



# City of Venice

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

## Meeting Minutes City Council

---

Friday, January 11, 2019

8:30 AM

Community Hall

---

### Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Study Workshop

#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Holic called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

#### ROLL CALL

- Present:** 6 - Mayor John Holic, Council Member Bob Daniels, Vice Mayor Richard Cautero, Council Member Charles Newsom, Council Member Margaret Fiedler and Council Member Helen Moore
- Absent:** 1 - Council Member Jeanette Gates

#### ALSO PRESENT

City Manager Ed Lavalley, City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Lori Stelzer, Fire Chief Shawn Carvey, Deputy Fire Chief Frank Giddens, Administrative Battalion Chief Craig Runck, Finance Director Linda Senne, Controller Joe Welch, and Recording Secretary Mercedes Barcia.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Administrative Battalion Chief Craig Runck.

#### I. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. PRESENTATIONS

[19-3717](#)

Bob Holdsworth, The Holdsworth Group: Advanced Life Support (ALS) Feasibility Study

Mr. Newsom spoke to a newspaper article on new development that impacts Venice.

Chief Carvey spoke to enhancing the fire department's level of service (LOS).

Bob Holdsworth, The Holdsworth Group, provided a presentation and spoke to project expectations, industry terms, project overview, community demographics, call volume, current system overview, American Heart

Association's Chain of Survival guidelines, the city's contribution to the county's fire department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) economics, system utilization and observation, first hand utilization of 9-1-1, Venice fire department EMS upgrade, options to include Venice fire department Advance Life Support (ALS) engines or assuming responsibility for the EMS system, phase in process, other expenses, and conclusions.

Recess was taken from 10:06 a.m. until 10:15 a.m.

[19-3718](#)

Shawn Carvey, Fire Chief: Business Plan

Chief Carvey provided a presentation and spoke to improvement in response time and services, needs statement, stated benefits, recommended actions, funding, collection of EMS impact fees, start up phases, early out incentive, and requested council consensus to move forward with the proposed plan.

Discussion took place regarding cooperative service with other cities within the county, pension funding, mutual aid agreement with the county, adding agenda item to have the city manager draft a letter to the county regarding enhancing the fire department's services, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant, the county's response time, counties and municipalities that have 90% performance services, obtaining data from the county, importance of response time, having a uniform chain of command, county EMS impact fees, ad valorem taxes, and other municipalities controlling own fire services.

**There was consensus to extend the meeting until completion.**

Discussion ensued on rescue response time, partnering with the county to improve services, use of EMS funds, operating millage revenue, the fire department's budget, interlocal agreement, number of ambulances county-wide, dual command, fire department's pension, having the city attorney review millage revenue use for EMS, requesting an executive team member from the Sarasota County fire department make a presentation to council, having an independent source review figures, the city maintaining control over the fire department, training and costs, dedicated services for ambulances and ALS services, private transports, and general millage tax revenue.

Ms. Moore left the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Discussion followed on knowing the county's plan to enhance services.

Ms. Moore returned to the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding cooperation between the Venice fire

department and Venice police department on emergency responses.

Mr. Welch noted finance reviewed draft reports and figures did not include fire administrative costs, and commented on transitional costs.

Discussion ensued on directing staff to request an executive member of the county's fire department attend a council meeting to clarify the county's future growth plans, adding item to a council agenda for discussion, requesting staff to obtain the information from the county and report back to council, and expediting the process.

## **II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Dick Longo, 295 Marsh Creek Road, commented on the city's fire department services, local trust and control, and inquired on dispatch services.

Christopher Ferrante, P.O. Box 294, Venice, commented on the fire department's proposal, and provided an ambulance service study report prepared for the Venice Tax Watch.

Mike Rafferty, 989 Cayman East, spoke regarding response time, calls for ALS transports, and opportunity for citizen and elected official dialogue.

Linda Roe, 801 Turf Street, spoke to the the lack of communication between the county and city, millage rate, and inquired on insurance services organization (ISO).

Tom Brener, 811 Waterside Drive, commented on the fire department's proposed plan, costs to provide services, and consolidation with the county.

Discussion followed on communication with citizens and the county, and requesting Chief Carvey and Mr. Lavallee speak with the county in reference to the county's future growth plan and how it relates to the city.

**There was consensus for Chief Carvey and the city manager to speak with the county in reference to the county's future growth plan and how it relates to the city.**

### III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor - City of Venice

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk