



# City of Venice

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

## Meeting Minutes City Council

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Tuesday, January 26, 2016

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER

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

### ROLL CALL

- Present:** 6 - Mayor John Holic, Council Member Kit McKeon, Council Member Jeanette Gates, Council Member Bob Daniels, Council Member Richard Cautero and Council Member Fred Fraize
- Absent:** 1 - Council Member Deborah Anderson

### Also Present

City Attorney Dave Persson, Assistant City Attorney David Jackson, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, Assistant City Clerk Heather Taylor, Assistant City Manager Len Bramble and for certain items on the agenda: Development Services Director Jeff Shrum, Public Works Director John Veneziano, City Engineer Kathleen Weeden and Director of Historical Resources James Hagler.

### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Paul Joyce.

### I. COUNCIL ACTION

[16-1743](#) Request Council Approval to Appoint and Swear in Interim Police Chief Tom Mattmuller as Police Chief

**A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Fraize, that Item No. 16-1743 be approved. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

### II. RECOGNITION

[16-1748](#) Recognize Jim Foubister and Make-A-Difference Day Leadership Team for Contributions to the Venice Community

**Mayor Holic recognized Jim Foubister, team leaders and volunteers.**

[16-1746](#) 2015 Employee of the Year: Marine Patrol Officer Paul Joyce

Mr. Bramble presented this award to Officer Joyce.

[16-1745](#) 25-year Service Award: Michael Carello, Solid Waste Equipment Operator, Public Works

This item was continued to a future meeting.

[16-1747](#) Swearing In: Firemedic Geoff Struble; Lieutenants James Runck and Gerald Collins; Battalion Chief Scott Blanchard and Admin. Battalion Chief Frank Giddens

Mayor Holic swore in Lieutenant Runck, Lieutenant Collins, Battalion Chief Blanchard and Administrative Battalion Chief Giddens.

[16-1744](#) Swearing In: Police Chief Tom Mattmuller

Mayor Holic swore in Chief Mattmuller.

### III. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Randy Mineo, 233 Sovrano Road, commented on petition signatures received to postpone the closing of the library until there is a temporary facility and expressed his opposition to the library closing.

Don O'Connell, 500 Hauser Lane, provided history on the Lord-Higel House, spoke to the need for discussion regarding the ability of Venice Heritage Inc. to raise funds to restore the home and recommended the city complete the restoration and review alternate uses for the house.

Kathy Bolam, 131 Flamingo Road, expressed her concern with the oath to the constitution and the government, spoke to self government and the need to keep the police and fire departments under local control, requested that the Seaboard area not be changed, and noted the time and date of the bible reading marathon.

Larry Ivey, 120 Base Ave E., expressed his opposition to consolidation of the fire department and spoke to use of the community center as a temporary location for the library.

### IV. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member McKeon to approve items in the Consent Section with the exception of Item Nos. 16-1749 and CON. NO. 45-2016. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

### B. CITY CLERK

[16-1750](#) Minutes of the January 11, 2016 Fire Merger Workshop and November 10, 2015 and January 12, 2016 Regular Meetings

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

**A. MAYOR**[16-1749](#)

Appoint Jim Bennett to the Policy Advisory Task Force (PATF) With an Appointment Date of January 26, 2016

**A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Daniels to approve Item No. 16-1749. The motion carried by voice vote with Mr. Daniels opposed.**

**C. CITY MANAGER**Public Works[CON. NO.  
45-2016](#)

Request Council Approval to Piggyback on the Clay County Contract with Musco Lighting in the Amount of \$259,500 for Soccer Field 3 Lighting at Wellfield Park

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates to approve CON. NO. 45-2016 awarding the contract amount of \$259,500 with an approved appropriation up to \$300,000.**

Discussion followed on the county paying the costs for LED lights, funds coming from park impact fees, and sources of revenue.

Mr. Veneziano responded to council questions regarding costs associated with the city's scope of work.

Ms. Weeden commented on the balance of county park impact fees, future funding agreements, and funds allocated from the city budget.

Discussion ensued regarding funding of lights, clarification of impact fees, and the previous motion for the city manager to provide a presentation on the impact fee process and current balances.

Mr. Bramble reviewed the quote on the item, items not included in the quote and the not to exceed amount for the expenses.

Discussion continued on additional costs to the city, execution of the fund agreement, the reimbursement application, and obtaining a post completion report.

Mr. Daniels restated his motion with Ms. Gates' approval.

**The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

**V. NEW BUSINESS****A. PUBLIC HEARINGS**[16-1751](#)

Petition for Vested Rights for the Right to Continue to Rent the Property

Located at 425 Gulf Street (Kevin Murphy) on a Weekly and Biweekly Basis as Done Prior to the Resort Dwelling Ban Adopted by the City in July 2009 (This item will be rescheduled to March 8 due to Unavailability of the Applicant)

**This item was rescheduled until March 8, 2016.**

Recess was taken from 10:23 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

[ORD. NO.  
2016-01](#)

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Venice, Florida, Chapter 86, Land Development Code, Article II, Administration and Review Authorities, Section 86-28 Historic Preservation, Adding a Non-Voting Student to Historic Preservation Board Membership; Providing for Repeal of all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

Ms. Stelzer stated no communications have been received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Daniels, that Ordinance No. 2016-01 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Causero and Mr. Fraize

**Absent:** 1 - Ms. Anderson

***B. COUNCIL ACTION - Continued***

[16-1752](#)

Request Council Grant a Ten Year Extension, from January 19, 2016 to January 19, 2026, to Boone Law Firm to Allow Time to Resolve all Questions Regarding Utility Connection for Colonial House Property, 1001 Avenida del Circo

Mayor Holic announced this is a quasi-judicial hearing and opened the public hearing.

Mr. Persson queried council members regarding conflicts of interest and ex-parte communication since January 18, 2016. Mr. McKeon disclosed that Mr. Boone provided him an overview.

Mr. Persson provided a brief introduction to include evidence of good cause, previous extension, lack of record with the building official, and review by the current building official, and responded to council questions on the reasonable amount of time and the provision in the

plumbing code regarding use of an alternative system.

Discussion followed regarding the city's acceptance of the check to connect and the potential to hook up to sewer only.

Ms. Stelzer stated three emails have been received and Mr. Boone hand delivered a letter this morning that she distributed to council.

Jeff Boone, Boone Law Firm, provided a history of the previous attempt to hook up to city utilities and the agreement with the city, commented on water use over a six month period, calculation of water per month with 5/8 inch meter, previous attempts to obtain a permit, cost per month, reason for the ten year request to allow for staff to work on priority items, and the amount of time needed to work with staff as time allows.

Discussion followed regarding the need for additional time, economic basis for additional time, the previous agreement between the city and the law firm, the political aspect of this item, and working with staff to resolve the issue sooner.

Mr. Boone stated he will provide an update in one year if the property is not connected.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, to approve a ten year extension, from January 19, 2016 to January 19, 2026, to Colonial House to allow time to resolve all questions regarding utility connection for Colonial House property, 1001 Avenida Del Circo.**

Discussion followed regarding staff ensuring resolution in a timely manner and sewer hook up.

**The motion carried by voice vote with Mr. Fraize opposed.**

[16-1755](#)

Request Council Approval of One Additional Unloading Space on the North Side of West Venice Avenue in the 100 Block, Adjacent to the Existing Unloading Space, to Allow Business Owners to Offer Valet Parking on a Trial Basis (Holic)

Mayor Holic requested council approval to reorder the agenda to hear this item at this time.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that the agenda not be reordered to hear this item at this time. The motion passed by voice vote with Mayor Holic and Mr. McKeon opposed.**

[16-1753](#)

Request Council Discussion and Consensus Regarding Potential Effective Communication Methods to Keep our Citizens Informed Concerning Progress and Status Related to Venice Library Project

(Cautero)

**A motion was made by Council Member Cautero, seconded by Council Member McKeon, that council have ongoing discussion regarding potential effective communication methods to keep citizens informed concerning progress and status related to the Venice Library project.**

Discussion took place regarding communication with citizens on the library project, the original building being built by city taxpayer dollars, review of the interlocal agreement to determine if lateral authority was given to the county, the temporary and permanent building being located on the island, having a special meeting with the county, information provided by the county, review of the air quality report by city staff to provide council an update, the city manager contacting the county to determine a point of contact, adding the county FAQ link on the city website, and obtaining results of the core drilling.

Janine Joyner, 817 Riviera Street, commented on use of the library facility until a new location is open, requested council support keeping the library open until a new location is found, and reviewed items on the Sarasota County fact sheet.

Jean Mumper, 1555 Tarpon Center Drive, expressed her concern with the library closure and commented on air quality test results, the number of people using the library, designation of a safe place for children and use of the community center.

Lueanne Wood, 800 Golden Beach Boulevard, commented on her presence at a county meeting, expressed concern regarding the closing of the library, spoke to petition signatures received, and public record requests submitted to the county for inspection bids, and requested council support keeping the library open until another location is found.

Arlene Dooley, 1315 Pinebrook Way Court, commented on her experience with the library and expressed her concern with the library closure, suggested the city obtain their own report, and spoke to fixing the mold issue.

Discussion took place regarding the lease being available on the server.

**The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

**There was consensus to obtain a copy of the air quality control report from Sarasota County regarding the library.**

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Nicholas Sica, 710 Golden Beach Boulevard, expressed his concern with the library closing and commented on contractors hired to determine the status of the mold.

Larry Humes, president of Venice Heritage Inc., commented on certified local governments.

**C. PRESENTATIONS - Will start at approximately 1:30 p.m.**

[16-1757](#)

Virginia Haley, President and Erin Duggan, Director of Brand, Visit Sarasota County: Visit Sarasota County Update (10 min.)

Ms. Haley provided an update on Visit Sarasota to include tourism marketing, destination promotion, review of fiscal year 2015, domestic visitation, international travel to the United States, combating zero European growth, and travel trends.

Ms. Duggan commented on how tips and trends are being implemented and booking cycles.

Ms. Haley continued to discuss travel trends, brand engagement, travel threats and the sharing economy.

Discussion followed on economic impact, presence in published articles, data on how many tourists buy homes in the area, sports marketing, and repeal of state funding.

[16-1758](#)

Bud Lefebvre and Marc Marois: Proposed Development of a Homeless Community in South Venice (10 min.)

Mr. Marois spoke to the types of homeless, the need for a shelter and opening workforce housing.

Amanda Freytes, Computers and Websites Done Right, LLC, spoke to the statistics of homeless, family versus single individuals and household types served.

Mr. Lefebvre commented on speaking to other cities in the area, use of the resource center on Tamiami Trail, construction of family homes for temporary use, growing a garden for work, fencing, having micro homes for singles and families, a community room, cafeteria, an administrative building with a post office.

Discussion followed regarding coordination with foundations, criteria for vetting individuals to ensure they are getting the assistance they need, interaction with Gulf Coast Community Foundation, coordination with Sarasota County, and contacting Jon Thaxton.

[16-1759](#)

Development Services Director Jeff Shrum and Director of Historical Resources James Hagler: Historic Preservation Overview and Certified Local Government (10 min.)

Mr. Shrum commented on the reason for the presentation, provided an

overview of historic preservation regulations to include key considerations, local registry, historical district properties, and certified local government (CLG).

Mr. Hagler commented on other considerations of the preservation ordinance, legal considerations, benefits of being a CLG, historic designation, and the Florida CLG network.

Mr. Shrum provided suggested actions.

Discussion followed on grant submittals and procedures for a CLG.

[16-1760](#)

Assistant City Manager Len Bramble, Director of Historical Resources James Hagler, and Venice Heritage, Inc. President Larry Humes: Completion of the Repair and Renovation of the Lord-Higel House with Requested Council Approval of the Agreement to Complete Lord-Higel House Construction (10 min.)

Mr. Humes commented on the purpose of the agreement, a timeline of the home, Venice Heritage Inc. (VHI) responsibility and expectations after the restoration is complete.

Discussion followed regarding alternative uses of the building, why the building was not relocated to the cultural campus, raising funds, generating revenue, and the need to preserve the home.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Item No. 16-1760 be approved. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

***COUNCIL ACTION - Continued***

[16-1754](#)

Council Discussion and Direction on the Vision for the Hamilton Condominium Property (Daniels)

Discussion took place regarding maintenance of the building.

Mr. Bramble commented on revenue and non-revenue opportunities and determining if the location could be used as a temporary library location.

Discussion continued on ongoing costs for maintenance and postponing discussion to a later date.

Recess was taken from 3:11 p.m. until 3:20 p.m.

**This item will be discussed on a future agenda.**

[16-1755](#)

Request Council Approval of One Additional Unloading Space on the North Side of West Venice Avenue in the 100 Block, Adjacent to the Existing Unloading Space, to Allow Business Owners to Offer Valet

Parking on a Trial Basis (Holic)

Mayor Holic passed the gavel to Mr. McKeon.

**A motion was made by Mayor Holic, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Item No. 16-1755 be approved with the additional verbiage "ending on April 30, 2016".**

Discussion followed regarding the need for two spots to unload cars for valet services, pick up and drop off locations, establishing a timeframe, inability to designate public parking spaces for valet parking, being heard by the traffic advisory task force, and other businesses wanting to offer valet.

Mayor Holic restated his motion to add "ending on April 30, 2016". Ms. Gates approved.

Discussion continued on parking locations and timing of valet service.

Mr. McKeon passed the gavel to Mayor Holic.

**The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

[16-1756](#)

Request Council Direct Staff to Present to Sarasota County a Proposal to Accept Venice Fire Department Through a Consolidation Agreement to be Mutually Agreed Upon and to Include an "as is" Clause in Regard to Plant and Equipment for a Period of Twenty Years with a Non-cancellation Clause of Ten Years and Then Either Party may Cancel at the End of any Given Fiscal Year with a Minimum of Two Year Notice and the Transfer of Plant and Equipment on an "as is" Basis (Holic)

Mayor Holic passed the gavel to Mr. McKeon.

**A motion was made by Mayor Holic, seconded by Council Member Daniels, that Item No. 16-1756 be approved.**

Mayor Holic reviewed the motion.

Discussion followed on obtaining further information to determine costs, impact on morale, timeframe to obtain the requested information, items mentioned during the workshop to save funds within the fire department, having all council members present, citizen concerns, impact on taxpayers Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice, inspection and impact fees, items that can be included in the letter of agreement, allowing the new fire chief time to show cost savings, and the need to obtain all information to present to citizens prior to their vote.

**A motion was made by Mayor Holic, seconded by Council Member Daniels, to amend the motion to state "further the city and county must agree in principle to the remaining issues of the merger by April 30, 2016". The amendment passed by voice vote with Mr. McKeon opposed.**

Emilio Carlesimo, 700 Golden Beach Boulevard, requested a point of clarification regarding statements about the agreement with the county and the City of Sarasota and commented on the City of Sarasota's consolidation agreement and the request to renegotiate.

**The motion as amended carried by voice vote with Mr. McKeon opposed.**

Mr. McKeon passed the gavel to Mayor Holic.

Mr. Cautero requested that the city manager obtain all of the details to present to citizens.

[16-1762](#)

Request Council Approval for a Permanent Change to the Westbound Traffic Flow Pattern on St. Augustine Street to a One-way Pattern (Lavallee)

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Fraize, that Item No. 16-1762 be approved.**

Discussion took place regarding cars traveling the wrong direction on the one way street, traffic advisory board relocating the entrance of the Centennial parking lot, lighting at the intersection, temporary use of traffic counters, and the city manager discussing with the police chief to move parking to south side of the street.

**The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

#### **D. RESOLUTIONS**

[RES. NO.](#)  
[2016-03](#)

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Superseding Resolution No. 2010-18, Adopting the Sarasota County Unified Local Mitigation Strategy 2016 as the Formal Guide for the City of Venice's Hazard Mitigation Activities and Floodplain Management Plan and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

**A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Resolution No. 2016-03 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Cautero and Mr. Fraize

**Absent:** 1 - Ms. Anderson

[RES. NO.](#)  
[2016-05](#)

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Venice, Florida, Revising Implementation Dates and Re-Allocation of Proceeds Among Projects for Proceeds from the County Local Government Infrastructure Sales Tax (County Surtax 3) Received by the City of Venice; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

Mr. Bramble provided background information.

Discussion followed regarding contingencies and future project needs, planned spending, postponing for further council discussion, and having a workshop.

**A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Daniels, that Resolution No. 2016-05 be postponed until the first meeting after the workshop. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

## VI. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

### City Attorney

Mr. Jackson had no report.

### City Clerk

Ms. Stelzer had no report.

### City Manager

#### [16-1761](#)

Emergency Communications

Mr. Bramble commented on the enhanced version of code red, involvement of the public information officer (PIO) and responded to council questions regarding severe weather radio, grants to obtain radios for residents in need, shelters for residents in manufactured homes and use of a siren system.

#### [16-1713](#)

Consider Policy Changes for Setting Agendas

**A motion was made by Council Member Cautero, seconded by Council Member McKeon, that Item No. 16-1713 be continued to a future meeting and placed under council action with the exception of the lunch discussion. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

Discussion followed on council members paying for their own lunch and whether lunch would be ordered in advance.

**A motion was made by Council Member Cautero, seconded by Council Member Gates, that council meeting lunches take place from noon until one. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.**

## VII. COUNCIL REPORTS

### ***Mayor Holic***

#### [16-1763](#)

Revenue From Venice Pier Group - Variable Income vs. Recurring Expenses

Mayor Holic suggested postponing this item until a meeting closer to budget time and expressed his concern with the revenue that will be received from Venice Pier Group already being spent. He stated that he will not be at the second meeting in February and requested the city clerk obtain existing Federal Appropriations priorities to be discussed at the February 9, 2016 meeting and reported on the Fast Fly-In.

**This Item was continued to a later meeting.**

### ***Council Member Cautionero***

Mr. Cautionero reported on Venice MainStreet and the historic preservation board meeting.

### ***Council Member Gates***

Ms. Gates reported on the SAC meeting at the Venice High School, the economic development advisory board and the economic development council.

### ***Council Member McKeon***

Mr. McKeon reported on Manasota League of Cities, the planning commission meeting and the Venice Historical Society presentation on economic value.

### ***Council Member Daniels***

Mr. Daniels reported on the Metropolitan Planning Organization and funding for sidewalks.

### ***Council Member Fraize***

Mr. Fraize reported on the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council meeting.

Mr. Jackson informed council that Mr. Persson would send an email regarding email policies.

### ***Council Member Anderson***

Ms. Anderson was absent.

## **VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

**There was consensus to allow Ms. Wood and Ms. Mumper to speak again.**

Ms. Mumper and Ms. Wood provided information on the Pure Air report on the Venice Library and distributed a copy of the report to council.

Discussion ensued on emails from the librarian, information received to date, the county's authority, and the city manager contacting Mr.

Harmer.

**There was consensus for the mayor to send an email to the county commission requesting clarity on the library issues presented.**

**There was consensus for the city attorney to review the library agreement.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Mayor - City of Venice

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City Clerk