



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor John Holic, Council Member Kit McKeon, Council Member Jeanette Gates, Council Member Bob Daniels, Council Member Deborah Anderson, Council Member Richard Causero and Council Member Fred Fraize

Also Present

Assistant City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Assistant City Clerk Heather Taylor, and for certain items on the agenda: Interim Finance Director Linda Senne, Development Services Director Jeff Shrum and City Engineer Kathleen Weeden.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed for those affected by the terrorist attacks in Belgium.

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

I. RECOGNITION

Mayor Holic announced that presentations will start at 1:30 p.m.

[16-1882](#)

Proclaim April 17 through 23, 2016, "Paint the Town Purple Week" Presented to Maryanne Bolduc, Team Captain - Hope Warriors, 2016 Venice Relay For Life Event Lead, Relay For Life Volunteers and ACS Specialist

Mr. Fraize presented this proclamation to Ms. Bolduc and volunteers.

[16-1883](#)

Proclaim April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Presented to Amanda Schubert, Lead Sexual Assault Advocate, Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)

Mayor Holic presented this proclamation to Ms. Schubert.

[16-1884](#) Proclaim March 22, 2016 as Historic Eagle Point Centennial Presented to Skip Thomas, Secretary Treasurer, Bob Bethke, Eagle Point Historian, Eagle Point Club Property Association

Ms. Gates commended Mack Wilcox for his service on the Economic Development Advisory Board.

Mayor Holic presented this proclamation to Mr. Thomas and Mr. Bethke.

Recess was taken from 9:16 a.m. until 9:20 a.m.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one signed up to speak.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Fraize, to approve items in the Consent Section with the exception of Item No. 16-1887. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

A. MAYOR

[16-1885](#) Reappoint Anthony Pinzone to the Citizen Tax Oversight Committee to Serve a Term from April 1, 2016 until March 31, 2020

This Reappointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[16-1886](#) Reappoint Donna Pachota to the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Term from April 1, 2016 until March 31, 2019

This Reappointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY CLERK

[16-1888](#) Minutes of the October 27, 2015 and March 8, 2016 Regular Meetings

These Minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

C. CITY MANAGER

Engineering

[16-1889](#) Authorize the Mayor to Sign Letter of Support to Florida Greenways and Trails Council to Select the Southwest Coastal Regional Trail as the Next Priority for Multi-Use Trail Funding

This Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Public Works

[16-1890](#) Disposal of Surplus Vehicles and Equipment

This Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[16-1891](#)

Approval of Agreement with the Sarasota County Croquet Club for the Construction of Two Croquet Courts

This Agreement was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

[CON. NO.
48-2016](#)

Approve Contract with UIT LLC for Cleaning and CCTV Inspection of Sanitary Sewer Line (ITB# 3017-15)

This Contract was approved on the Consent Agenda.

MAYOR - Continued

[16-1887](#)

Request Council Approval to Reimburse Jack Robson for Mileage for Attendance at the Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings

Discussion took place regarding payment to residents who volunteer on committees, no policy being in place to authorize payment for travel of residents and having to pay other volunteers.

Mayor Holic clarified that Mr. Robson did not ask for reimbursement and that he suggested Mr. Robson request reimbursement.

Discussion continued on the distance of travel, reimbursement of travel outside of the city, modifying the policy, setting precedence and researching to determine the cost to the city.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Gates, to direct staff to review and modify the current policy if necessary. The motion carried by voice vote with Mayor Holic and Ms. Anderson opposed.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

[ORD. NO.
2016-03](#)

An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Venice, Florida, Relating to Properties Located at 820 Ormond Street and 833 Madrid Avenue, as Reflected in Rezoning Petition No. 15-1RZ, Che Vista, Venice Beach Condos, LLC, for the Rezoning of the Property Described Therein, from City of Venice Residential, Multiple-Family 3 (RMF-3) Zoning District to City of Venice Residential, Multiple-Family 4 (RMF-4) Zoning District; Providing for Repeal of all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and Providing for Severability and Providing for an Effective Date (Quasi Judicial)

Mayor Holic stated this is a quasi-judicial hearing.

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

Ms. Fernandez queried council members on ex-parte communications and conflicts of interest. Mr. McKeon, Mayor Holic, Mr. Daniels, and Ms. Anderson disclosed site visits with no communication.

Ms. Stelzer stated no written communications have been received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Ordinance No. 2016-03 be approved and adopted.

Discussion followed regarding compliance with the comprehensive plan, environmental value of the property, costs to city taxpayers, the city's ability to purchase the property, protection of properties, and the property not being for sale.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels and Mr. Cautero

No: 2 - Ms. Anderson and Mr. Fraize

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

[ORD. NO.
2016-04](#)

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida Extending the City's Consent to the Inclusion of the Incorporated Area of the City of Venice in the Sarasota County Emergency Medical Services Municipal Service Taxing Unit; 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 and stated no one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member McKeon, that Ordinance No. 2016-04 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading.

Discussion followed regarding the county charging a fee for service, expenses incurred by the city, discussing with the county at the next joint meeting, the current expiration date, relevancy to the fire department, costs for services from the fire department operational budget and discussing under the agenda item of city/county partnerships at the joint meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Caution and Mr. Fraize

C. RESOLUTIONS

[RES. NO.
2016-11](#)

A Resolution of the City of Venice, Florida, Approving and Authorizing the City Manager or his Designee to Submit a Grant Application for the 2016 National Urban and Community Forestry Grant with the State of Florida, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry and to Provide Matching Funds in the Amount of \$10,000 and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the resolution by title only.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Resolution No. 2016-11 be approved and adopted.

Discussion took place regarding reimbursement for trees during a disaster, being a tree friendly community, working towards the city issuing their own tree permits and considering having an arborist on staff.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Caution and Mr. Fraize

D. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

[16-1897](#)

Fracking (Fraize)

Mr. Fraize spoke to the item, suggested a local ordinance to oppose fracking in the city limits, and commented on federal legislation and fracking in other locations.

Ms. Fenandez responded to council questions regarding current codes and the procedure to establish an ordinance.

Discussion continued regarding contact with Sarasota County to determine if they are researching the item, not being listed in the strategic plan, ensuring the strategic plan is measurable, House Bill 191 regarding fracking and the need to research the city's legal rights.

[16-1898](#)

The Bridges Property Discussion (Holic)

Mayor Holic spoke to the item to include potential uses for the property, a brief history of the property, previous proposals and zoning designations and stated he will be meeting with a representative from the school board and police department.

Discussion continued regarding citizen participation, school district enrollment, stakeholders, council approval for Mayor Holic to discuss

possible uses of the property with Gulf Coast Community Foundation, defining workforce housing, resident involvement and discussions with property owners being more private.

Mayor Holic requested council provide direction and commented on public knowledge.

Discussion continued on the availability of feedback, importance to residents, facilitating relationships, the property not being owned by the city, public negotiations and school enrollment estimates.

Mayor Holic reiterated his intent with discussions.

Discussion took place on Gulf Coast Community Foundation taking the lead and resident concerns with traffic and roads.

Emilio Carlesimo, city resident, spoke to the mayor's discussion with Gulf Coast Community Foundation and feedback received. Mayor Holic stated he would speak with Mr. Carlesimo privately.

[16-1899](#)

Trolley, Traffic Signals, and Traffic Task Force (McKeon)

Mr. McKeon spoke to the items to include traffic signalization issues, the need for a traffic analysis for specified areas and the need for the mission of the traffic advisory task force to be minimized.

Discussion followed regarding having a donation box on the trolley, consideration of for-profit events paying for traffic personnel, looking into funding at the state level, trolley use, the traffic advisory task force meeting outside of city hall, traffic issues off of the island, potential funding from Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for a traffic signalization study, parking availability downtown and at the beaches, traffic counters and the city manager providing an assessment of the task force.

Mr. Lavallee responded to council questions regarding the mission of the traffic advisory task force, collecting individual information, inability for the task force as a whole meeting with the community outside of city hall, data collection, funding and authority issues and fatal accidents off-island.

Recess was taken from 11:32 a.m. until 11:40 a.m.

[16-1900](#)

Damage to City Property Discussion (Daniels)

Mr. Lavallee spoke to tree damage to include police investigations, public works review of the tree and the process and policy regarding damage to public property.

VI. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTSCity Attorney

Ms. Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

Ms. Stelzer had no report.

City Manager

Mr. Lavallee had no report.

VII. COUNCIL REPORTS***Mayor Holic***

Mayor Holic reported on the Venice Housing Authority meeting regarding their inoperable fountain and their request to extend the trolley to the Venetian Walk, the parks and recreation advisory board meeting regarding pickleball courts, having tennis players hire an off-duty officer to review the ongoing issues at the courts, using parks for fundraising activities and setting up beehives in city parks, his teleconference regarding the Venice Post Office distribution center relocation and his presentation at the realtors meeting regarding Substation Road.

Mr. Lavallee spoke to letters sent to Substation Road property owners.

Council Member Fraize

Mr. Fraize reported on the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council meeting, the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program meeting regarding fish and seagrass and his meeting with Len Bramble and tennis players regarding documenting incidents and the installation of proper signage at the tennis courts.

Mayor Holic passed around a book that Venice Area Beautification Inc. (VABI) created for America in Bloom.

Council Member Daniels

Mr. Daniels reported on the upcoming Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting, the Tourist Development Council meeting regarding the Atlanta Braves training facility and approval of sports and arts grants.

Discussion followed regarding building the new Atlanta Braves stadium.

Council Member Gates

Ms. Gates reported on the economic development advisory board meeting regarding sponsorship requests and the Economic Development Council meeting regarding innovation station partnership and read a written statement stating she will not be seeking reelection and announced her endorsement of Bill Ahern who will run for her seat.

Council Member Anderson

Ms. Anderson commented on addressing the issue of civility regarding council members' friends and family.

Council Member Cautionero

Mr. Cautionero reported on the historic preservation board regarding sister cities and Venice MainStreet regarding their membership drive and off-season events and commented on the changes to the agenda and his attendance at the library workshop.

Discussion continued regarding Venice MainStreet contacting high school students that are looking for planned activities during summer months.

Council Member McKeon

Mr. McKeon reported on Manasota League of Cities regarding Fast Fly-In funding and his experience at the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO) III.

Recess was taken from 12:18 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. All council members were present with the exception of Ms. Anderson.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mike Pachota, Sharky's on the Pier, distributed a 2015 charitable donation log, commented on the two rent checks paid to the city, increases in sales, sales tax paid, payments to the county that should be spent on the city, money spent on utilities, number of employees, payroll wages, 401(k) plan matching, healthcare costs and his appreciation to the city for working with the airport and for additional parking and expressed concern with parking.

Justin Pachota, Sharky's on the Pier, commented on focusing on issues with pigeons, workforce housing, recycling, use of pier funds and pier rent for a pier master, general maintenance and the benefits of enhancements to the property.

Discussion followed regarding the donation log, keeping council advised on needed improvements, security lighting, RV parking and not allocating funds prior to receiving them.

NEW BUSINESS***B. PRESENTATIONS WILL BE HEARD AT 1:30 P.M. - AGENDA ITEMS MAY BE DELAYED OR MOVED FORWARD TO ACCOMMODATE PRESENTATIONS***[16-1892](#)

Joseph Mendell, Managing Director, Client Relations, FiduciaryFirst: Service Agreement with MassMutual with Requested Council Approval

Mr. Bullock reviewed the various plans, the bid process and the recommendation to shift funds to MassMutual.

Mr. Mendell commented on costs for participants and responded to council questions regarding the 457(b) plan.

Discussion followed regarding the number of members with each plan, total combined assets, benefits of the 457(b) plan, asset allocation and predicted reduction in costs to employees.

Mr. Lavallee spoke to the review of the existing contracts.

Discussion continued regarding classification of funds and shared revenue.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Item No. 16-1892 be approved. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously with Ms. Anderson absent.

[16-1893](#)

Jeff Shrum, AICP, Development Services Director and Kelley Klepper, Kimley-Horn: Comprehensive Plan Update (10 min.)

Mr. Shrum provided an update to include residential densities, non-residential intensity, city-wide statistics, future land use categories and planning areas and responded to council questions regarding working in conjunction with Sarasota County.

Mr. Shrum continued his presentation on population projections, county projections and seasonal populations and responded to council questions regarding community workshop participation.

Mr. Klepper spoke to workshop participation, use of different techniques in other communities and satisfaction with participation rates.

Mr. Shrum commented on public comment received, duplication of online surveys, expected date for completion and adoption of the comprehensive plan and the proposed plan format.

Discussion followed regarding the importance of the average person being able to understand the document, running a reading analysis, presenting the old plan versus the new plan and taking the time needed

to ensure the plan is done right.

Recess was taken from 2:39 p.m. until 2:45 p.m.

[16-1894](#)

Kathleen Weeden, City Engineer, and Kelly Fernandez, Assistant City Attorney: Impact Fees (5 min.)

Ms. Fernandez reviewed impact fees to include five county impact fees that the city collects to be used within the city, provisions within the county ordinance dictating parameters that funds can be used outside the district, status of the mobility fee agreement, limited use of impact fees, and responded to council questions regarding use of impact fees for fire department needs, circumstances where the county can refuse requests for funds, whether the city could maintain the funds for use and the benefits of the county maintaining the funds.

Ms. Weeden responded to council questions regarding proposed projects presented to the county for approval, verbiage in the mobility fee agreement, expiration of funds, mitigation fees, reporting fees collected, prioritizing projects, two projects for this year, allocations for projects for use of road impact fees, opportunities to construct turn lanes, park impact fees, interlocal agreement requirements, finalization of the mobility fee agreement and fire impact fees.

Discussion followed on the use of impact fees for equipment at fire stations, use of park fees to rebuild Welfield Park, listing priorities for budget process, and having a defined process for the city to provide recommendations and requests for funding.

Mr. Lavallee commented on the suggested approach regarding council's role in the decision making process and amending the language in the interlocal agreements.

Discussion continued on reporting to council quarterly the fund balance and impact fees and receiving recommendations from the parks and recreation advisory board for park impact fees.

[16-1895](#)

Kathleen Weeden, City Engineer: St. Augustine Avenue Intersection Improvements (3 min.)

Ms. Weeden provided an update to include views of the intersection, plans to make a more symmetrical intersection, changes to the configuration for safety reasons and negotiations to finish the project, reviewed other sidewalk projects and responded to council questions on the timeframe for completion and distribution of the sidewalk project list.

[16-1896](#)

Ed Lavallee, City Manager, and Linda Senne, Interim Finance Director: Update on Pension Liability Deficit and Approve Amendments to the Adopted Budget

Ms. Senne commented on the shortfall in the budget due to the actuary's changes, reviewed suggested budget cuts, statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balances, expected budget amendment and annual required contributions of fire and police pension plans.

Mr. Lavalley clarified the request is to not use funding from the operating budget for the noted budget cut items and spoke to other options to purchase the AJAX property.

Discussion followed regarding letters previously received regarding the fire pension, council not receiving a report regarding the rate of return, deficit due to lack of return, owing more in future years, the need for alternate funding sources to be presented to council, use of the one-cent sales tax, reviewing the budget for the one-cent sales tax, discussing at the one-cent sales tax workshop, alternate options to purchase the AJAX property and allocating funding for pensions in future budget.

Mr. Cautero suggested continuing discussion until the April 19, 2016 workshop and use of park impact fees for purchasing the AJAX property.

Mr. Daniels requested the city attorney provide information regarding the use of impact fees to purchase property.

Ms. Senne informed the board that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) will not be presented to council until May.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Cautero, that Item No. 16-1896 be continued until the April 12, 2016 meeting and that staff provide alternate funding for purchasing the AJAX property and renovations to the front entrance of city hall. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously with Ms. Anderson absent.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk