

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, conducted on April 10, 2014.

ROLL
MAYOR GAYLE F. OBERST

COUNCILORS:
JOHN REICHARD
RICK RUSSELL
JOSIE STRANGE
KEITH CURRY

CITY MANAGER:
MARIO GISBERT
CITY CLERK:
HOLLY J. WHITE
CITY ATTORNEY:
DOUG SALE

Mayor Oberst called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., with all the Council, the City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney present.

Pastor Ramon Duvall of the Beachside Fellowship Church gave the invocation. Mayor Oberst led the pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. Hearing none, **the Agenda was accepted as prepared.**

The Special Minutes of March 27 and Regular Minutes of March 27, 2014 were **read and approved as written per motion by Councilman Russell. Second was by Councilwoman Strange and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

Mayor said Spring Break was on this Agenda as Item #4 and would be discussed at that point. However, she explained City Staff had been meeting with the County Staff, various community members, businesses and other concerned citizens. She said Sheriff McKeithen had made some recommendations and Chief Whitman has not yet made any because he was waiting for additional input. She said she would like to wait and allow Staff to bring information and recommendations to the Council and then decisions would be made. She also asked the County Commission not to get ahead of the City Council in making decisions, the same as the Council should not get ahead of them. In recent years, the City and County had tried to mirror Ordinances so that the island was unified in making policies and enforcing them which had been very effective for everyone. She continued that Staff was looking at three primary areas: 1) the size and sheer numbers of Spring Break, 2) alcohol, the amount consumed, where, amount, etc., and 3) times that problems occurred. She said these three areas were very large and general at this point and asked for patience as the Staff worked through the issues. In order to be fair to the great number of people in the audience who were here to speak and allow the opportunity to talk, she asked for a three minute rule for speakers. **Councilman Russell made the motion for the three minute rule. Second was by Councilman Reichard.** The Mayor called for comments and there were none. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1 RESOLUTION 14-48, ANNUAL SHADDAI SHRINE TEMPLE SPRING CEREMONIAL PARADE.** *The annual Shaddai Shrine Temple Spring Ceremonial Parade has been scheduled for Saturday, May 17, 2014, and the Resolution is entitled “A Resolution authorizing the temporary closure of portions of Front Beach Road on the morning of Saturday, May 17, 2014 to permit the Shaddai Shrine Temple Spring Ceremonial Parade.”*
- 2 ORDER #03-CU-14 AND FINDING OF FACTS FOR THE CONDITIONAL USE REQUEST FOR THE MOPED/SCOOTER RENTAL AT 12616 FRONT BEACH ROAD.** *After receiving testimony and reviewing the exhibits produced during the Hearing on March 27, 2014, the City Council orders that the captioned Application is GRANTED and the decision of the Planning Board is AFFIRMED.*
- 3 RESOLUTION 14-49, 2014 GULF COAST TRIATHLON ROAD CLOSURES.** *The annual Gulf Coast Triathlon has been scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2014, and the Resolution is entitled “A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach authorizing temporary closures on portions of Front Beach Road and SR 79 on Saturday, May 10, 2014 to permit the 2014 Gulf Coast Triathlon.”*
- 4 RESOLUTION 14-50, GRAND SLAM BASEBALL WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT OPENING CEREMONY PARADES ROAD CLOSURES.** *As a part of the World Series Baseball Tournaments held at Frank Brown Park, Grand Slam Sports has requested City Council approval of the attached route for their annual Opening Ceremony Parades. “A Resolution authorizing temporary closure of portions of Pier Park Drive, L. C. Hilton, Jr. Drive, Sea Monkey Drive, and Longboard Way on June 17, June 22, June 29 and July 20, 2014 to permit the Grand Slam Baseball World Series Tournament Opening Ceremony Parades”.*

Ms. White presented the Consent Agenda by title. Councilman Curry made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was by Councilman Russell. The Mayor called for comments and there were none. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. ITEM NO. 1 BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.** Mayor Oberst introduced Ms. Hannah Altman and presented her with the Civic Achievement Award for exemplary service to the Beach Boys and Girls Club. The Mayor then congratulated her. Mr. Ryan Roberts presented Hannah with a gift card donated by a local business.
- 2. ITEM NO. 2 “NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK” AND “NATIONAL LIBRARY WORKERS DAY” PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATION.** Mayor Oberst invited Head Librarian, Ms. Heather Ogilvie, to the podium as she read the Proclamation designating April 13-19, 2014 as “National Library Week”. She also read portions of the Proclamation designating April 15th as “National Library Workers Day”. Ms. Ogilvie accepted the Proclamations and said the library was very popular and how they had received over Ten Thousand visitors just last month.
- 3. ITEM NO. 3 “NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH” PROCLAMATION AND PRESENTATION.** Mayor Oberst invited Ms. Lori Allen with the Gulf Coast Children’s Advocacy Center to the podium to accept the Proclamation designating April as “National Child Abuse Prevention Month”. The Mayor read the Proclamation and asked Ms. Allen to explain her Center’s work. Ms. Allen thanked the Council and explained some of the programs designed for the protection of children.

Regular Meeting
April 10, 2014

4. ITEM NO. 4 SPRING BREAK. Councilman Curry said he had invited Dr. Kevin Groves, ER Director for Bay Medical Center, to report about the end result of Spring Break.

Dr. Kevin Groves gave figures for the January, February, and March ER visits with emphasis on the blood alcohol cases. He said these cases imposed additional wait times in the ER for the residents and usage of the ambulance services.

Councilman Curry, in response to a question from Dr. Groves, concluded the economic costs to the County were tremendous. Councilwoman Strange asked how many residents tried to use the ER and left without being seen. Dr. Groves said they tracked those statistics, and during March about four to five percent of people per day left without being seen.

Councilman Curry asked the City Manager if he had a presentation concerning this issue. Mr. Gisbert said he did not have a prepared presentation but explained numerous emails had been received, he had met with the smaller hotels, the larger hotels, some of the condos, and some of the businesses that provided food, alcohol, and entertainment. He said they looked at different ideas and the problem areas with possible solutions.

Some of the common grounds in those conversations were the size of the crowd and it was very hard for a crowd of three or four thousand people not to become unruly. He said if there was a way to limit the size of the crowd and/or if the crowd increased to a different level, then control the alcohol, what can be brought into the facility, what could not be brought into the facility, etc. He said those discussion had occurred with the businesses that did those activities as well as those businesses who saw those activities as a problem. Regarding alcohol on the beach, whether to exclude it altogether, limit it by the size of the cooler or container on the beach, or limit it at all, all ideas were discussed. The ideas of having identification for those consuming alcohol on the beach, when to stop the consumption throughout the day, and concerns of multiple entertainment venues occurring on the beach simultaneously were all discussed.

Once the different ideas were vetted, they would be brought to the Council to see how Ordinances or Resolutions could be developed into something manageable and enforceable by law enforcement. Mr. Gisbert advised that Staff had met with the Sheriff's Office, the TDC, the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager, and the Beach Police. With the assistance of the legal staff, they were continuing to gather information and had not yet met with all groups involved as more meetings were scheduled over the next few days. He expected to come back with those ideas at the next Council meeting on April 24th.

Councilman Curry said he was not anti-Spring Break but rather pro-Spring Break because bringing responsible college kids to the City was great. However, the Council had been painted as being greedy, and if this was a business for our City, Spring Break would be stopped tomorrow due to the financial costs to the City and the physical costs to our Police and Fire personnel. He said he thought that the individuals and businesses should be held accountable, not the City.

Mr. Gisbert said one potential idea from the business interests was to provide medical triage on the beach so that calls not needing the hospital could be tended here. It was suggested that doctors could be provided with sufficient funds to bring the idea to fruition. Councilwoman Strange asked who would pay for the triage. Mr. Gisbert said that the business owners would provide the space and ask if the hospitals or clinics could provide the medical personnel.

Councilwoman Strange said one of her concerns was the Police Department resources being stretched in patrolling private property, not only the bars and restaurants but also Wal-Mart. She said Wal-Mart had sufficient money to take care of situations on their property. Mr. Gisbert replied that management had changed since last year and the new person had not been familiar with Spring Break. They now understood that they needed to give the City authorization to tow vehicles loitering in the parking lot. Councilwoman Strange questioned use of the scissor lift to patrol private property. Mayor Oberst said the businesses paid taxes for police protection. Mr. Gisbert said at that point, it was crowd management. Councilman Curry said with all the beer and funnels at Wal-Mart, they could not be unprepared for Spring Break. Councilman Russell said once a spotter was stationed in the parking lot and vehicles towed, there was a noticeable crowd difference the following nights. Councilman Curry mentioned moving the barriers further out through law enforcement and the good job in handling the pop-up clubs so that hopefully the "Hundred-Milers" would get the message.

Councilman Reichard stated that as the Council sought to find solutions, the people should ask if this would solve the thug problem. He said that was how the County and City should move forward in tandem, working with the clubs, the retailers and residents. The Mayor opened the floor for audience comments.

Mr. Lou Carroll, resident of 262 South Glades trail, asked if the City had contacted cities such as Fort Lauderdale who had already been through this type problem.

Mr. David Holt, resident of 333 Eagle Drive, said he operated a bar on the beach and saw the problems firsthand. He said the problem in his opinion were the people coming from within 100-200 miles. Spring Breakers as a whole were fine kids and the problem was the people who preyed on those kids. Spring Break impacted a lot of the economy and stopping Spring Break would affect the Bed Tax, alcohol taxes, and the 1%.

Mr. Larry Pittman, resident of 6201 Thomas Drive and manager of an 18-story condo, said he could not agree with Mr. Holt. College kids were the issue and were probably 80% of the drunks. He said he would like to drive down Front Beach Road without the fear of a drunk hitting his car or going to Wal-Mart without being cursed out.

Mr. Wayne Lindsey, resident of 3121 County Club Drive in Lynn Haven and owner of Sonny's BarBQ, said the community could create plans for festivals, soccer tournaments, extending Snowbird visits, etc. This was the City's opportunity to put a band-aid on the situation or become heroes who made a difference.

Mr. Jim Rossey, resident of 8213 Palm Cove Boulevard and Calypso condo owner, said he represented almost 400 condo units and not one wanted Spring Break. He questioned who benefitted from Spring Break and said the beach on national tv had a trashy image.

Mr. Ricky Lee Jones, resident of Celadon Beach Resort, said he owned two condos on the beach and managed another twenty-five, and the media focus had basically erased all of the good work that the City had done previously. The people that came during Spring Break would not come back to the beach in the future nor invest a dollar in real estate in this City. He supported banning alcohol on the beach during Spring Break.

Mr. Hector Solece, resident of 13220 Front Beach Road, said he owned a number of condos on the beach and just recently retired from the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He said from a law enforcement perspective and having worked with such large crowds, what the beach had was an out of control situation. The beach now had a different type of people coming to the island, not just the Hundred-Milers. Also, these college kids were being influenced by an "anything goes" mentality, even the high-schoolers. He said this would have to be eliminated with strong enforcement.

Mr. Steve Taylor, Pastor for the Emerald Coast Fellowship, said the potential was there for another national story. He recommended that the City follow the Sheriff's suggestions. He said Panama City Beach did not have rules as other cities and that the City was lax in the rules they did have. He suggested the City consider safety and morality before considering the money.

Mr. Ray Williams, resident of 151 Grand Heron Drive, said the shame was that it took a national television show to bring to light what has been allowed in our community. He said the community's values were judged by what was allowed rather than what was prohibited. This show told the nation what Panama City Beach accepted. He said he was willing to work with anyone who had suggestions to correct the problems.

Ms. Virginia Taylor, owner of a business at 10616 Front Beach Road, agreed with Mr. Holt and that a lot of issues were with the "Hundred-Milers" drawn here by the college kids and parties. Regarding Bay Medical, she wondered how many Bay County residents used the ER for free at the cost to Bay Medical. Regarding condos, she questioned if the minimum 25 and up age for renting a condo was being enforced. She mentioned drug dealings and drinking occurring in the parking lots, not on the sandy beach, and said she did not think prohibiting drinking on the beach was the answer.

Mr. Michael Bradley, resident of 9902 South Thomas Drive and manager of a taxi service, said the scooters were the big issue on the beach. He said he did not believe stopping Spring Break and prohibiting alcohol on the beach was the answer. He said the City must find another source of income for the beach if Spring Break was stopped. Councilwoman Strange clarified that alcohol would only be prohibited on the beach during Spring Break, not all year. Mr. Bradley suggested adding extra security to the beach access points to check the ages of the drinkers.

Mr. Randall Hallway, resident of 14825 Front Beach Road, said he was embarrassed to have his family here during the last two weeks because of how Spring Break had degraded and became out of control. He said the people were not policing themselves and the City must take charge and not allow the taxpayers to incur the costs.

Mr. Stan Andersen, resident of 101 Kensington Circle, said the City should take decisive and tough actions, well-articulated to the community and nation. He said the community investments at Pier Park and North Pier Park would not be supported without decisive actions.

Mr. Brent Gardner, speaking in a personal capacity, said he did not think Spring Break was the issue but rather resources for enforcement. He added that triage was not accepting the situation but rather a means of dealing with ambulances being out of service for long periods.

Mr. Dave Everest, owner of two condos at Calypso, said he did not rent to Spring Break college students because there were too many problems. He said he noticed this year that the Spring Break problem was creeping toward Calypso, with more cases of underage over-occupancy at the Resort. He said he wanted a family resort and urged the City to do something about the excessive drinking and vulgarities.

Mr. Alan Johnson, 7665 Thomas Drive, said most of the previous speakers were not business owners. He said the business community struggled during December through February, waiting for Spring Break to arrive. He added that if more law enforcement officers were here, they might be a deterrent to some of the undesirable activities. He urged the TDC to spend the Spring Break money for more law enforcement.

Mr. Wes Pittman, representing some condo owners on the beach, said the major function of government was safety. He said this was not a new situation but had been evolving over the years and allowed to continue. He said he was cautiously optimistic that the City recognized the problem and would not continue to ignore the problems. A potential solution might be to talk strongly to the four or five large clubs and bars and make them understand that the City could enact laws to close them at midnight.

Councilman Reichard addressed many of the speakers who were part of Homeowners' Associations and Boards. He suggested if those parties wanted to help, they should not rent to people 25 and younger. That would be up to the condo associations and management companies. These changes could be enacted tomorrow and were a problem the City, the State, and the Police could not address.

Ms. Julie Hilton, resident of 234 La Valencia Circle, said her resort had numerous off-duty police as well as dozens of security guards. She said her resorts had Codes of Conduct which were signed by her guests, and people were frequently evicted or arrested when the rules were not followed. The off-duty Police were allowed to freely act as they would in a public setting to ensure that the people followed the rules. She encouraged the City to look at how Spring Break could be managed in an effective manner.

Ms. Wanda Manning, resident of 502 Argonaut Street, said she was ashamed of the position of law enforcement. She commented about the beer vendors throwing beer cans to children in the parking lots, the banners of the planes, and the scooters.

Ms. Linda Siebert, employed by La Vela, said the Club did not encourage the activities of the kids. She said they followed the laws and most of the problems were on the beach involving underage drinkers. She said they did not allow scooters on the property nor funnels. She said they had strict protocols and called parents when underage kids were identified. She asked to be involved in the Spring Break meetings and said that they took the law very seriously. Mr. Gisbert said her Club would be one of the meetings in the next few days. She said they kept law enforcement on the property at all times.

Ms. B.J. Reginny, resident on Cabana Boulevard, said Spring Breakers did a lot of damage. She understood that businesses needed the money but the property owners had their home values lowered plus were left to clean up the nastiness and ugliness in their front yards. She proposed that the City find other markets in March to bring money into the City rather than Spring Breakers. She said the business owners may have to "bite the bullet" during the transition to new markets, otherwise we would lose our community.

Mr. Chris Pitts, resident of 5318 Beach Drive, said there was nothing fair about the Fox report on Spring Break. They wanted to show the worst of the worst and did not show the volleyball games, the sunbathers, or concert-watchers. The report was inaccurate and an injustice to the City. He also said replacing Spring Break with families would not work because families were not on break until the end of March, first part of April. Councilman Curry asked Mr. Pitts if the media went to the worst place in order to sensationalize Spring Break. Mr. Pitts said Fox did film at several locations, but Panama City Beach received the most coverage and it was not an accurate description of most of the guests of the beach.

Ms. Kay Giametta, resident of Long Beach, said this had been the saddest Spring Break because their condo was in the middle of the worst of it. She said some people called her resort a ghetto. She said the community was going downhill and the City needed to decide how it wanted to be known.

Ms. Debbie Sasser, resident of 132 Colina Circle, said when she worked in condos many years ago, the winter people did not leave for Spring Break and they took care of their units and property as their own. She suggested not advertising for the college kids to come here for Spring

Break but rather advertise for families. She said with the new Miracle Strip and Dave & Busters, there will be something for families to do.

Councilman Reichard commented that kids from the key cities of Montgomery, Birmingham, Atlanta, etc., were still in school the first three weeks of March. He reminded that school still being in session was something that should be considered.

Mr. Tom Klumps, resident of 614 Poinsettia Court, believed that the alcohol needed to be controlled, whether by limiting club hours or preventing the kids from becoming drunk early in the day. He agreed with Mr. Buskell to encourage the Club owners to follow the laws and do what was right by not over-serving the kids. He said over time, the people looking for that type of environment would not come here and Spring Break would become a good activity on the beach.

Ms. Judy Anderson, resident of 101 Kensington Circle, said the City would have to worry about the summer and year-round visitors influenced by the stain of Spring Break. She said the business people would lose money in the end due to visitors going to other locations.

Mr. Bill Buskell, Pineapple Willy's, said the beach needed a new direction, to go to a "21 and over beach." College Juniors and Seniors needed to be the target market because their eyes were on the future. He said at his Club which was 21 and over only, he did not have to call the Police once since they chaperoned the parking lot and had guards not allowing mopeds or troublemakers to enter. He said Wal-Mart should pay security to take care of their parking lot instead of having the taxpayers of Panama City Beach pay for it.

Mr. Phil Edwards, resident of Calypso Resort, said he saw positive things in new businesses coming, such as North Pier Park. He said by allowing alcohol on the beach, many kids were doing activities which they would not normally do if alcohol was not involved. He said there were many responsible kids coming here who did not receive the media attention. He suggested if the City disallowed the chaos, the right people would come. He said he hoped the City found a long-term answer to the problem which was growing every year.

Mr. Darrell Sellers, President of the Board of Grandview East and representative of the PCB Owners Alliance. He said Spring Break had gotten progressively worse over the last three years and while it has been mentioned that Spring Break was 1/3 of the income, what would happen in the other 2/3 was lost. He said the beach did not need triage but rather needed to keep out the troublemakers.

Chief Whitman said he and the City Manager had spoken with many of the businesses and people during the last few weeks, and one more superclub remained to have a meeting. He said he had spoken with Daytona, many business owners, and residents. He said he had not brought something to Council because there was only a few days left of this Spring Break. He planned to meet with more people and gave an open invitation to everyone in the audience that he would meet with them. He said he knew that there were issues but that there was also not merely one answer. He said we must work together as a community, together as business owners, and work with the County. Some of the business owners had already made changes. He asked for more time in order to bring potential solutions to the Council.

Councilman Reichard made the motion to allow Staff and the City Manager until the next Council meeting to bring back suggestions for Spring Break improvement. Second was by Councilman Russell. The Mayor called for comments and there were none. The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

Mayor Oberst said the City Manager and Police Chief would continue meetings with the businesses and individuals, and both men were open to any suggestions. She said Staff would meet with the County in order to maintain a cohesive front and the Council would expect a report at the next meeting for the recommendations.

At this juncture, the Council recessed the meeting for a short break at 8:00 P.M.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

5. **ITEM NO. 5 AIRPORT AUTHORITY UPDATE.** The Mayor recognized Mr. Til Bruett from the Airport Authority and invited him to the podium. Mr. Bruett said there were three main points he wanted to make; first, the Airport was not in dire straits as they had Ten Million Dollars in the bank. Second, traffic was down at the airport, not due to the Authority but rather the bad weather during the winter and something over which they had no control. Third, Southwest did cut back their number of flights during the winter but now they were back to seven flights per day through the Fall. He discussed the new crosswind runway and the details behind its delay. He added that the Airport had no say over prices charged by the airlines.

6. **ITEM NO. 6 QUARTERLY GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY UPDATE.** Ms. White presented various graphs depicting the current activity for the first six months of the Fiscal Year for each of the General Fund accounts. The Local Option Fuel Taxes was one of the few accounts not increased, down about 6%, but she was not overly concerned. Franchise Fees, Electricity and Utility Taxes were both up almost 16% and 14% respectively for the year and combined were almost Five Million Dollars in revenue. Local Communications Services Taxes was down but she said this was a trend with people getting away from home phones, but still expected about a Million Dollars once the year was completed. Building Permits were up 70% and the evidence of this was easily seen when traveling the roadways. This was a positive sign, and although not huge dollars, it was indicative of a good trend. Business Tax Receipts were up 16% year to date, and if the trend continued through the year, the City may realize an extra Six Hundred Thousand Dollars. She said this did not include the Pier Park revenue because those funds went directly to the CDD.

Councilman Reichard asked how much the Gross Sales increased due to the City having a new fulltime person collecting the taxes on the condos. Mr. Leonard said for the Transient Rentals, it was about Eighty Thousand Dollars on an annualized basis.

Ms. White continued that State Revenue Sharing was small, set by the state, and up about 9%. For the ½ Cent Sales Tax, it approached about a Million Dollars per year and was up 9%. For the totals for the first six months, the General Fund was up 13% so from a revenue standpoint, it was looking great this year.

Councilwoman Strange asked about the water bill increase and when it would take effect. Ms. White replied the County raised their retail rates but ours was a wholesale rate. She said she did not know what the County planned to do for the wholesale rates for the future. Mr. Gisbert said the rate increase study recommended small rate increases annually. Councilwoman Strange asked why not increase taxes on the visitors or the commercial entities so as not to affect the residents. Mr. Gisbert replied that there were different rate structures for commercial as opposed to residential. Ms. White said she would supply Councilwoman Strange with the latest Ordinance to see the different prices.

7. **ITEM NO. 7* RESOLUTION 14-51, 2014 TIGER DISCRETIONARY GRANTS APPLICATION, FRONT BEACH ROAD SEGMENT 2 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.** Mayor Oberst said this item was one in which the City Council also acted as the PCB Community Redevelopment Agency and voted as both. Mr. Sale read Resolution 14-51 by title. Mr. Gisbert said this was for the Segment 2 project and required the City to match the grant. He advised that although all of the matching funds were not on hand right now, they would come in as the project progressed. If the grant was awarded, this would provide ample funds to kick off the next Segment.

Councilman Curry asked when the announcement would be made. Mr. Alaghemand replied normally October or December.

The Mayor asked if there were any further questions or comments. There were none. **Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve Resolution 14-51. Second was by Councilman Curry.** The Mayor called for comments and there were none. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

8. ITEM NO. 8 RESOLUTION 14-52, BUDGET AMENDMENTS #18 AND #19 FOR RECEIPT OF FDOT CTEP GRANT AND EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JAG, PUBLIC HEARING. Mayor Oberst opened the Public hearing at 8:35 P.M. Mr. Sale read Resolution 14-52 by title. Chief Whitman asked Lt. Rich McClanahan to explain these two grants as over the last year, Lt. McClanahan had brought in over a Million Dollars in grants.

Lt. McClanahan explained that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration required concept papers to be written the previous year, and to decide whether they want to fund those concepts and if they met the guidelines for their goals and objectives to create a safer environment for the roadways. The CTEP Grant was Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$220,000), which would fund ten (10) speed feedback signs for placement in the school zones. These would be permanently pole-mounted and a great benefit to slow down the traffic. A portion of this grant would be used for Overtime Salaries and Benefits (\$32,605) for the officer presence, seven (7) handheld laser units (\$16,800) and three (3) Mobile Light Towers (\$30,000). Lt. McClanahan said the Grant also funded a Speed Feedback Variable Message Board (\$33,700).

The second Grant was a Edward Byrne Memorial Grant for Eight Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Seven Dollars (\$8,267.00), which would be used for law enforcement equipment. After discussing the equipment needs with the Chief and Command Staff, Lt. McClanahan was able to research and locate handheld FLIR units, normally about Six to Seven Thousand Dollars each, and work with the company to reduce the price down to two (2) units totaling Eight Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars and Ninety-Eight Cents (8,263.98). One of these was a marine-style and the other a patrol unit. In response to Councilwoman Strange about how these units worked, Lt. McClanahan explained the infrared vision and how these units illuminated the heat from a person.

Mr. Gisbert said Mr. Shortt replied to Councilwoman Strange from home (watching the livestream) that the water rate increases proposed were 1% for Water and 2% for Sewer, effective October 1st unless the County had a wholesale rate increase. He said the City was currently updating the rate study. Councilman Russell said the City was still the cheapest combined rates in the County.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council or audience. **Councilman Russell made the motion to approve the Resolution 14-52. Second was by Councilwoman Strange.** The Mayor called for comments and the Council complimented Lt. McClanahan. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:43 P.M.

9. ITEM NO. 9 ORDINANCE 1305, FIREFIGHTERS' PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT REGARDING FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 8:43 P.M. Mr. Sale read Ordinance 1305 by title. Ms. White said all three (3) Pension Amendments did the same thing by changing the investment options. The Pension Boards considered the proposed Ordinances but delayed voting until after Council action. This would allow more flexibility for investments by the Boards. Councilman Russell asked if all three (3) Boards did the investments the same way, and Ms. White replied yes and that all funds were pooled together. However, each Board acted individually due to their being separate Plans. Mr. Sale said these Ordinances would liberalize the investment opportunities of the Boards. The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council or audience. Hearing none, **Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve Ordinance 1305. Second was by Councilman Russell.** The Mayor called for comments and there were none. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:45 P.M.

Regular Meeting
April 10, 2014

10. ITEM NO. 10 ORDINANCE 1306, GENERAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT REGARDING FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 8:45 P.M. Mr. Sale read Ordinance 1306 by title. Ms. White said this was the exact same thing as the previous Ordinance. The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council or audience. **Councilman Russell made the motion to approve Ordinance 1306. Second was by Councilwoman Strange.** The Mayor called for comments and there were none. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:46 P.M.

11. ITEM NO. 11 ORDINANCE 1307, POLICE OFFICERS' PENSION PLAN AMENDMENT REGARDING FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 8:47 P.M. Mr. Sale read Ordinance 1307 by title and confirmed that the Pension Board Counsel, Mr. Lee Dehner, had approved all three (3) Ordinances. The Mayor asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council or audience. **Councilman Reichard made the motion to approve Ordinance 1307. Second was by Councilman Curry.** The Mayor called for comments and there were none. **The motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

Councilman Curry	Aye
Councilman Reichard	Aye
Councilman Russell	Aye
Councilwoman Strange	Aye
Mayor Oberst	Aye

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:48 P.M.

12. ITEM NO. 12 WEBSITE UPDATE. Mr. John Alaghemand said the website design was complete and since March, Staff had been reviewing all of the documents that had migrated from the existing website, as well as editing and modifying the different pages. The next step would be a soft launch, once Staff was comfortable with the design, and he anticipated this within two to three weeks. He said Staff was in the learning period on how to modify the different pages. He said the new website was very user-friendly. He displayed the different pages from the new website.

Mayor Oberst asked when the soft launch would be ready and Mr. Alaghemand said Staff hoped in two to three weeks with the final launch by the end of May.

Mr. Alaghemand explained the User levels and different capabilities of the new website. He displayed the home page with the slideshow of different photos, with the calendar of events. After all the pages were reviewed, Councilman Curry said it looked good.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ITEM 1 SPECIAL HEARING. The Mayor announced that the Council would hold a Special Meeting on April 24th at 12:30 to hear an Appeal to a Planning Board decision.

ITEM 2 FRANK BROWN PARK ACTIVITIES. The Mayor announced that the City would hold an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th and the Kid's Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, April 25th. She added that the Miracle League games had started and their schedule was on the table. Flyers were on the table and the public was invited.

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

READ AND APPROVED this 24th of April, 2014.

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


Mayor

ATTEST.

Deputy City Clerk