

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
CONVOCAION OF GOVERNMENTS  
CITY COUNCIL, SARASOTA, FLORIDA

JANUARY 18, 2019

A Special Meeting of the Venice City Council, Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners, Sarasota County School Board, City of Sarasota Commissioners, Town of Longboat Key Commissioners, and City of North Port Commissioners, was held this date at the Suncoast Technical College Conference Center, 4748 Beneva Road, Sarasota, Florida.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OTHERS PRESENT**

The following officials were present: City of Venice Mayor John Holic, Vice Mayor Rich Cautero, Council Member Chuck Newsom, City Manager Ed Lavallee, City Attorney Kelly Fernandez and City Clerk Lori Stelzer; Sarasota Board of County Commissioners Chair Charles D. Hines, Vice Chair Michael Moran, Commissioners Alan Maio and Christian Ziegler, County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, and Deputy Clerk Charlie Maloney; City of Sarasota Commissioners Shelli Freeland Eddie, Hagen Brody, and Willie Shaw, City Manager Thomas Barwin, and Interim City Auditor and Clerk Shayla Griggs; Town of Longboat Key Mayor George Spoll, Commissioners Irwin Pastor, Randy Clair, and Jim Brown, Town Manager Thomas Harmer, and Deputy Town Clerk Savannah Schield; City of North Port Mayor Christopher Hanks, Vice Mayor Debbie McDowell, Commissioners Pete Emrich and Jill Luke, City Manager Peter Lear, City Clerk Katy Peto and Deputy City Clerk Heather Taylor; School Board of Sarasota County Chair Jane Goodwin, Vice Chair Caroline Zucker, Board Members Bridget Ziegler and Shirley Brown, Superintendent Todd Bowden and Administrative Assistant Kathy Tomkins.

**I. WELCOME/PLEDGE/INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Goodwin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions were made.

**II. CONVOCAION GOALS AND AGENDA**

Ms. Goodwin reviewed agenda items and goals.

**III. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no speakers.

#### **IV. HURRICANE EVACUATION CENTERS UPDATE**

Mr. Lear requested information on agreements between Sarasota County and Charlotte County due to the influx of Charlotte County residents during an evacuation. Mr. Bowden and Mr. Lewis provided an update on ongoing discussions regarding this topic. Discussion followed on staffing shelters, logistics for use of shelters, preparing unified support through these elected bodies, and generator availability at shelters. Sarasota County Emergency Services Director Rich Collins responded to questions relative to storm shelter categories, hurricane evacuation shelters, generators, funding, Charlotte County, code for school buildings, and shelter deficit.

#### **V. DUAL ENROLLMENT UPDATE: DR. TODD BOWDEN, SUPERINTENDENT SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS**

Dr. Bowden described the dual enrollment program and past and future changes to the program. Discussion ensued on impact to high schools and benefits of dual enrollment.

#### **VI. SCSPPD UPDATE: TIM ENOS, POLICE CHIEF, SARASOTA COUNTY SCHOOLS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Enos provided a briefing on school safety, coordination with chiefs of other law enforcement agencies, response units, current and future personnel, and lockdown exercise. Chief Enos responded to board questions relative to safe corners and training and Dr. Bowden addressed the school board's position on the guardian program. Discussion continued on budget needs, types of officer training, school resource officer (SRO) functions, serving as a model for other districts, security of campus exterior, relationship with the police departments and sheriff's office, funding needs, collaborative approach between agencies, and efforts for mental health assistance.

#### **VII. AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGIES: JON THAXTON, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY INVESTMENT, GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (GCCF)**

Mr. Thaxton spoke on housing that is attainable and maintainable, household income, housing costs, ALICE report, market causing housing crisis, wages remaining static, change in affordable housing advocates, recommended viewing three recent reports done on this topic, Florida Housing Coalition report, need to focus on rental, owner occupied, single family detached, and apartment complex properties and long-term, multi-generation properties, impact of elected body decisions, solution not happening overnight, assistance needed from the community, and GCCF being available for support.

Discussion followed on collaboration between the School Board and Sarasota County, city and county reports, additional dwelling units (ADUs), adding accessory dwelling units to jurisdictions,

increasing density, federal tax credit, implementation of an action plan, manufactured home parks, and the non-existence of a listing of available units.

**VIII. TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY: TOM HARMER, TOWN MANAGER**

Mr. Harmer described the initiative to obtain an independent evaluation of Longboat Key being part of two counties with the hope of garnering the state's support.

**IX. CITY OF NORTH PORT: PETER LEAR, CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Lear followed up on hurricane evacuation issues.

**X. CITY OF SARASOTA: TOM BARWIN, CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Barwin spoke on a transportation initiative to look at city systems, where connections are needed, and reviewing a water transportation infrastructure, and the need for additional mental health services.

**XI. SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT: JONATHAN LEWIS, ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Lewis thanked School Board staff for the great working relationship.

**XII. CITY OF VENICE: ED LAVALLEE, CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Lavallee spoke on Venice's strategic planning process, comprehensive planning, major capital projects underway, and opportunities for affordable housing in Venice.

**XIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Goodwin announced the next meeting will be held on January 17, 2020.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

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John W. Holic, Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk