MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
HELD June 6, 2019
AT 4:00 PM Commission Chambers - PLASTICS WORKSHOP
121 SW FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994

CITY COMMISSION
Mayor Rebecca S. Bruner
Vice Mayor Eula R. Clarke
Commissioner Kelli Glass Leighton
Commissioner Merritt Matheson
Commissioner Mike Meier

ADMINISTRATIVE
City Manager, David Dyess
City Attorney, Michael J. Mortell
City Clerk, Mary R. Kindel

ROLL CALL

4:02 PM Roll Call.
Present: Mayor Bruner, Vice Mayor Clarke, Commissioner Glass Leighton, Commissioner Matheson, Commissioner Meier.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS

4:03 PM 1. AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

Anne Ellig, Public Works Department Recycling and Conservation Coordinator presented on the current Recycling Program, campaigns, and some initiatives the future.

4:28 PM 2. PRESENTATION ON THE REGULATION OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

Ben Hogarth, Community Services Department Community Affairs Liaison, gave a presentation on the Regulation of Plastic Pollution from world-wide to locally and how it relates to us.

A brief question and answer period after the presentation included what other municipalities have done and information on known associated lawsuits. Clarification was provided on which municipalities that were identified in the presentation on the Surfrider Foundation listing were regulated, by Ordinance or policy.

5:02 PM COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Matheson commented and made a motion on adopting a policy for making Stuart a zero waste zone for all events on City-owned property.

Discussion included clarification and recommended amendments to the motion, resulting in the direction of staff to bring back a draft policy to be reviewed and discussed at a future workshop.

5:29 PM Commissioner Matheson Motion Clarification
Motion: Have staff draft a policy for all City-owned property to become a zero waste zone after 6 months of outreach and education. What I mean by zero waste is single use and not recyclable by our standards and it would not be used on City-owned tax payer property. This policy would have logical, meaningful exemptions in it.

Attorney Mortell commented that because it's a policy, it could be adopted now, but steak holders should have an opportunity to add input so it should be discussed at more than one meeting.

Commissioner Matheson amended his Motion:
To allow at this point, because we don't have an organics composting in our system to allow food waste at City owned property to go into the trash but my motion would include working towards zero waste with the idea that we're working towards food waste going into a compost facility for some we could find.

Commissioner Meier would like the policy to include some language to have a City staff person to be present to be the custodian of the bins, to manage the waste stream at City sponsored events. City sponsored, City run event.

Commissioner Glass Leighton commented that it would be helpful to ask staff to include the costs associated with having a City staff member at events by using a calendar of the past year or two events as an example.

Commissioner Matheson added to his Motion:
That staff consider options on educational bodies being at events whether they're volunteer or employed to educate zero waste.

Commissioner Clarke commented on making this a strong impact and taking this seriously and set an example.

5:52 PM Public Comment:

1) **Lisa Beagle – NE Ridge Ave; representative of Surfrider Foundation commented on a bottle buy-back program and composting.**

2) **Jerry Gore – Commented on educating the community and supports the regulations.**

6:01 PM Motion: Motion to have staff draft a policy for City-owned property to become zero waste zones after 6 months of outreach and education, regulating single use plastics with logical and meaningful exemptions, to include educational bodies being at events whether volunteers or employees and bring it back to the commission at another workshop.
Moved by: Commissioner Matheson
Seconded by: Commissioner Glass Leighton
Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS BY CITY MANAGER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (5 min. max)

1) **Gayle Ryan – 21st Street; Supports the regulation on straws and encourages all to go to ocean friendly restaurants.**

2) **Jim Gallegos – Manor Drive; Feels there is a momentum in the restaurant community to make environmental changes, Ojha, California has a good model for charging for the use of paper bags as part of their plastic bag ban and provided a handout for the Commissioners.**

3) **Adrianna Mancini – Corporate Parkway; Supports the environmental regulations and introduced the next five speakers as Students4H20.**

4) **Greg Gardner – Students4H20**

5) **Lucy Mayer – Students4H20**

6) **Abella Fenniman – Students4H20**

7) **Izzy Fenniman – Students4H20**

8) **Noa Vignone – Students4H20**

9) **Lisa Beagle – Ridge Ave.; Representative of Surfrider Foundation; Commented that Surfrider Foundation is a national organization with sister organizations around the world and offers her services.**

Commissioner Meier commented that St. Pete's ban is something the City should review and it includes a straw ban that is in a phased roll-out. First step, straws are

distributed by customer request only with warnings but no fines, then months later, no plastic straw allowed and requires full enforcement with a fine. Some exemptions apply. Interested in creating an Ordinance.

6:29 PM Motion: Would like to advance an Ordinance/Workshop with no exceptions other than reasonable logical exceptions such as hospitals and assisted living facilities.
Moved by: Commissioner Meier
Seconded by: Vice Mayor Clarke
Motion passed unanimously.

Ben Hogarth come forward to address the St. Pete Ordinance and that it is not yet adopted.

Commissioner Matheson commented on a levy for single-use plastic bags.

Additional environmental efforts will be discussed at the workshop but the City will work on the items that are approved and work on the additional changes in the near future.

Public Comment:

1) **Richard Hall – Lucie Blvd.; Commented on multi-family recycling and its challenges.**

7:06 PM ADJOURNMENT

Mary R. Kindel, City Clerk

Rebecca S. Bruner, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission Meeting this 24th day of June, 2019.