



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Special Meeting

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, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, Assistant City Manager Ed Lavallee, Recording Secretary Edward Klotz, and Attorney Steve Chase

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Persson.

I. NEW BUSINESS

[15-1682](#)

Consider the Settlement Agreement in Anthony Lorenzo and Citizens for Sunshine, Inc. v. City of Venice, et al

Mayor Holic provided an overview of the case.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Fraize, that the Settlement Agreement be approved.

Discussion took place regarding communication with Ms. Mogensen since the last meeting, proposed follow up for formal consideration, possible outcomes, the standard language included regarding former council member Jim Bennett, prevention of future issues and disposal of any claims existing as of the date of the settlement, and the timeframe for distribution of payment.

Mayor Holic spoke against the settlement due to it being a settlement of city policy vs. sunshine law, the city did not violate the policy, the

potential to win the case, and the need to lobby to have the law changed, mentioned the newspaper article on the case, and the desire to add this to the legislative priorities.

Ms. Gates commented on the need to settle for safety reasons.

Mr. Daniels spoke to the city's track record in court and the cost of legal fees.

Discussion continued regarding the insurance coverage in the past, procedure if Ms. Mogensen were to request changes, whether there is an insurance cap, existing insurance policy details, and staff providing council further information regarding the city's insurance policy at a future meeting.

The motion carried by voice vote with Mayor Holic opposed.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one signed up to speak.

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk