

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE STUART CITY COMMISSION
AUGUST 14, 2023
AT 4:00 PM
COMMISSION CHAMBERS
121 SW FLAGLER AVE.
STUART, FLORIDA 34994

CITY COMMISSION

Mayor Troy McDonald
Vice Mayor Becky Bruner
Commissioner Eula R. Clarke
Commissioner Christopher Collins
Commissioner Campbell Rich

ADMINISTRATIVE

Interim City Manager, Michael J. Mortell
Interim City Attorney, Paul J. Nicoletti
City Clerk, Mary R. Kindel

ROLL CALL

4:13 PM

PRESENT: Mayor McDonald, Vice Mayor Bruner, Commissioner Clarke, Commissioner Collins, Commissioner Rich

INVOCATION

Pastor Jim Harp - Stuart Alliance Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. ARTS MOMENT - POETRY BY CHRISTELLA BURNETTE

Christella Burnette read her poem "Bad Grammar".

PROCLAMATIONS

2. CONSTITUTION WEEK - SEPTEMBER 17 – 23, 2023

Portia Scott, Halapatioke Chapter of the Daughter of Revolution, received the Proclamation and expressed gratitude to the City for the Proclamation.

PRESENTATIONS

3. SERVICE AWARDS - AUGUST 2023

Darcee Pilarski	Development	5 Years	Present
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Paul Hitchcock Utilities & Engineering 20 Years Absent

4. LOSOM UPDATE

Ben Hogarth, Community Affairs Liaison, provided updates on the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and lake levels. Lake Okeechobee is at 15.3 feet. Stated the Army Corp of Engineers have done what they can during the summer to help and if the lake goes over 16 feet there may need to be discharges.

COMMENTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Rich

- Commented on the appointments he recently had to make for the Local Planning Agency (LPA) and Community Redevelopment Board (CRB). Introduced his appointment Sean Forbes for LPA.
- Commented on the insurance crisis and stated he spoke to Representative Toby Overdorf and Senator Gayle Harrell. Stated there is a garage that is hurting to keep business open due to the business insurance tripling.

Commissioner Clarke

- Commended City Manager Michael Mortell and Finance Director Joly Boglioli for the work they have done on the budget. Asked the public to provide input on the budget.

Vice Manager Bruner

- Questioned how many people were watching via Zoom. (Misti Guertin responded there were none.)
- Stated that after traveling through St Lucie County, is grateful for the City she lives in.

Mayor McDonald

- Commented on the Florida League of Cities Annual Convention he attended and stated they spoke about insurance and provided statistics on claims. Spoke on home rule and how it will be under attack during the next legislative session.

COMMENTS BY CITY MANAGER

City Manager Mortell

- Spoke with an Alliance Insurance representative and stated that the City's insurance is also going up significantly.
- Commented that the City recently had a sink hole pipe repair at the intersection of Kanner and U.S. 1 due to broken pipe underground and stated that we are now headed in the right direction.
- Stated that a significant amount of rain occurred yesterday and assured the residents that the City is working on drainage issues but that the problem usually resolves itself after one hour or so. Commented that there are two projects on tonight's agenda and is

aware that there are more needed and the City is doing its best to manage these items.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4:43 PM MOTION: Approve.

MOVED BY: Eula Clarke

SECONDED BY: Campbell Rich

Motion approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Non-Agenda Related) (3 Minutes Max.)

1. Virginia Jones - Dixie Hwy; Spoke about the different businesses that are near her and how it is affecting her home. She provided the Deputy Clerk with a letter from a structural engineer and pictures and stated that when the asphalt company left, the existing businesses were left with no rules or regulations. Her home has damage and feels its from the "shaker" at a business near her home.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. APPROVAL OF 07/24/2023 SCM-BUDGET WORKSHOP #1 AND 07/24/2023 CCM MINUTES (RC)

6. AWARD OF ITB# 2023-106, SE MANGO PLACE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (RC):

RESOLUTION 59-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA APPROVES THE AWARD OF ITB #2023-106, SE MANGO PLACE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT TO THE LOWEST, RESPONSIVE, AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER WITH A TOTAL UNIT PRICE OF \$367,287.20 TO HEAVY CIVIL INC. OF POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

7. AWARD OF ITB #2023-107, NW DIXIE HWY DITCH IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 60-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA APPROVES THE AWARD OF ITB #2023-107, NW DIXIE HIGHWAY DITCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TO THE LOWEST, RESPONSIVE, AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER WITH A TOTAL UNIT PRICE OF \$896,248.93 TO PRP CONSTRUCTION OF INDIANTOWN, FLORIDA PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

8. RATIFICATION OF LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY (LPA) APPOINTMENT (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 61-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA RATIFYING THE ADVISORY BOARD APOINTMENT OF A LOCAL PLANNING AGENCY/PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD (LPA) MEMBER; FULLFILLING A VACANCY ON THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINING CURRENT TERM FROM PRESENT TO DECEMBER 31, 2023; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

9. RATIFICATION OF COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (CRB) APPOINTMENT (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 64-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA RATIFYING THE ADVISORY BOARD APOINTMENT OF A COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (CRB) MEMBER; FULL-FILLING A VACANCY ON THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINING CURRENT TERM FROM PRESENT TO DECEMBER 31, 2023; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

5:00 PM MOTION: Approve.

MOVED BY: Eula Clarke

SECONDED BY: Becky Bruner

Motion approved unanimously.

COMMISSION ACTION

10. APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (CRB) "AT LARGE" MEMBER (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 62-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA APPOINTING AN AT-LARGE MEMBER TO THE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT BOARD (CRB); FILLING A VACANCY ON THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINING CURRENT TERM UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2023; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

City Manager Mortell presented the item and stated how they can vote to pick the At-Large member for the Community Redevelopment Board (CRB).

The final vote was for Mark Brechbill as the City's At-Large Board Member.

5:09 PM MOTION: Approve.

MOVED BY: Christopher Collins

SECONDED BY: Eula Clarke

Motion approved unanimously.

11. ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE 50TH ANNUAL STUART BOAT SHOW (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 58-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF

THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, APPROVING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE 50TH ANNUAL STUART BOAT SHOW FROM 5:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 2024 THROUGH 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH, 2024, ALONG NW DIXIE HIGHWAY (FORMERLY SR 707) FROM SW ALBANY AVENUE SOUTH OF THE OLD ROOSEVELT BRIDGE TO NW POINSETTIA STREET TO INCLUDE THE FEC RAILROAD CROSSING OF NW FERN STREET AND NW DIXIE HIGHWAY, NORTH OF THE ST. LUCIE RIVER DRAW BRIDGE, SUBJECT TO FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Jim Chrulski, Director of Community Services, introduced Resolution No. 58-2023 a Road Closure for the 50th Anniversary of the Stuart Boat Show.

Tom Whittington thanked the City for their support the past 50 years and introduced those that were there with him.

Susan O'Rourke, O'Rourke Engineering and Planning, presented the plan the boat show has and stated they are seeking approval to have Fern Street closed from Tuesday to Monday starting at 6 AM.

A brief discussion took place regarding signage of road closing.

5:18 PM MOTION: Approve.

MOVED BY: Eula Clarke

SECONDED BY: Christopher Collins

Motion approved unanimously.

12. LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 2024 FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE SESSION (RC):

RESOLUTION No. 56-2023; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STUART, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Commissioners ranked their top three (3) projects as septic to sewer, amphitheater at Memorial Park, and Guy Davis revitalization and reached consensus.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Tom Campenni - St Lucie Crescent; Stated that Indian River Lagoon has approved grants from the Department of Environmental Protection that septic to sewer falls under and to keep that in mind.

5:37 PM MOTION: Approve.

MOVED BY: Christopher Collins

SECONDED BY: Becky Bruner

Motion approved unanimously.


ORDINANCE SECOND READING


ORDINANCE FIRST READING

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

ADJOURNMENT

5:38 PM


Mary R. Kindel, City Clerk


for Troy McDonald, Mayor

Minutes to be approved at the Regular Commission
Meeting this 28th day of August, 2023.

