



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

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 Caution and Council Member Fred Fraize

ALSO PRESENT

Assistant City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, City Manager Ed Lavalley, Recording Secretary Mercedes Barcia, and for certain items on the agenda: Utilities Director Tim Hochuli, Finance Director Linda Senne, Public Works Director John Veneziano, and Procurement Manager Peter Boers.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

I. RECOGNITION

[17-2581](#)

Proclaim April 2-8, 2017 as National Crime Victim's Rights Week, Presented to Jennifer Perkins, Co-Chair of the National Crime Victim's Week Committee

Mayor Holic presented this proclamation to Jennifer Perkins and Autumn Ropolo, Victim Advocate Coordinator at the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office.

[17-2582](#)

Swearing in: Police Officer Marcel Perry

Mayor Holic swore in Marcel Perry.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ted Caiazza, 868 Connemara Circle, representing Friends of Pinebrook Park, spoke on concerns with the lime pits at the park.

Jackie Mineo, Sovrano Road, spoke on a newspaper article regarding discussion that took place at the library advisory board meeting on

changing the name of the library, and finding information regarding the library on the county's website.

Lueanne Wood, 800 Golden Beach Boulevard, provided council with a picture of the sign currently on the temporary library and spoke on keeping the library name the same.

Discussion followed regarding the library name sign being permitted and fitting the city's code.

Bob Vedder, 603 Four Bays Drive, Nokomis, spoke regarding handling of old library, being on the board of the library foundation, the Hamilton Building, traffic patterns, makerspace, and keeping the library name the same.

Greg Luberecki, 161 Avens Drive, Nokomis, President of The Friends of the Venice Public Library, spoke regarding receiving plan updates from county library staff, sharing information of services provided at the temporary library and plans for the new library, The Friends of the Venice Public Library board members being at the Venice Farmer's Market this Saturday, occupying administrative office next to temporary library, operating book cart, funding all library programs, construction of the new library, and keeping the community informed.

Discussion followed regarding the library's name change and funding of the first library.

Jean Mumper, 1555 Tarpon Center Drive, thanked council for their service, noted speaking with Sarabeth Kalajian regarding library name, and thanked the county for including the public in the planning process of the new library.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Fraize, to approve items on the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item No. 17-2585. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

A. MAYOR

[17-2583](#)

Reappoint Bill Ahern to the Economic Development Advisory Board to Serve a Term from April 1, 2017 until March 31, 2020

This Reappointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY MANAGEREngineering

[17-2584](#) Approval of Cooperative Purchase with Layne Inliner, LLC and Execute Work Assignment in the Amount of \$146,367.22 for Stormwater Pipeline Rehabilitation

This Purchase was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

[17-2586](#) Request Approval to Execute King Engineering Associates, Inc., Work Assignment No. 10 Change Order No. 1, Water Main Replacement Phase 5 in the amount of \$40,992.00

This Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[17-2587](#) Request Approval to Execute Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc., Work Assignment No. 2016-01, East Gate Terrace Water Main Replacement Phase 1 in the amount of \$287,114.00

This Item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENTFinance

[17-2585](#) Approval of a Banking Services Agreement and Treasury Management Agreement with SunTrust Bank for Banking Services for an Initial Three-Year Term with the Option for Extension for Two Additional Two-Year Terms and Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreements

Discussion followed regarding cost savings, solicitation for banking services, credit savings, and city benefits from current vendor.

Ms. Senne spoke on average balance, standard credit, request for proposal (RFP), interest rates, earnings credit rating, transferring money out of SunTrust Bank, off-setting fees, local government investment rules, and basis points. Discussion followed regarding interest on balance, average compensated balance, utility bond, earning credits rating and meaning, banking fees, cash payments, security concerns, considering removal of cash acceptance at the cashier's office, remote and direct deposit, investments, bank comments on the city's RFP, bank charges, rebate, and policy on changing banking services every five years.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, to approve Item No. 17-2585.

An amendment to the motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, for finance to bid out all financial services every five years. The amendment carried unanimously by voice vote.

An amendment to the motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Anderson, for finance to start the bidding process on the fourth year and activate on the fifth year.

Discussion followed on process of changing banking services, programming issues, time frame for implementation of changing banks, Finance and IT department involvement, and considering implications.

The amendment carried unanimously by voice vote.

Discussion continued regarding implementing process, banking services, corporate practices and placing RFP for bid, and current proposal including three year contract with an option for extension for two additional year terms.

Discussion followed regarding service fees, automated clearing house (ACH) payment process and savings, fraud protection and city's process with SunTrust Bank, time frame to change banks and implementation process, programming, and lockbox payment service.

The motion as amended carried unanimously by voice vote.

Recess was taken from 10:11 a.m. until 10:21 a.m.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORDINANCES – FINAL READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

ORD. NO. 2017-06

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Maintaining a Domestic Partnership Registry as Described in Article I, Chapter 40 of the Code of Ordinances, Human Relations; Providing for Definitions; Providing for a Process for Registration; Providing for Termination Procedures; Providing that No New Registrations be Accepted After March 28, 2017; Providing for Maintenance of Records; Providing for Fees and Charges; Providing for Enumeration of Rights and Legal Effects; Providing for Reciprocity; Providing for Limited Effect; Providing for Enforcement; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Ordinance No. 2017-06 be approved and adopted. The motion carried

by the following vote:

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

ORD. NO.
2017-07

An Ordinance Amending City of Venice Ordinance No. 2016-15 Which Adopted the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2016 and Ending September 30, 2017; by Increasing the Total Revenue by \$286,530 and Total Expenditures by \$286,530; and Providing for an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Holic opened the public hearing.

No written communication was received and no one signed up to speak.

Mayor Holic closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member McKeon, that Ordinance No. 2017-07 be approved and adopted.

Discussion followed on the number of facilities that have a value of \$110,000 or more and number of items classified as priorities.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS**A. ORDINANCES****ORD. NO.**
2017-08

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.

No one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, that Ordinance No. 2017-08 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading.

Discussion followed on the renewal period.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

ORD. NO.
2017-09

An Ordinance of the City Of Venice, Florida Amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 54, Solid Waste, Article II, Administration, Section 54-31, Authority of Director of Public Works; Providing for Repeal of all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date

Ms. Stelzer read the ordinance by title only.

No one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Council Member Gates, seconded by Council Member Daniels, that Ordinance No. 2017-09 with the addition of "not to exceed one year" after temporary basis in 54-31(4) be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading.

Discussion followed regarding temporary period time frame, pilot programs, and council establishing deadlines.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

ORD. NO.
2017-10

An Ordinance Providing Quasi-Judicial Procedures by Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Venice, Florida, Chapter 2, Administration, Article II, Mayor and Council, Division 2, Meetings, Subdivision I, in General, Section 2-53 Addressing Council; 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.

Ms. Fernandez spoke regarding process for streamlining quasi-judicial procedures.

Jeff Boone spoke on his support of the ordinance with the exception of limiting rebuttal time to five minutes.

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Gates, to approve Ordinance No. 2017-10 on first reading and schedule it for final reading.

Discussion followed on extending time frame for rebuttals.

An amendment to the motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Fraize, to extend the time limit for rebuttals from five to fifteen minutes.

Discussion continued regarding extending rebuttal time limit, having a complete record of the hearing, time frame for dais questions, The Woods hearing, extending time frame by city council vote, ensuring due process, and suggestion to limit rebuttal by presenter topic.

The amendment carried by voice vote unanimously.

Discussion followed on time limits imposed on quasi-judicial hearings,

interrupting presenters, comprehensive plan, changing procedures, legal interpretation of statute, due process, limiting time on questions, and attorney recommendations.

A motion was made by Council Member Anderson to delete paragraph fourteen from the ordinance. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

The motion as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Holic, Mr. McKeon, Ms. Gates, Mr. Daniels, Mr. Cautero and Mr. Fraize

No: 1 - Ms. Anderson

B. PRESENTATIONS AND AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION WILL BE HEARD AT 11:00 A.M. - AGENDA ITEMS MAY BE DELAYED OR MOVED FORWARD TO ACCOMMODATE PRESENTATIONS

[17-2588](#)

Joan McGill, Vice President Business Development, GrowFL Program Director, Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County: Business Competitiveness Report (15 min.)

Ms. McGill provided a presentation on the Business Competitiveness Survey to include survey purpose and focus, process, and survey target.

Mayor Holic left the dais at 11:13 a.m.

Ms. McGill spoke on overall observations, company background/operations, growth trends, and company growth plans.

Mayor Holic returned to the dais at 11:17 a.m.

Ms. McGill spoke on CEO rankings, areas of limited concern, municipal service ratings, business climate ratings, community strength ratings, mixed reviews, key findings, progress report, overall summary and reflections, and next steps.

Discussion followed regarding the county's transportation system, traffic concerns, land use and zoning, concerns with residential development, commercial and industrial use zoning, Economic Development Corporation (EDC) helping businesses, workforce and affordable housing, and collecting data.

[17-2589](#)

Director of Libraries and Historical Resources Sarabeth Kalajian, Sarasota County and Todd Sweet, AIA, Sweet Sparkman Architects: Update on Venice Public Library (15 min.)

Ms. Kalajian provided a brief introduction regarding the new Venice Library and commented on the responses to proposed changes by staff.

Mr. Sweet provided a brief overview and presentation on the Venice Public Library to include site selection process, aerial maps, enhancing

green space, joint use facility with the history center museum, funding, meeting with city staff, study, design development stage, square footage, site planning, pedestrian connectivity, parking, Nokomis Avenue drive access, main entrance, drive-thru book drop, focus groups and public feedback, staff, floor plan, incorporating historic architectural design to the building, multi-purpose meeting room and other room areas, book store, lighting, children's, young adult, and staff area, existing net and gross square footage, furnishings, collection sizes, finalized view, approval process, and project schedule.

Discussion followed regarding the space for children and teens not fitting demographics, input received, number of children living in Venice, student population, children's early literacy, suggestions from the students at Venice High School, school media center availability, meeting room sizes, children's collection room, speed limits, designated bike racks, green space, number of meeting rooms and scheduling, testing underneath building foundation, north end elevation, and chillers.

Discussion ensued regarding removal of slab and site demolition, site improvements, Friends of the Public Library, establishing communication protocol with the county, staff and volunteer workspace, budget and library costs, sidewalk concerns, parking lot lights, LED lighting, impact fees, charging for meeting room usage, automated reservation system, library signage and including the county's logo, library built with private versus public funds, property lease, including Friends of the Venice Public Library on the decision making of the library name, staff interactive learning activities, community's input on the county's library website, multi-purpose meeting room size, changes to the building size, outdoor space, and community rooms.

Mr. Daniels left the dais at 12:41 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding the drive-thru book drop off, keeping library name the same, and county providing updates to council. Ms. Kalajian assured council that the library name would not change.

Jack Sullivan, 256 Pensacola Road, spoke on the proposed library plan to include creating flexible space, staff area, air conditioning unit placement, outside space, and having removable walls.

Mr. Daniels returned to the dais at 12:45 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding input on the library's plan design.

Charles McCracken, 649 Tamiami Trail South, commented on the library's design plan, city's growth, and workforce housing.

Recess was taken from 12:52 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

[17-2594](#)

Solid Waste/Recycling Superintendent Bob Moroni: Solid Waste Pilot Program Update (10 min.)

Mr. Moroni provided an update on the solid waste pilot program to include delivery and collection of cans, driver training, number of residents changing cans, future plans, and next phase of the program.

Ms. Gates returned to the dais at 2:04 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding Willow Chase, staff compliments and feedback, location for placement of cans, program success, communication with homeowners associations, pickups occurring earlier during the day, employee training, City of North Port placing cans on the same side of the street, charging collection of different can sizes, city ordinance, recycling incentive, and radio frequency identification tags on cans.

Mr. Moroni spoke on the weight study conducted with Sarasota County.

Discussion followed regarding the Ajax property, wood and concrete recycling, and costs.

C. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

[17-2590](#)

Naming Rights (Holic)

Mayor Holic spoke regarding park signage, naming of the library, city policy and application on naming rights, park names and history, Nolen greens, commemorating park names with plaques, Bob Vedder, and ideas for the Hamilton Building.

Discussion followed regarding building elevation, strategic planning, Mayor Holic providing recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, recognition of Maxine Barritt and naming park, naming of the library, Mr. Lavallee communicating with the county on naming rights for buildings within the city, interlocal agreement, Nolen greens, and McKechnie Field.

VII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

Ms. Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

Ms. Stelzer noted advisory board training sessions were completed, and board chair training will be conducted in April.

City Manager17-2591

Lime Sludge Pond Update

Mr. Hochuli spoke regarding bidding proposals, reducing costs, lime sludge at berms, previous agreement, and contractor.

Mr. Lavallee commented on bidding, costs, and changing agreement. Discussion followed on original estimate and costs, utility rates, vegetation and removing fence, area safety, grant sources, staff alternatives, proposal to remove lime, and liability concerns.

17-2592

Special Event Process Update

Mr. Lavallee spoke on meeting with Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) chair and board recommendations, policy on special events, funding, charging use of public space, relocating Farmer's Market, alleviating downtown traffic, and event spaces.

Discussion followed on keeping an open discussion before a decision is made, downtown events closing multiple streets, proposed funding schedule, street access, Farmer's Market and obtaining feedback from surrounding neighbors, relief of rental cost, non-profit organizations, revenues, public input, use of public property, Centennial Park, financial impact on the city, return on investments, downtown street closures, cost for park space usage, cost relief for use of public space, EDAB recommendations for potential site locations, and not having two events occurring at the same location and time.

Bill Ahern, EDAB chair, spoke regarding the board's discussion with Mr. Lavallee on special events, approval process, providing city services, associating costs with the use of public space, revenues returning to the city, meeting with Linda Wilson, and having the Farmer's Market adjacent to downtown.

Discussion followed on the Chalk Festival and non-profit organizations, percent of revenues retained by event promoters, special events, city growth, pedestrian access to the Farmer's Market, and concern with Ms. Wilson's potential successor.

Erin Silk, Executive Director of Venice MainStreet, spoke on not supporting use of public space charges and rental costs, number of events held per year, seasonal events, contract with promoters, Art Festival event vendors, participants, and community impact, event revenues, and sharing profit and loss information.

Discussion followed regarding charging fees in season, event generated

income, money benefitting the city, taxes, Venice MainStreet's budget, grants, fees hindering new events, resident business owners, downtown Venice events, rebates, identifying event expenses, special event policies in other municipalities, benefits of using public property, communication between parties, and Venice MainStreet holding events at other areas within the city.

A motion was made by Council Member Anderson to extend the meeting beyond 5 p.m. if more time is needed. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Barbara Quinn, Women's Sertoma Club of Venice, spoke on her concerns with proposed policy, amount given back to the community, scholarships that will be given out this May, organizational expenses, using community businesses, and sponsorship support.

A motion was made by Council Member Cautero, seconded by Council Member Gates, for the Economic Development Advisory Board to continue working with the city manager and staff on special event policies and following their research, vetting, and communication with all interested parties, report to council with a timeline and recommendations. The motion carried by voice vote 6-1 with Mr. Daniels opposed.

VIII. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Cautero

Mr. Cautero spoke regarding having a set time for audience participation at the comprehensive plan joint meeting with the planning commission.

Discussion followed regarding amount of items on the meeting agenda.

Mr. Fraize left the dais at 4:18 p.m. and returned at 4:19 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding limiting speaker time, having time certain for audience participation, comparison of comprehensive plans, staff outreach, and setting audience participation at 4:30 p.m. and limiting to three minutes per speaker depending on the number of speakers.

Council Member Daniels

Mr. Daniels spoke on the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting, Siesta Key trolley, and needing approval to meet with Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT).

A motion was made by Council Member Daniels, seconded by Council Member Anderson, for the city manager and Mr. Daniels to meet with Sarasota County Area Transit staff regarding the trolley in Venice. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

Mr. Daniels spoke regarding SCAT services, Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT), Manatee County bike safety program and suggestion for the city manager to contact the Florida Department of Transportation

(FDOT) to schedule bike safety training, accident safety report, non-motorized vehicle accidents, request for the county to issue fiscal year (FY) 2016 traffic report, Sun Trail, roundabouts, infrastructure conditions to include roads and bridges, and approval to attend upcoming MPO workshops.

Ms. Anderson left the dais at 4:44 p.m.

There was council consensus for Mr. Daniels to attend both MPO workshops in May.

Ms. Anderson returned to the dais at 4:46 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding roundabouts and FDOT brochure, landscaping project at the intersection of I-75 and Laurel Road, and number of pedestrian crossing hits at roundabouts.

Council Member Fraize

Mr. Fraize spoke on attending the Environmental Advisory Board, fire assessment fee, and Architectural Review Board meetings.

Council Member Gates

Ms. Gates requested council consideration in reviewing Uber policy.

Mayor Holic spoke regarding Uber being voted on by the state legislature, preemption, state viewing Uber as a national organization, paying business tax, and restriction on taxi cabs.

Ms. Gates withdrew her request until decision from the state legislature is made.

Council Member McKeon

Mr. McKeon had no report.

Council Member Anderson

Ms. Anderson announced she will not be running for re-election this November, and spoke on issue with the Venice Gondolier, tour of the parks, and the trail down Venice Avenue.

Mayor Holic

[17-2593](#)

Post Office Relocation Update (Holic)

This item was not discussed due to the 5:00 p.m. end time.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No one signed up to speak.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk