



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chambers and Virtual

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Workshop

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

[21-4967](#)

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Feinsod called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 1 - Council Member Nick Pachota

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Administrative Coordinator Mercedes Barcia, Fire Chief Shawn Carvey, Deputy Fire Chief Frank Giddens, Police Chief Tom Mattmuller, Utilities Director Javier Vargas, Assistant Utilities Director Patience Anastasio, Finance Director Linda Senne, Controller Joe Welch, Development Services Director Jeff Shrum, Director of Public Works and Asset Management James Clinch, Airport Director Mark Cervasio, City Engineer Kathleen Weeden, and Information Technology Director Christophe St. Luce.

In person: Dr. Neunder

Via video conference: Mayor Feinsod, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore and Mr. Kelly

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. New Business

[21-4968](#)

2022 Proposed Capital Improvement Program

Ms. Stelzer noted audience participation will be at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Senne spoke on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget book, commented on bunker gear expenses for the fire department, Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding received from Sarasota County, public works relocation project, Wellfield Park, Fire Stations 1 and 2, one-cent sales tax referendum, the county's website listing Surtax III unincorporated projects, enterprise funds, and responded to council questions regarding federal funding anticipated for the city and distribution timeline.

Mr. Lavallee spoke on the CIP process and city assets.

Discussion followed on workshop procedure.

Discussion followed regarding staff providing fund balances for each revenue source, West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) grant, CARES fund, staff providing an update on the American Rescue Plan at the budget workshop, Wellfield Park, funding of vehicle replacements, and staff providing the fleet fund's funding goal for FY22 and percentage of fleet funded per department.

Mr. Clinch responded to council questions regarding a parks master plan, role of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to include advising staff on CIP projects, and having a community garden at one of the city's parks.

Ms. Senne noted expected balances of the fleet fund for each department are in the budget book.

Discussion followed on importance of the one-cent sales tax, and Fire Station 2 replacement projects and relocation.

Deputy Chief Giddens spoke to the need of relocating Fire Station 2.

Ms. Senne requested council notify staff of projects for the one-cent sales tax referendum, and noted Sarasota County will be conducting public workshops to obtain resident input.

Discussion followed regarding an alternate plan if referendum fails and lobbying for the referendum's passage.

Recess was taken at 10:24 a.m. until 10:31 a.m.

Chief Mattmuller responded to council questions regarding percent of patrol vehicles funded by the fleet fund, and vehicle replacement plan to include electric vehicles.

Mr. Welch advised 66 percent of patrol vehicles are funded by the fleet fund.

Chief Mattmuller responded to council questions on funding source for the radar trailer, and hiring additional officers.

Ms. Senne advised impact fees will be used to purchase two vehicles.

Mr. Lavallee explained staff can educate the public on the importance of the one-cent sales tax.

Ms. Weeden responded to council questions regarding funding for curb upgrades, funding source for bike facilities and gateway improvements, and gateway requirements in the land development regulations (LDR) update.

Mr. Welch explained reason bike facilities are not funded by gas tax, and responded to council questions on utilizing gas tax for curbs.

Ms. Weeden responded to council questions on utilizing gas tax for sidewalks.

Mayor Feinsod commented on gas tax revenues.

Discussion followed on including total project costs for projects that have great public interest.

Mr. Clinch responded to council questions regarding Venezia Park project costs, funding allocated for Northeast Venice Park, and additional pickleball courts at Hecksher Park.

Dr. Fiedler requested the Northeast Venice Park and Laurel Road projects be included in the CIP.

Mr. Lavallee spoke regarding the Laurel Road project.

Discussion followed regarding impact fee fund balance, budget placeholders for Laurel Road and Northeast Venice Park projects, Laurel Road engineering design, applying for state grants, and staff advising council of projected impact fee fund balance at the budget workshop.

Ms. Senne noted the city cannot apply for grants or state appropriation since the county owns Laurel Road.

Discussion continued on adding a sustainability program coordinator position.

Dr. Neunder left the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Discussion followed regarding energy audits conducted by the city.

Dr. Neunder returned to the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Discussion continued on communicating with the county on Laurel Road project funding, matching grants, and including project in the CIP.

Recess was taken at 11:26 a.m. until 11:34 a.m.

Discussion took place regarding meeting end time.

Dr. Neunder requested consensus to approach the Board of Sarasota County Commissioners on the city's interest to pursue the Laurel Road project.

There was consensus for Dr. Neunder to notify the county of the city's interest to pursue the Laurel Road project.

Discussion followed on meeting end time and adhering to schedule.

Ms. Weeden recommended staff's presentation be continued to the next council meeting.

Discussion ensued on continuing the CIP workshop to the April 13, 2021 council meeting and Ms. Stelzer rescheduling the charter review workshop.

There was consensus to continue the CIP workshop to the April 13, 2021 council meeting.

[21-4969](#)

Strategic Roadway Plan

This item was continued to April 13, 2021.

II. Audience Participation will be limited to one hour.

Jo Rahaim, 500 Park Boulevard South, spoke to designating additional pickleball courts at Hecksher Park.

III. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk