to Jackie Urschel, Regent, Myakka Chapter NSDAR

**Mayor Pachota and Acting City Manager Clinch presented this proclamation.**

Recess was taken from 9:18 a.m. until 9:23 a.m.

[24-0337](#) Proclaim the Month of October as "Cybersecurity Awareness Month," Presented to IT Director Roger Navarro and Security Analyst Joelle Gurk  
**Mayor Pachota and Acting City Manager Clinch presented this proclamation.**

[24-0338](#) Proclaim the Month of October as "Community Planning Month," Presented to Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark and Staff  
**Mayor Pachota and Acting City Manager Clinch presented this proclamation.**

[24-0339](#) Mayor's Pillar of the Community Award, Presented to Martha "Marty" Dover  
**Mayor Pachota presented this recognition.**

Recess was taken from 9:43 a.m. until 9:53 a.m.

## II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Casey Mockford Milford, 747 Valencia Road, shared her experience, concerns with homelessness in the area, and requested increased patrol on Venice Avenue.

## III. CONSENT SECTION:

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

### A. CITY CLERK

[24-0340](#) Minutes of the September 10, 2024 Regular Meeting and Budget Public Hearing  
**These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.**

### B. CITY MANAGER

#### Engineering

[24-0341](#) Authorize the Mayor to Execute the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management Federally-Funded Subaward (Grant #4673-014-R) for \$416,705.25 to Install Five (5) Public Water Supply Well Backup Generators  
**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

## IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were none.

## V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

**ORDINANCES – FINAL READING****[ORD. NO.  
2024-26](#)**

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

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications since last hearing.

There was no public comment.

Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Howard, that Ordinance No. 2024-26 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following electronic vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Mayor Pachota, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Smith and Mr. Howard

**Absent:** 1 - Vice Mayor Boldt

**VI. NEW BUSINESS****A. PRESENTATION****[24-0342](#)**

Human Resources Director Alan Bullock and Ray Carter, The Gehring Group: Renewal of Property and Liability Insurance for Fiscal Year 2025 (10 min.)

Human Resources Director Bullock and Ray Carter provided a presentation of the renewal of property and liability insurance for FY 2025 to include vehicle insurance and liability, general liability, law enforcement liability, excess workman's compensation coverage, flood insurance, public officials coverage, and answered a Council question regarding pollution liability and explained it was related to water recovery and distributions, fuel spills, and clean up operations. They also commented on drone coverage, lowering or increasing deductibles, and positive trends in Workman's Compensation.

**B. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION****[24-0343](#)**

Direct Appropriate Charter Officer to Provide a Report to Council on "Lessons Learned and the Way Forward" as Determined by Attendees at the Florida Resilience Conference, and Specific Actions Which the City of

Venice can Implement in the Immediate Future (Ms. Farrell)

Ms. Farrell introduced the topic.

**A motion was made by Ms. Farrell, seconded by Mr. Smith, to direct staff to report on "lessons learned and the way forward" as determined by attendees at the Florida Resilience Conference, and specific actions which the City of Venice can implement in the immediate future.**

Acting City Manager Clinch responded to a Council question regarding a previous resilience presentation and offered to present it at the strategic planning workshop.

Discussion took place regarding resiliency as it applies to the City, the need for information as it relates to the City and not the conference as a whole, and the timing of the presentation.

**The motion carried by the following electronic vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Mayor Pachota, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Smith and Mr. Howard

**Absent:** 1 - Vice Mayor Boldt

[24-0344](#)

Replacement of Playground Equipment at Hecksher Park (Mayor Pachota)

Mayor Pachota introduced the topic.

**A motion was made by Mayor Pachota, seconded by Mrs. Frank, to direct staff to replace the damaged/destroyed playground equipment in Hecksher Park.**

Discussion took place regarding replacement of equipment that was at the end of its life, support for future pickleball courts, and cost.

**The motion carried by the following electronic vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Mayor Pachota, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Moore, Mrs. Frank, Mr. Smith and Mr. Howard

**Absent:** 1 - Vice Mayor Boldt

Recess was taken from 10:24 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

## VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

### City Attorney

City Attorney Fernandez had no report.

### City Clerk

Clerk Michaels provided a reminder for the budget hearing this evening at 5:01 p.m.

### City Manager

Acting City Manager Clinch commented on the pending storm, concerns

about surge, and City services. He also provided an update on the Chambers renovation project, noting the last City Council in chambers will be October 22nd and then meetings will be in Community Hall. The requested joint meeting with the Sarasota County Commission is being scheduled and could be in early 2025.

## VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS

### ***Council Member Moore***

Ms. Moore had no report.

### ***Council Member Farrell***

Ms. Farrell reported on attendance at the Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP), and advanced water treatment (AWT).

### ***Council Member Howard***

Mr. Howard had no report.

### ***Council Member Smith***

Mr. Smith reported on the Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) requesting direction and issues to begin work on, and the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Agency.

**24-0345** Handout

### ***Council Member Frank***

Mrs. Frank had no report.

### ***Vice Mayor Boldt***

Vice Mayor Boldt was absent.

### ***Mayor Pachota***

Mayor Pachota reported on the Venice MainStreet beach party, sandbags for the storm, the blood drive cancellation, attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and the CAB legislative referral.

## X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

ATTEST:

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Mayor - City of Venice

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City Clerk