MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
HELD September 23, 2019
AT 2:30 PM Commission Chambers - PLASTICS WORKSHOP #3
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

2:30 PM ROLL CALL
Present: Mayor Bruner, Vice Mayor Clarke, Commissioner Glass Leighton, Commissioner Matheson, Commissioner Meier.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2:32 PM Motion: Move approval of the Agenda.
Moved by: Vice Mayor Clarke
Seconded by: Commissioner Meier
Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (5 min. max)

1) **Pete Walson – Overlook Drive; Commented that while recently participating in a cleanup, dealt with more plastic bags than straws. Would like the outcome of this meeting to know that our materials are truly recycled.**

City Attorney Mortell read Florida Statute 403.7033 which states information on local government agency regulations concerning containers, wrappings, or disposable plastic bags. He commented that it is a dead-end street for the commission to pursue the bag issue at this time.

2) **MiMi Wild – Osceola Street; Commented that she attended the Stuart fireworks show and liked the event recycling.**
3) **Bill West – Osceola Street – Commented that his family was in the fuel industry and stated that 1 gallon of gasoline creates 4 lbs. of plastics, encourages gasoline consumption reduction.**
4) **Gayle Ryan – 21st Street; Commented on the items that cannot go into the local recycling program. Encourages citizens to get involved with the Surfrider Foundation.**
5) **Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch – Riverview Drive; Commended that she is proud of the City and like the fertilizer ordinance, Stuart is taking the lead and sometimes you have to create inconveniences in order to create change and help the environment.**

2:47 PM City Manager David Dyess briefly commented that this is the third Plastics Workshop and explained the upcoming presentation and review of the two Ordinances.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

1. SINGLE-USE PLASTICS AND POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS.

ORDINANCE No. 2413-2019; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, CREATING A NEW ARTICLE IX IN CHAPTER 20 OF THE CITY CODE ENTITLED "EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE AND PLASTICS REGULATION"; PROVIDING FINDINGS, INTENT AND DEFINITIONS; CREATING DIVISION (A) RELATED TO REGULATIONS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE AND SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ON CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND A CONFLICT CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Anne Ellig, Public Works Program Manager, presented on biodegradable products, renewable resources, composting or traditional plastics. Affordable compostable materials.

Commissioners and staff discussed the various details concerning exemptions.

3:24 PM City Manager Dyess requested clarification on the following:

Exemptions apply to all School District supplied products.

January 1, 2020 begins the education outreach period with warnings with opportunity to hold another event in Stuart could be revoked.

January 1, 2021 begins the penalty period with fines enforced.

Dyess reviewed that beverages such as cans, cups, and bottles stay recyclable, composting language stays as is with compostable products replaces bowls, cups,

and silverware, and as the events are published, and better products are available, we can publish that information to the event holder.

Commission agreed.

Public Comment:

1) **Terry Hartman – Lighthouse Drive; on behalf of the Barn Theatre, brought recycling to the theatre and would like to see more education in the community.**
2) **Carol Ann Leonard – Jackson Street; Commented on alternatives to plastic straws and utensils.**
3) **April Price – Port St. Lucie; on behalf of Marine Industries and commented on the relation to public safety, water bottles and individual services are important at events.**
4) **Helen McBride – Flamingo Avenue; Commented on the straws being exempt for children at schools abut the seniors should be considered as well. No recycle bins are located in the 10th Street Community Center, they are all outside but should be inside for everyone to recycle.**
5) **Lisa Beagle – Ridge Avenue; Complimented the City on this effort and Commissioner Meier for his comments on the industrial composting as it is an educational component of the Surfrider Foundation. Additional options are available for schools to recycle materials that are not accepted in the City's programs such as chip bags.**
6) **Clayton Therrine – NW Dixie Hwy.; Operations Manager of All Sports Production, producers of the Stuart Boat Show. Commented on the permit notification process and asked who is responsible for compliance and enforcement as well as the timing to get all on board with the changes.**
7) **Jackie Pakonis – Ranch Trail; Commented that she has been attending the meeting to change her behavior and feels that this action is critical.**

4:15 PM 2. PROHIBITION OF PLASTIC STRAWS WITHIN CITY LIMITS.

ORDINANCE No. 2416-2019; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STUART, CREATING DIVISION B IN ARTICLE IX, CHAPTER 20 OF THE CITY CODE RELATED TO REGULATIONS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC STRAWS BY FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND A CONFLICT CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

City Attorney Mortell reported on various Ordinances of other Florida Cities and their exemptions.

Sec. 20-209 Distribution of Single-Use Plastic Straws; a. and b.
Drive-Thru can automatically provide paper/plastics straws up to January 1, 2021. As of January 2021, paper straws must be distributed.

Sec. 20-211 Exemptions; Commission consensus for automatic exception for a. b. and c.
Medical and Dental Facilities
Schools/Childcare Facilities

These facilities do not have to come before the commission with exemption requests.

4:24 PM ADJOURNMENT

Mary R. Kindel, City Clerk

Rebecca S. Bruner, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission Meeting this 14th day of October, 2019.