



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

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

[21-5080](#)

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Feinsod called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Ron Feinsod, Vice Mayor Richard Cautero, Council Member Helen Moore, Council Member Nick Pachota, Dr. Joseph Neunder, Council Member Brian Kelly and Dr. Margaret Fiedler

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Manager Ed Lavalley, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, Administrative Coordinator Mercedes Barcia, and for certain items on the agenda: Planning Manager Roger Clark, Planner Kristin Ward, City Engineer Kathleen Weeden, City Arborist Jim Yelverton, and Information Technology Director Christophe St. Luce.

In person: Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Dr. Fiedler, Dr. Neunder, Ms. Moore and Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Pachota joined the meeting in person at 9:52 a.m.

Via video conference: Mr. Pachota

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stelzer offered the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Moore.

I. RECOGNITION

[21-5081](#)

Proclaim June 12, 2021 as "Anne Frank Day", Presented to Pieter Kohnstam, Board Member of the Anne Frank Center, USA

Mayor Feinsod presented this proclamation to Pieter and Susan Kohnstam.

[21-5082](#)

Mayor's Pillar of the Community Award, Presented to Dorothy Korwek

Mayor Feinsod presented this award to Dorothy Korwek.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

No one signed up to speak.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Moore, to approve items in the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

A. MAYOR

[21-5071](#) Appoint John Bolger to the Citizen Tax Oversight Committee to Complete the Unexpired Term of Richard Francis from June 8, 2021 Until February 29, 2024

This Appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[21-5072](#) Appoint Ernest Booker, Richard Clapp, Kit McKeon, John Holic, Jeffery Boone, Jon Preiksats and Joseph Ferretti to the Charter Review Committee

These Appointments were approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY CLERK

[21-5073](#) Minutes of the May 11, 2021 and May 25, 2021 Regular Meetings

These Minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

C. CITY MANAGERPolice

[21-5074](#) Approve Donation of K9 Mako to Officer Kimson with the Venice Police Department Upon Mako's Retirement

This Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were none.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

[CC 20-55SP](#) Request to Waive the Sidewalk Requirements in Sec. 86-520 of the City of Venice Code of Ordinances for Island Village Montessori Charter School, Made in Conjunction with Site and Development Plan Petition No. 20-55SP (Quasi Judicial)

Mayor Feinsod announced this is a quasi-judicial procedure and opened

the public hearing.

Ms. Fernandez inquired on conflicts of interest and ex-parte communications. Mayor Feinsod disclosed attending the planning commission meeting, and Dr. Fiedler and Ms. Moore disclosed listening to the planning commission meeting.

No written communication was received.

Council waived staff's presentation.

Dr. Fiedler inquired on requiring a cash deposit in lieu of construction as referenced in Section 86-520(b) of the Land Development Code (LDC).

Mr. Clark, being duly sworn, noted staff discussed available options with the applicant, and responded to council questions regarding adding sidewalks in the future.

Council waived applicant's presentation.

No one signed up to speak.

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Cautero, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, that based on the evidence in the record, Order No. 20-55SP for waiver be approved and adopted.

Discussion followed on requiring a cash deposit in lieu of construction.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

A. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING

[ORD. NO.
2021-18](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Providing an Annual Update of the Five Year Capital Improvement Schedule for Fiscal Years 2021-2025 and Long Range Schedule of Capital Projects for Fiscal Years 2026-2030 Contained in the Appendices, Section V(6), of the City of Venice Comprehensive Plan; 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.

No one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Council Member Moore, seconded by Dr. Neunder, that

Ordinance No. 2021-18 be approved and adopted.

Discussion followed on including the Northeast Venice Park project in the Capital Improvement Schedule (CIS).

Mr. Clark advised the CIS will be updated upon budget approval and project will be included in the update.

Discussion ensued regarding project priority and ranking.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

ORD. NO.
2021-19

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 50, Personnel, Article III, Pensions and Retirement, Division 3, Municipal Police Officers' Pension Trust Fund, Section 50-131, Definitions; Section 50-136, Benefit Amounts and Eligibility; Section 50-137, Pre-Retirement Death; Section 50-138, Disability; Section 50-140, Optional Forms of Benefits; Section 50-146, Minimum Distribution of Benefits; Section 50-158, Deferred Retirement Option Plan; Providing for Severability of Provisions; Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

No one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Kelly, that Ordinance No. 2021-19 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES - None

B. RESOLUTIONS

RES. NO.
2021-17

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Reducing the Fee Surcharge of Nineteen Percent for the Collection of Program Recyclables to Fourteen Percent; Superseding Resolution No. 2020-23; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Cautero, seconded by Council Member Moore, that Resolution No. 2021-17 be approved and adopted.

Discussion followed on the city's promise to reduce the recycling

surcharge, and recognizing staff's work on this item.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

C. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

21-5075

Approve Designation of Venetian Trees at 1115 - 1109 Ketch Lane as Submitted by Ron Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod declared a conflict of interest and passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Cautero.

Mr. Yelverton responded to council questions regarding grant procurement and criteria, and trimming of trees.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Council Member Kelly, to approve Item No. 21-5075. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

Abstain: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

Vice Mayor Cautero returned the gavel to Mayor Feinsod.

21-5076

Accept Staff's Recommendation to Continue with Zoom for City Council and Planning Commission Meetings, but Return to Regular In-Person Meetings for All Other Boards as of July 1, 2021

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Cautero, seconded by Council Member Moore, to approve Item No. 21-5076.

Discussion followed on maintaining process and encouraging audience participation.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Feinsod, Mr. Cautero, Ms. Moore, Mr. Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Fiedler

Recess was taken at 9:47 a.m. until 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Pachota joined the meeting in person at 9:52 a.m.

D. PRESENTATIONS AND AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - AGENDA ITEMS MAY BE DELAYED OR MOVED FORWARD TO ACCOMMODATE PRESENTATIONS

21-5077

Jenna Phillips, M.S., Sr. Project Engineer/Regional Office Lead and Angela Schedel, P.E., Director of Community Resilience, Taylor Engineering: Venice Resilience Plan (20 mins.)

Jenna Phillips, Taylor Engineering, provided a presentation and spoke on project background, adaptation planning process, review of past studies,

assessing vulnerabilities, sea level trends and projections, coastal flooding vulnerability assessment, and flood inundation scenarios.

Dr. Angela Schedel, Taylor Engineering, spoke on summary of vulnerability analysis, recommended focus areas, adaptation planning, constructing living shorelines, outreach survey and responses, and the Resilient Venice StoryMap website.

Ms. Phillips spoke regarding next steps.

Ms. Weeden commented on beach renourishment, back bay flooding, Tarpon Center Drive, and upgrading the seawall.

Discussion took place regarding state and federal funding for flood mitigation projects, sea level rise, and stormwater plan being included in the CIS.

Ms. Phillips and Ms. Schedel responded to council questions regarding the rate of sea level rise.

[21-5078](#)

Jenna Phillips, M.S., Sr. Project Engineer/Regional Office Lead, Taylor Engineering and Gary Serviss, LEED AP, SE Region Environmental Services Leader, VHB: Venice Stormwater Projects Update (20 mins.)

Ms. Phillips provided a presentation and spoke to project history, and water quality model inputs and results.

Gary Serviss, VHB, spoke on grab sample collections and results, storm event monitoring, monitoring equipment, discharge results, and water quality monitoring results.

Ms. Phillips spoke on preliminary priority projects, preliminary project options, and next steps.

Ms. Weeden spoke regarding the outfall at Venice Beach, funding long-term strategic plan, and completing stormwater management plan.

Ms. Phillips commented on target schedule.

Discussion followed regarding relationship between sea level rise and outfalls, measuring outfalls, red tide, septic tanks, the city partnering with other communities on prioritizing water quality projects, and the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council.

[21-5079](#)

City Arborist Jim Yelverton: Tree Preservation, Protection and Replacement (10 min.)

Mr. Yelverton provided a presentation and spoke on responsibilities, canopy cover goals and study progress, tree mitigation fund, and responded to council questions regarding percent of canopy trees on public property, developing a plan to identify planting sites, plan timeframe, providing public awareness on the Venetian Tree Program, tree mitigation in construction sites, advertising program, inventory of city owned trees, and working with developers.

Mr. Lavallee advised staff will provide a memorandum on the estimated cost of completing the canopy tree study at the budget workshop.

Discussion followed regarding designating a certain number of trees per year and tree removals.

VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

Ms. Fernandez commented on the next steps for the Charter Review Committee.

City Clerk

Ms. Stelzer had no report.

City Manager

Mr. Lavallee spoke regarding special events and the Charter Review Committee process.

Ms. Fernandez noted she identified areas in the charter that cannot be changed, and each council member will be providing topics for the committee's review.

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Cautero

Vice Mayor Cautero advised he resigned as liaison to Venice MainStreet, and suggested council establish a policy refraining a liaison to be appointed to a board where a city council member is a voting member of that board.

Discussion followed on the liaison position.

Ms. Fernandez recommended the liaison position remain open.

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore had no report.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler had no report.

Council Member Pachota

Mr. Pachota announced his deployment with the State of Florida ends June 26, 2021.

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder had no report.

Council Member Kelly

Mr. Kelly had no report.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod had no report.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk