

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 June 25, 2020.

ROLL

MAYOR MARK SHELDON

COUNCILORS:

PAUL CASTO

PHIL CHESTER

GEOFF MCCONNELL

MICHAEL JARMAN

CITY MANAGER: `

TONY O'ROURKE

INTERIM CITY CLERK:

JO SMITH

CITY ATTORNEY:

AMY MYERS

Mayor Sheldon called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Councilman Jarman gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sheldon read the Community Announcements.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 14, 2020 were presented for approval.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve the Minutes as written.

Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

Mayor Sheldon asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. There were none.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve the Agenda as prepared.

Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

PRESENTATIONS

Councilman Casto presented 30-year plaques to longtime employees James Creamer, David Jordan, and Bo Reeves. Councilman Chester presented the fifteen-year plaque to Greg Andrews, and Ms. Philput read the names Buster Pate and Cpl. Joey Pettys from their plaques as they could not attend the meeting. Councilman McConnell presented the ten-year plaques to Allison Marshall, Robert Williams, and Bill Woodcock. Ms. Philput said Michael Sparks could not attend but who would receive his ten-year plaque. Councilman Jarman presented the five-year plaques to Gary Godsey, Jeremiah Jagers, Anthony Malko, Robert Moss, and Jonah Pokipala. Ms. Philput said Steve Holley could not attend but who would receive his five-year plaque. Mayor Sheldon presented retirement plaques to Police Officers Cpl. Michele McDonald and Lt. Danny McDonald, honoring their 19 and 24 years of service respectively.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA BUSINESS (LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES)

Mayor Sheldon opened the Public Comments section at 9:15 A.M. and asked for comments.

1 Ms. Carrie Philimonte. Ms. Philimonte read a prepared statement asking for mandatory masks in the City. She spoke of hospitalizations and said it was not fair for the high risk people to have to stay home.

2 Ms. Missy Sparks. Ms. Sparks invited the City Council to the Grand Opening at Candlewood Suites.

3 Ms. Genese Hatcher. Ms. Hatcher said masks available in the grocery stores would stop the spread of the virus.

4 Mr. Gary Beck. Mr. Beck spoke of the government destroying the tools he needed to make a living. He spoke of the media spreading lies.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Public Comments section at 9:30 A.M.

REGULAR AGENDA- DISCUSSION/ACTION

ITEM 1 RESOLUTION 20-129, COVID-19 RELATED MEASURES. Ms. Myers read Resolution 20-129 by title. Mr. O'Rourke spoke of the cases doubling within the last five days compared to the last three months. He said given the facts today, he recommended the involuntary water utility disconnections and late payment delinquency actions resume although staff would be sensitive. He said the issue would be revisited in two weeks and let data drive the decision making.

Councilman Jarman asked about the Summer Concert Series. Councilman McConnell suggested a delay and Councilman Casto concurred. Mr. O'Rourke said staff was looking at the evidence but not going full ahead. Councilman Chester suggested starting the Summer Concert Series at the end of July. Councilman McConnell said all the ICU beds were not filled with COVID patients. Mayor Sheldon said the hospitals were doing elective surgeries and Gulf Coast Hospital was bringing back more of their employees. The Mayor recommended moving forward with the early payouts.

Ms. Myers read the revised Resolution 20-129 with the Council changes.

Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve the revised Resolution 20-129. Second was by Councilman Jarman and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 2 ORDINANCE 1523, GENERAL EMPLOYEE PENSION CHARTER OFFICER VESTING, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING. Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1523 by title. Mayor Sheldon opened the Public Hearing at 9:41 A.M. and asked for comments from the audience; there were none. He closed the Public Hearing at 9:41 A.M.

Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve Ordinance 1523. Second was by Councilman Jarman and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 3 ORDINANCE 1526, CITY ADVISORY BOARD GOVERNANCE, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING. Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1526 by title. Mayor Sheldon opened the Public Hearing at 9:43 A.M. and called for comments; there were none. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 9:43 A.M. Mr. O'Rourke said the Financial Management Advisory Committee meetings started last month which would provide assistance to Staff and the Council.

Councilman Jarman made the motion to approve Ordinance 1526. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 4* RESOLUTION 20-130, CRA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CREATION. Ms. Myers read Resolution 20-130 by title. Mayor Sheldon called for comments and there were none. Councilman Chester said he preferred five Committee members, not ten. Councilman Casto and Councilman Jarman concurred. Councilman McConnell said he

thought the Economic Development Committee could use ten members. Mayor Sheldon said he had been prepared to appoint two Committee members.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 20-130 with five members. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 5* APPOINTMENT OF CRA ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS AND COUNCIL LIAISON. Mayor Sheldon called for audience comments.

1 Ms. Genese Hatcher. Ms. Hatcher spoke of the parking issues within the CRA and destroying homes by taking away parking land in front of the homes. She asked that people "with skin in the game" be appointed to the Committee.

There were no further comments.

Councilman Casto made the motion to appoint Councilman Jarman as the Council Liaison. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

Councilman McConnell committee would not perform oversight and Mayor Sheldon disagreed. **The Council members then made their appointments:**

Councilman Jarman-	Debbie McCormick
Councilman McConnell-	Ben Faust
Councilman Chester-	Matt Bush
Councilman Casto-	Andy Gonsalves
Mayor Sheldon-	Clair Pease

ITEM 6 RESOLUTION 20-131, BEACH SAFETY SERVICES. Ms. Myers read Resolution 20-131 by title. Mayor Sheldon called for comments; there were none. Councilman McConnell urged reaching out to each hotel and have a conversation with them, not merely post the matter. Mayor Sheldon said all the beach should have lifeguards and that he hoped that with the revenue gained, the businesses would step up to work with the City. Councilman Casto agreed and added that Code Enforcement should issue the citations.

Councilman Casto made the motion to approve Resolution 20-131 with the changes. Second was by Councilman Jarman and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 7 RESOLUTION 20-132, BID AWARD- CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT STUDY AND BUDGET AMENDMENT #37. Ms. Myers read Resolution 20-132 by title. Mayor Sheldon called for comments; there were none. Mr. O'Rourke explained the survey and the critical exercise to solicit input from the citizens. In August, everyone in the City could respond online with more opportunity to add input. He added that the questions could be customized by the Council.

Councilman Jarman made the motion to approve Resolution 20-132. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 8 RESOLUTION 20-128, BID AWARD- EAGLE DRIVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS. Ms. Myers read Resolution 20-128 by title. Mayor Sheldon called for comments.

1 Mr. Burnie Thompson. Mr. Thompson spoke of conflicts of interest with Mr. Robert Carroll as the engineer of record. He said he did not oppose the project but was concerned that the project benefitted two Councilmen who lived in the neighborhood. He questioned how much was paid to Mr. Carroll.

Ms. Jenkins responded that the engineer of record made recommendations with GAC as the lowest bidder for the project. She said she did not know how much Mr. Carroll was paid. Ms. Myers added that Master Services Agreements for two firms were approved in 2013, with his firm being one.

Councilman Casto said he did not see this as a conflict. Ms. Myers said there was nothing illegal in this matter. The Mayor said the City had received multiple bids for the project and Councilman Chester said this was similar to the Bid-A-Wee project. Councilman Chester added that he did live in Colony Club and hopefully this improvement project would prevent some of the phone calls resulting from drains being clogged.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 20-128. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 9 WASTEWATER ODOR CONTROL- DISCUSSION. Mr. Mark Shaeffer, Utility Engineer, presented a powerpoint presentation related to the five highest odor source points, the Wastewater Treatment Facility, Lift Station 96, Lift Station 40, Lift Station 128 and Lift Station 73. He identified their various locations and explained the different treatment options.

Mayor Sheldon said it was prudent to actively do something. Councilman Casto said it was difficult to remove 100% of the odors and it was dangerous work with the corrosive hydrogen sulfide. He asked if the work would be guaranteed by the vendor and Mayor Sheldon said it would depend upon how it was written in the specifications that they would be held accountable. Councilman McConnell said sometimes the system was overwhelmed, and he was concerned that even after spending the money, the same problem would occur during the summer. Mayor Sheldon spoke of the five-year plan and the improvements planned during that time. Councilman Jarman asked if the complaints were overwhelmingly about the Treatment Facility as opposed to the various Lift Stations, and Mr. Shaeffer responded affirmatively. Discussion ensued concerning funding, and Mr. O'Rourke said it could be added into the upcoming budget. Mayor Sheldon said if the Utility Fund had the funds now, to move forward. Councilman McConnell concurred.

ITEM 10 BEACH ACCESS POINT GARBAGE RECEPTACLES- DISCUSSION. Mayor Sheldon called for comments.

1 Mr. Larry Messenger. Mr. Messenger said he supported the idea as the first step to elevate the cleanliness of the beach. He said the City needed to do more as there was too much litter.

2 Ms. Genese Hatcher. Ms. Hatcher said the main problem was Saturday checkout of the renters, putting out their garbage, and the hauler not coming until Monday. She suggested having another run on Saturday merely on Front Beach Road, which would pick up much of the garbage.

There were no further comments. Mayor Sheldon said the City could reach out to the haulers and asked if there would be any help from the TDC on roadside cans and daily pickups. He questioned if there would be grants available and funding. Councilman Casto spoke of rebuilding the beach accesses with cans beachside. He added that the boardwalks needed attention but the issue would be funding with the City's revenue down. He said the TDC was rebidding their hauler services next year, and maybe the specifications could be updated to include cleaning the accesses.

Mr. Campbell spoke of the CRA standards for the receptacles with weekends having many pizza boxes left on the ground because they would not fit into the cans. He said the CRA could budget for more cans along the accesses. Discussion ensued

concerning litter in the dunes and along the walkways. Mr. O'Rourke said he would speak with the TDC President, Mr. Dan Rowe, and bring something back to the Council.

ITEM 11 PARKS AND RECREATION AMENITY UPGRADES- DISCUSSION. Mayor Sheldon called for comments from the audience. There were none. Mr. O'Rourke spoke of a skateboard park and its huge demand. Councilman Jarman suggested a smaller venue compared to the one being built in the County. Mr. O'Rourke said something close for the kids that lived here. The Mayor agreed that the City should have our own as the County site was too far away. Mr. O'Rourke said Frank Brown Park would be a great location. Councilman Casto said he was concerned on the timing issue with revenue down. Mr. O'Rourke said we would wait for the response from the citizens survey. Mayor Sheldon added that more basketball courts would be great to see.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. O'Rourke spoke of the Strategic Plan with the ten focus groups, soliciting input from the citizens. He said Phase 1 was completed, and Phase 2 the draft plan next for the focus groups to review. He spoke of the Beach Safety matter and would be proactive in soliciting partnerships with businesses. He spoke of education on the rip currents. Mr. Rourke spoke of the Revenue Bonds 2012 upgrade, and the success of the hard work from staff and legal. He added that he anticipated a good field of candidates for the City Clerk position for the July 9th meeting. Related to grants, Mr. O'Rourke spoke of the upcoming RFP for a City representative at Tallahassee and Washington to leverage the State and Federal resources. Finally, he spoke of the new volunteer program which would provide a valuable service to the City and the community.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Casto had no comments. Councilman Chester had no comments. Councilman Jarman had no comments. Councilman McConnell thanked Ms. White and Ms. Myers for their work regarding the bonds and improving the Moody ratings. He urged the people to fill out the Census. Mayor Sheldon thanked Mr. O'Rourke for this work on the internship program. He said he wanted the City and its employees to be more involved with the school system and the mentor programs. He said he heard the community on the traffic situation and would try to find solutions. He congratulated Councilman Jarman for his appointment to the CRA Advisory Committee.

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

** ACTION ITEMS NOTED WITH AN ASTERISK ARE TAKEN BOTH BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PANAMA CITY BEACH REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY JOINTLY AND CONCURRENTLY.

READ AND APPROVED this 23rd of July, 2020.

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



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk (Interim)