



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor John Holic, Vice Mayor Bob Daniels, Council Member Jim Bennett, Council Member Emilio Carlesimo, Council Member Jeanette Gates, Council Member Kit McKeon and Council Member David Sherman

Also present:

City Attorney Dave Persson, Assistant City Clerk Lydia Magnotti, City Manager Ed Lavallee, Recording Secretary Judy Gamel, and for certain items on the agenda: Senior Planner Scott Pickett, Fire Chief James Warman, Public Works Director James Veneziano, and City Engineer Kathleen Weeden.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Magnotti offered the invocation and Mr. Bennett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. RECOGNITION

[13-0171](#)

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation, Presented to Jessica Hays, Director of Community Awareness, Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC)

This Proclamation was presented.

[13-0172](#)

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation, Presented to James Warman, Fire Chief. "Prevent Kitchen Fires"

This Proclamation was presented.

[13-0173](#)

Company and Service Citations presented to Battalion Chief Shawn Carvey, Lieutenants Frank Giddens and Scott Blanchard, Firemedics Matt Tomer, Barry Spinweber, Steve Roberts and Tyler Eaton of the Venice Fire Department, Officers Paul Freeman and Daniel Schuler of the Venice Police Department and Paramedic Stephanie Behling and Firefighter/EMT Shawn Sanders of the Sarasota County Fire Department Ambulance Crew Who Responded to a Life-Saving Service Provided During a Bicycle Incident on July 29, 2013.

Firefighters presented a check to assist with expenses to the accident victim and his mother.

This Recognition was presented.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Rod Parry

Rod Parry, Lake Venice Golf Club manager, briefed council members concerning problems with golf course renovations.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Rozansky providing an update of the project, contractor performance, contractor bond, lack of construction activity on the project site, rain delaying the project, drainage problems, communicating with the contractor, and possible design flaws.

Mr. Lavallee reported that he toured the site and also commented on discussions concerning who is responsible for portions of the work.

Discussion continued regarding giving notice to all parties involved with the renovation, staff handling of this matter, and maintaining a self-sustaining airport.

Mr. Lavallee indicated he would meet with Mr. Parry after the council meeting.

Mayor Holic requested that council be notified if corrective procedures became stalled.

Don O'Connell

Don O'Connell, city resident, provided historic information relating to community redevelopment activities, focusing on the Seaboard Avenue area.

Council members commented on local CRA efforts, lack of action on prior studies, including CRA components in strategic planning, providing copies of Mr. O'Connell's information to council members, maintaining a good relationship with the Sarasota County Commissioners, Newtown being a new CRA, each city having one CRA, politics of determining which area should be a CRA, businesses investing in CRA areas, the city not having to provide for deficit funding, property values, political solutions, establishing fairness throughout Sarasota County, making CRA options known to voters, Seaboard area qualifying as brownfield, and vacant properties in the Seaboard area.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Daniels, seconded by Council Member Sherman, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A. MAYOR

[13-0174](#) Reappointments to the Public Art Advisory Board, Alex Glanville and Fran Valencic, to Serve Terms from November 1, 2013 Until October 31, 2016

[13-0175](#) Appointment to the Municipal Code Enforcement Board, Gerald E. Grayce, to Complete the Term of Joseph Ferretti from October 8, 2013 Until June 30, 2015

- [13-0176](#) Appointment to the Planning Commission, Charles R. Newsom, to complete the term of Sid Shrauger from October 8, 2013 until January 31, 2014

B. CITY CLERK

- [13-0177](#) Approval of Minutes, September 10, 2013 Regular Meeting

C. CITY ATTORNEY

- [13-0178](#) Approve Settlement Agreement with Citizens for Sunshine, Inc. in the Amount of \$2,607.50

D. CITY MANAGER

Engineering

- [CON. NO.](#)
[09-2013](#) Approve Contract with Quality Enterprises USA, Inc.- Flamingo Ditch and Deertown Gully Outfall Project, Amount not to Exceed \$624,157.00

Finance

- [13-0161](#) Disposal of Surplus Equipment

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

- [ORD. NO.](#)
[2013-34](#) Amending Chapter 86, Land Development Code, Article IV, Development Review Procedures, by Adding Section 86-48, Vested Rights

Ms. Magnotti read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing and Ms. Magnotti stated that no written communications were received.

(10:09) Mr. Pickett provided background information, and reviewed vested rights determinations, noting that vested rights language and land development procedures were contained in the Code of Ordinances.

Responding to Ms. Gates, Mr. Persson stated this was an equitable proceeding and the defense was equitable, as well.

Conrad Meyer, Edgewood Historic District resident, requested a zoning change of that area from commercial intensive (CI) to commercial neighborhood (CN), and expressed concerns relating to the loss of historic structures with the existing CI zoning.

Mr. Persson cautioned council members concerning discussing a quasi-judicial Planning Commission application that could be appealed before city council.

Mayor Holic clarified that action on the ordinance would not affect rezoning issues.

Jeff Boone, attorney, related concerns regarding ordinance verbiage.

After council discussion, Mr. Persson stated he would review the ordinance with Mr. Boone and present revised language at the first reading on October 22, 2013.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

Recess was taken from 10:55 a.m. until 11:05 a.m.

A motion was made by Council Member McKeon, seconded by Council Member Gates, that this Ordinance be continued to the October 22, 2013 council meeting. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

V. NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATIONS

[13-0180](#)

Fire Chief Jim Warman: Department Update (10 min.)

Chief Warman reviewed numbers of calls, response times, grant funding, equipment purchases, complying with training requirements, public education efforts, and community outreach efforts. Chief Warman answered questions relating to kitchen fires, vehicle maintenance and repairs, honor guard uniform replacement, boat lift purchase, traffic light control system, EMS, pension revisions, union negotiations, and financial issues.

This Presentation was presented.

[13-0181](#)

Kathy Cushing: Acceptance of Concrete Dance Pad at Centennial Park (10 min.)

Mr. Veneziano reviewed the proposal and requested council approval of the request.

After the motion was made, discussion ensued regarding the location and construction of the concrete pad, liability insurance, loss of grassy areas, review by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, using the stage for other events, and moving concerts to another venue.

A motion was made by Council Member Carlesimo, seconded by Vice Mayor Daniels, to approve Kathy Cushing's request to place a concrete dance pad at Centennial Park pursuant to John Veneziano's letter dated August 13, 2013 with installation to occur after the Sun Fiesta. The motion carried by voice vote with Council Member Gates and Council Member Bennett opposed.

VI. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

No report.

City Clerk

No report.

City Manager

Mr. Lavallee confirmed council members' request for a staff report on prior studies of the Seaboard area.

Mr. Lavallee provided an update on the status of the police dispatch consolidation and responded to council member questions relating to assimilating existing employees.

VII. COUNCIL REPORTS**Mayor Holic**[13-0182](#)**CRA Extension Committee**

Mayor Holic provided background information.

Discussion followed regarding extension of Sarasota County's Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), redevelopment of the Seaboard area, Seaboard area businesses surviving relocation, vacant properties, obtaining input from local businesses, and existing drainage problems.

[13-0184](#)**Funding Opportunities for Relocation or Renovation of Fire Station No. 1 as Presented by Marlowe & Company**

Mayor Holic provided background information and pointed out that Pre-disaster Mitigation grant funding would provide for relocation or renovation of Station No. 1 and would allow for one cent sales tax funding to provide financing to renovate Station No. 2.

Discussion followed regarding obtaining FAA support, reviewing long range planning, funding eligibility, the airport not being eligible for funding, and FEMA funding.

There was consensus to have staff explore funding opportunities for relocation of Fire Station No. 1 as outlined in Lauren Kosiba's memorandum dated September 24, 2013.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Initiative

Mayor Holic reported on the Big Brothers and Big Sisters intervention program.

Report by Mr. McKeon

Mr. McKeon reported on Planning Commission discussions concerning Fisherman's Wharf, establishing a notification process upon the sale of historic property, the apartment overlay district, and redevelopment projects.

Report by Mr. Bennett

Mr. Bennett reported on Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization and Community Alliance of Sarasota County meetings.

Report by Mr. Sherman

Mr. Sherman expressed concerns relating to overgrown vegetation impeding visibility at

the intersection of Border Road and Jacaranda Boulevard.

Ms. Weeden briefed council members concerning discussions with county staff regarding highlighting the presence of stop signs on Border Road, adding that she would also research improving visibility at the intersection, as well.

Ms. Weeden advised that staff was also researching aesthetic impacts of reverse angle parking to residences on historic Harbor Drive.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Jeff Boone

Jeff Boone, representing the owner of property along U.S. ByPass 41, stated the property owner objected to any down zoning of his property in that area, and clarified the request was for a site and development plan and not a rezoning.

Mike Gelormino

Mike Gelormino, 751 Nantucket Road, urged council members not to displace Seaboard area businesses.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.
