



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

A. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

ORD. NO.
2022-05

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Venice, Florida, Chapter 6, Alcoholic Beverages, Article II, Alcoholic Beverage Establishments, Sections 6-33 Through 6-39, Reserved, Article III, Consumption or Possession in Public Areas, by Adding Section 6-39, Definitions, and Revising Section 6-40, Prohibited Acts; Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Conduct in Parks, Section 46-62, General Rules and Regulations for all Parks, Beaches and Recreational Areas; 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.

Vice Mayor Pachota recused himself from this ordinance due to a business conflict because he is a partner in the Venice Pier Group concessions.

Pursuant to Section 112.3143(3)(a), Florida Statutes, Form 8B has been attached hereto and incorporated as a part of the minutes.

City Attorney Fernandez presented revisions to the ordinance.

Dr. Fiedler expressed interest in postponing this issue; there was no other interest in this.

Assistant City Manager James Clinch presented the history of the ordinance that was recommended by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and discussed consistency of the ordinance with Sarasota County regulations. He answered Council questions regarding the procedure of coming before Council and the need for more data from the Police Department and Public Works.

City Manager Lavallee spoke about the procedure of bringing something before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Discussion took place regarding the process of advisory boards and Council, pertinence of questioning, and financial issues.

Assistant City Manager Clinch noted that Sarasota County representatives

have not had issues at their beaches with the allowance of alcohol. He stated that Public Works does see beer and wine containers in the trash at the beaches.

Police Chief Thorpe answered Council questions regarding data, glass, litter, staffing, and additional costs.

Dr. Fiedler called a point of order and stated she still had questions on the ordinance.

City Attorney Fernandez answered a question regarding remedies to the ordinance and stated the ordinance could be rescinded.

Mayor Feinsod stated there was enough information to vote on the ordinance.

Dr. Fiedler called a point of order and stated her financial question of who could sell on the beaches had not been answered.

Mayor Feinsod responded that Jetty Jacks and The Pilot House were the only businesses that would be able to sell alcohol by ordinance.

Mayor Feinsod asked if there was a second for the motion.

Mayor Feinsod asked for public comment.

Larry Crossman, 633 Alhambra Rd, Unit #100, spoke about problems with alcohol at beaches and against the ordinance.

Kevin Collins, 220 Park Blvd N #105, spoke in opposition of the ordinance.

Richard Condon, 220 Park Blvd #205, spoke in opposition of the ordinance and stated the status quo is fine.

Chris Johnson, 200 Tarpon Center Drive, spoke in favor of the ordinance and regarding litter, liability, and responsibility.

Linda Johnson, 510 Lyons Bay Rd, spoke in favor of the ordinance and having a level playing field.

Ashley Bloomquist, 14131 Monsieri St, spoke in favor of the ordinance, locations, legality, and being family friendly.

City Attorney Fernandez answered a question regarding consuming alcohol on a beach and she stated the ordinance would allow the consumption of alcohol on the public beaches. She stated that in order to sell alcohol a proprietor would need to have an agreement with the City of

Venice or Sarasota County in addition to their state license.

Discussion took place regarding the financial arrangements the establishments pay to the City. Mr. Johnson stated Jetty Jacks pays the City a percentage of gross sales based on a sliding scale in addition the base rent.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Ordinance No. 2022-05 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading with the revisions presented by Attorney Fernandez. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

No: 1 - Dr. Fiedler

Excused: 1 - Dr. Neunder

Abstain: 1 - Vice Mayor Pachota