The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, and when permitted or required by the subject matter, the Panama City Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, held on July 11, 2019.

ROLL MAYOR MIKE THOMAS

COUNCILORS:
PAUL CASTO
PHIL CHESTER
GEOFF MCCONNELL
HECTOR SOLIS

CITY MANAGER:
MARIO GISBERT
CITY CLERK:
MARY JAN BOSSERT
CITY ATTORNEY:
COLE DAVIS

Mayor Thomas called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. with all Councilmen, the City Manager, City Clerk, and City Attorney present.

Mayor Thomas announced the agenda would continue from the Special Meeting. Mr. Gisbert stated that he would make his City Manager's Report and would like to add an additional item related to his employment.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Gisbert read the open bids and available jobs.

CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT DISCUSSION

Mr. Gisbert informed the Council he would like to retire effective March 19, 2020 and extended the opportunity to stay onboard until the City Manager position is filled. He commented he loves this City and gave kudos to each department.

Mr. Davis presented an agreement for the Council to consider. Mr. Davis stated he was presented with proposed terms of a retirement agreement by the City Manager. Mr. Davis explained the City Manager had asked Mr. Davis that morning to form the proposed terms into a letter stating Mr. Gisbert will retire effective March 19, 2020 and continue to stay on until the Council finds a City Manager replacement. Mr. Gisbert will continue to serve at the pleasure of the Council and continue to be serve a full-time employee under his existing contract. One proposed change is that he could pursue other work after a replacement is found. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Thomas opened the Public Comment section of the meeting and invited comments at 6:19 p.m.

Burnie Thompson – 17292 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson commented Mr. Gisbert is the highest paid City Manager in a city this size in the State of Florida. He questioned the terms of Mr. Gisbert's retirement and continued employment. He alleged the Mayor pushed for the City Manager's retirement.

Councilman McConnell and Mayor Thomas denied the allegation.

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION - CITY MANAGER RETIREMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Thomas thanked Mr. Gisbert for his service, he stated he has done a great job and the City is at a good place because of him. He commented work wise the City gets more done with fewer people than the City and the County.

Councilman McConnell thanked Mr. Gisbert for all his work in the last ten years. He explained the effort that he and the staff made together during Hurricane Michael and his diligence was immense and put the City in a much better position to recover. He commented he is grateful for his service.

Councilman Solis thanked Mr. Gisbert for his service. He commented he could never do the job that Mr. Gisbert does. He thanked Mr. Gisbert for staying until Council appoints another City Manager. He commented other cities are looking for City Managers right now. Mr. Solis commented he believes the staff is lean on the administrative side. He commented he believes it will take at least eight months to find a replacement.

Councilman Chester thanked Mr. Gisbert for being a big part of the growth in infrastructure. He thanked Mr. Gisbert for his actions during the hurricane.

Councilman Casto thanked Mr. Gisbert for his service and wished him a happy retirement. He thanked Mr. Gisbert for staying on and helping through the transition period. He commented the City Manager is a very important job and will take some time for someone to take on the role.

Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve the terms of Mr. Gisbert's Retirement Agreement. Second was made by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Casto Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Councilman McConnell Aye
Mayor Thomas Aye

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

READ AND APPROVED this 25th of July, 2019.

IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FOREGOING MINUTES AND A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THESE MINUTES, THE FOREGOING MINUTES SHALL CONTROL.

ATTEST:

City Clerk