



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

[22-5506](#)

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Ms. Moore, to excuse Mrs. Frank for medical reasons. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Present: 6 - Mayor Ron Feinsod, Vice Mayor Nick Pachota, Dr. Joseph Neunder, Dr. Mitzie Fiedler, Mr. Jim Boldt and Ms. Helen Moore

Excused: 1 - Mrs. Rachel Frank

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, City Manager Ed Lavalley, Assistant City Manager James Clinch, Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia, Acting Information Technology Director Eric Tanner, and Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk Michaels offered the invocation and Vice Mayor Pachota led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. RECOGNITION

[22-5497](#)

Proclaim March 8, 2022 as "Arbor Day", Presented to Trevor Gould, Tree Crew Leader

Mayor Feinsod presented this Proclamation to Trevor Gould.

[22-5498](#)

10-year Service Recognition, James Clinch, Assistant City Manager
City Manager Lavalley presented this award to Assistant City Manager Clinch.

[22-5499](#)

10-year Service Recognition, Edward Lavalley, City Manager
Assistant City Manager Clinch presented this award to City Manager Lavalley.

There was consensus to add an agenda item to file a Complaint for Emergency Injunctive Relief requested by City Attorney Fernandez under Council Action/Discussion.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

Debbie Schaffer, 121 Bolanza Court, spoke against Neal development on Laurel Road, and concerns with traffic, rodents, landscape, and wildlife.

Tommye Whittaker, 613 West Venice Avenue, spoke on the communication with Council and staff, the Bert Harris Act, legal actions, and spoke against increase in height restrictions.

Suzette Coates, 612 Barcelona Avenue, discussed concerns with speeding on her street.

Cynthia Miller, 609 Barcelona Avenue, spoke about concerns of speeding on her street.

Mike Pachota, 213 The Esplanade South, thanked Council for relationship with his business.

Justin Pachota, 713 Laguna, commented on the teamwork between his business and the City and discussed concerns about parking lot maintenance, pier maintenance, beach maintenance, more charging stations, solar projects, workforce housing, and staffing challenges.

Ed Martin, 409 Everglades, spoke against building height increases in downtown Venice.

Lisa Jarvio, 231 Airport Avenue, spoke against building height increases.

Dawn Champiny, 610 Barcelona Avenue, spoke against building height increases and speeding on her street.

Debra Schyvink, 1701 Auburn Lakes Drive, spoke against increasing building heights.

Bryan Harrison, 911A Gibbs, spoke against increasing building heights, requests for exceptions and demolitions to go before Council, and opposition to combining the Historic Preservation (HPB) and Architectural Review Boards (ARB). He spoke in favor of the redevelopment of the Seaboard Avenue district and the John Nolen plan.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to approve items on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A. MAYOR

[22-5500](#)

Reappoint Bruce Miller to the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Term from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2025

This reappointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[22-5501](#)

Appoint Student Member Paxton Barrick to the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Term from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY CLERK

[22-5502](#)

Minutes of the January 21, 2022 Convocation of Governments Meeting, February 8, 2022 Joint Meeting with Planning Commission, and February 22, 2022 Regular Meeting

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were none.

Recess was taken from 10:15 a.m. until 10:25 a.m.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS**ORDINANCES – FINAL READING**

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-03](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the 2017-2027 Comprehensive Plan Pursuant to Petition No. 21-55CP to Incorporate the Annual Update of Data on Development Activity Within the Mixed Use Future Land Use Categories in Each Comprehensive Plan Neighborhood; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith to the Extent of Such Conflict; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date
Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Feinsod opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications.

Mr. Clark answered Council questions regarding density and report format.

No one signed up to speak.

Mayor Feinsod closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Ordinance No. 2022-03 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt and Ms. Moore

Excused: 1 - Mrs. Frank

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

22-5503

Update on Habitat for Humanity Two Acre Parcel Located at 749 Knights Trail Road (City Manager)

Dr. Fiedler made a motion, seconded by Dr. Neunder to authorize staff to negotiate agreement with Habitat for Humanity to allow for the sale of the property located at 749 Knights Trail Road, with all proceeds to be made available for Habitat for Humanity and dedicated to creating affordable housing projects within the City of Venice.

John Holic, 636 Apalachicola Road, spoke regarding the property at 749 Knights Trail Road, reviewed the history of the property in relation to Habitat for Humanity ownership, noted opposition to Habitat selling the property, and stated if the land is sold the City should keep the funds.

Joe Dalton, 105 Bluegrass Court, Nokomis, spoke on behalf of Habitat and issues with building on the property and the need for affordable housing.

Michael Sollito, 4251 Conrad Road, spoke regarding the challenges with property development as it relates to the Portofino agreement.

Discussion took place regarding sale of the property, requirements for number of units, parcel being donated to the City, proceeds from a potential sale staying in the City and under City control, splitting funds, potential stipulations on how the funds should be handled, making Habitat whole financially, and presenting options for Council to choose from at a future meeting.

Mr. Lavallee offered options to be considered in regards to the parcel.

Ms. Moore called the question.

Dr. Fiedler rescinded her motion.

Mr. Boldt requested the matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

City Attorney Fernandez clarified that staff would wait for Council to bring back ideas of what they would like included when drafting and negotiating an agreement.

22-5504

Proposed Charter Amendment Language and Resolutions for Council Meeting Attendance and Execution of Documents (City Attorney)

Ms. Fernandez explained the revised proposed amendments.

Discussion took place regarding the resolutions, language, and recommended changes, provisions, attendance, budget benchmarks, and health insurance.

City Manager Lavallee commented on the budget stipulations recommended from the Charter Review Committee.

There was consensus to have staff bring back an ordinance incorporating amendments as discussed, including City Manager Lavallee's changes and removing a health insurance subsidy.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTION

RES. NO.
2022-04

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Repealing and Rescinding Resolution No. 2016-02 Setting Forth the Policy and Procedures for Public Use of Certain Meeting Rooms in City Hall; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Resolution No. 2022-04 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt and Ms Moore

Excused: 1 - Mrs. Frank

B. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

22-5505

Legislative Referral to Amend the City's Code of Ordinances, Section 46-183 Launching and Docking Watercraft (City Manager)

Cheryl Hall, 118 Phoenix Palm Court., spoke in favor of revising the code to prevent prolonged docking at City boat ramps.

Mr. Boldt discussed the impetus for this amendment.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Vice Mayor Pachota, that the Legislative Referral be referred to the City Manager and City Attorney to prepare

an ordinance amendment as proposed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Feinsod, Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt and Ms. Moore

Excused: 1 - Mrs. Frank

22-5512

Complaint for Emergency Injunctive Relief - 1316 Mango Ave.

City Attorney Fernandez discussed health and safety issues at the property and requested Council approval and authorization to file a lawsuit to have residency prohibited on the property, if needed.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Pachota, seconded by Dr. Fiedler, to authorize City Attorney Fernandez to file a Complaint for Emergency Injunctive Relief at 1316 Mango Avenue with the courts, if needed. The motion carried by unanimous consensus vote.

VIII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

City Attorney Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

City Clerk Michaels had no report.

City Manager

City Manager Lavallee commented on the speeding issue on Barcelona Avenue and a report from the Venice Police Department.

IX. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder offered congratulations to City Manager Lavallee and Assistant City Manager Clinch on their years of service.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler offered congratulations to City Manager Lavallee and Assistant City Manager Clinch on their years of service.

Council Member Boldt

Mr. Boldt offered congratulations to City Manager Lavallee and Assistant City Manager Clinch on their years of service.

Council Member Frank

Mrs. Frank had an excused absence.

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore offered congratulations to City Manager Lavallee and Assistant City Manager Clinch on their years of service, noted this year's strategic planning session was the best one yet, and commented on the traffic situation on Barcelona Avenue.

Vice Mayor Pachota

Vice Mayor Pachota commented on the traffic situation on Barcelona Avenue, people staying in Venice, and stated he attended the Pie in Sky event at the Agape hangar.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod offered congratulations to City Manager Lavallee and Assistant City Manager Clinch on their years of service, thanked them for their leadership and reported on the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB) meeting.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

ATTEST:


Mayor - City of Venice


City Clerk