

City Commission Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 13, 2024 6:30 PM

Mayor Fred Cleveland called the meeting to order. Also in attendance were Vice Mayor Valli Perrine, Commissioners Randy Hartman, Lisa Martin, and Jason McGuirk, City Manager Khalid Resheidat, Assistant City Manager Ron Neibert, , and City Attorney Carrie Avallone.

City Managers Report

- The city manager attended the monthly meeting with the Parking Consultant, and it is on schedule. There are no issues there.
- The Volusia County Council approved ECHO funds for the skate park. The ECHO grant funds will be matched from City general funds and will move forward.
- There were 55 applicants for the position (20 from Florida) of City Manager. Meetings are set with the city commission meeting to interview the applicants. Public meetings will be held on June 7 & June 8 to meet the candidates.
- 50% of food trucks used in NSB during special events are from Volusia County. An RFP for a food truck manager has been issued.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items 7A-7P were approved with Item 7J pulled for a future meeting.

Public Participation

Seven citizens spoke in support of the sale of the New Smyrna Beach Women's Club to The Karter Presley Lynaugh Trust. Several spoke about the history of the Club and its contributions to the city, the many commendations it has received and the public usage of the building. All spoke to preserving this historic property.

One citizen asked that the commission consider how expenditures in the budget are allocated in relation to staffing and replacement of city vehicles.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

- A. Staff requested Rate changes at the Live Oak Cultural Center. The request was approved **unanimously**.
- B. The commission voted to accept the proposal to purchase the property at 403 Magnolia Street (NSB Women's Club). The offer accepted was the Karter Presley Lynaugh Trust submission of \$225,000.
Vote passed **3/2** with Commissioner Martin and Vice Mayor Perrine opposed.

ORDINANCES - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Ordinance No. 17-24: Conduct the Second Reading and Public Hearing of an Ordinance, which if adopted, would halt the issuance of building permits that impact the malfunctioning storm water system in Venetian Bay.
Ordinance was passed **unanimously**.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Ruth Kazimierek was reappointed to a 3-year term to the Code Enforcement Board, expiring March 2, 2027. There remains one vacancy on this board.

MAYOR AND COMMISSION REPORTS

Vice Mayor Perrine thanked the police chief for his help with a Cudas Unhooked event. She attended the Hispanic Chamber's breakfast/legislative forum.

Commissioner McGuirk thanked the police chief for the efforts of his department with the spring break events. He also thanked staff for their work on the skate park project.

Commissioner Hartman reported on the Opioid Settlement Committee and requested that Police Chief Feldman be appointed as an alternate member to that committee. He gave positive comments on the History Museum/Historical Society's Heritage event. He asked that a monthly posting of "historical highlights" be added to the city's website .

Commissioner Martin spoke of the cultural and historical value of our city. She asked that a sign be placed on/near Flagler Avenue saying "Welcome to Coronado Historic District" to better showcase the historic significance of the area.

Mayor Cleveland commented on the US Conference of Mayors and asked staff to be aware of the grant opportunities available. He thanked the police chief for efforts to maintain a positive image for the city through his efforts with the spring break events. Mayor Cleveland gave positive comments on the Museum's Heritage event and stated that it was important to keep the cultural integrity of New Smyrna Beach. He mentioned hurricane preparedness and its importance. He commended all for their comments and concerns on the Women's Club and its future.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Kelly McQuillen, the city clerk, commented on the issues facing staff with the hiring of a new city manager. She shared concerns on the city's employee turnover rate of 76%., which is seriously high. She stressed the importance that clear chains of command and policies and procedures be in place and understood by all city staff.