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 May 25, 2017.

ROLL MAYOR MIKE THOMAS

COUNCILORS: JOHN REICHARD JOSIE STRANGE PHIL CHESTER HECTOR SOLIS CITY MANAGER: MARIO GISBERT CITY CLERK: DIANE FLOYD CITY ATTORNEY: AMY MYERS

Mayor Thomas called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with all Council members, City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney present.

Councilman Solis gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced the following upcoming events: EVP Beach Volleyball Gulf Coast Championships May 27-28 at the City Pier; Grand Slam Baseball Memorial Bash May 27-28 at Frank Brown Park; Rising Stars Basketball Tournament May 27-28 at Arnold High School; UCA Cheer & Dance Camps May 31-June 3 at Edgewater Beach Resort; City Hall closed May 29th for Memorial Day and flags at half-staff; USFA Girls Fastpitch in Paradise June 3-4 at Frank Brown Park; and the Summer Concert Series starts June 8th at Aaron Bessant Park.

There were no Minutes available for adoption.

Mayor Thomas asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. Mr. Gisbert said some modifications had been made to the two scooter Ordinances (Ordinances 1415 and 1416) and copies were at each Council member seat. The Mayor asked to move Consent Agenda Item #1, Order 01-CU-17, SSPCB Hospitality Springhill Suites Height Incentives, to the Regular Agenda. There were no objections. Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange
Councilman Solis
Councilman Reichard
Councilman Chester
Mayor Thomas
Aye

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. ORDER 01-CU-17 AND FINDING OF FACTS, SSPCB HOSPITALITY SPRINGHILL SUITES HEIGHT INCENTIVES. Moved to Regular Agenda.
- 2. RESOLUTION 17-92, MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT MAJOR STORMWATER PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SVCS, DEWBERRY ENGINEERS, INC., AND TASK ORDER 2017-01, FOR CITY STORMWATER MASTER PLAN MODEL UPDATE. "A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving a Master Services Agreement with Dewberry Engineers, Inc., related to the Engineering Services for Major Stormwater projects; approving a Task Order in a lump sum amount of \$83,775 for Stormwater Master Plan Modeling Update."
- 3. RESOLUTION 17-95, GRAND SLAM BASEBALL WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT OPENING CEREMONY PARADES ROAD CLOSURES. "A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, authorizing temporary closures of portions of Pier Park Drive, West Pier Park Drive, L. C. Hilton, Jr. Drive, Sea Monkey Way, and Longboard Way on the afternoons of June 18, June 25, July 3, and July 23, 2017 for the "The Grand Slam Baseball World Series Tournaments Opening Ceremony Parades".

4. MEMORIAL DAY PROCLAMATION. A Proclamation honoring Monday, May 29, 2017 as Memorial Day in Panama City Beach, Florida, and directing that all flags be flown at half-staff until noon on this day.

Ms. Floyd read each item on the Amended Consent Agenda by title. Ms. Myers asked the Mayor to take Public Comments on the Consent and Regular Agenda Items prior to voting. Mayor Thomas said Public Comments for Regular Items 1-3 would be taken during the Public Hearings for those Items. He opened this portion of the Public Comments section and asked if there were any comments concerning the amended Consent Agenda or Regular Items #4-8. There were none.

Councilman Solis made the motion to approve the Amended Consent Agenda. Second was by Councilwoman Strange and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange Aye
Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Reichard Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Mayor Thomas Aye

REGULAR AGENDA- DISCUSSION/ACTION

1 ORDINANCE 1415, PROHIBITING OVERNIGHT SCOOTER RENTALS, 2ND READING, <u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>, AND ADOPTION.

2 ORDINANCE 1416, AMORTIZATION OF SCOOTER RENTALS, 2ND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.

The Mayor stated that the two Ordinances would be handled by Mr. Sale and there would be ample opportunity for everyone who wished to speak. Mr. Sale asked that both Ordinances be addressed at the same time since they were so closely related and addressed the same problem. There were no objections.

Mr. Sale spoke at length concerning the history of the scooter ordinances and the two ordinances presently before the Council for consideration. He said Councilman Solis had asked a doctor to speak who would be at the first of the meeting due to his tight schedule and invited Dr. Frank Merritt, Bay Medical ER physician, and Mr. Ron Patrick, Bay Medical CFO, to the podium. Dr. Merritt spoke at length concerning scooter injuries, risky behavior, impact on the medical personnel, and comparison to motor vehicle injuries. Mr. Patrick spoke of the financial impact to the hospital as well as the individuals who had no insurance.

Mayor Thomas then opened the Public Hearing on both Ordinances at 9:30 A.M.

- 1 **Mr. Patrick Rietkerk**, 3648 Oakbrook Lane. Mr. Rietkerk spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- 2 **Mr. Matthew Bush**, Classic Rentals. Mr. Bush spoke in opposition, specifically to Ordinance 1415.
- 3 **Mr. Frank de Chelen,** 7819 Kingman St. Mr. de Chelen spoke in support of Classic Rentals and opposed the proposed Ordinances.
- 4 **Ms. Eva Bush**, Classic Rentals. Ms. Bush opposed the proposed Ordinances.
- 5 **Mr. Robert Estes,** 119 Summer Breeze. Mr. Estes spoke in support of the proposed Ordinances.
- 6 **Mr. Travis Schofer**, 500 Augusta Road. Mr. Schofer spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- 7 **Ms. Colleen Swab,** California Cycles. Ms. Swab spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- 8 Mr. Rick Roof, California Cycles. Mr. Roof spoke of the CRA, trolleys, and parking.
- 9 **Mr. Bryan Trammell,** King of Scooters. Mr. Trammell spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- Mr. Keith Curry, 141 Coral Dr. Mr. Curry spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- 11 **Mr. Charles Hicks,** Hangout by the Sea. Mr. Hicks spoke in opposition to the proposed Ordinances.
- 12 **Mr. Melvin Ramos**, 222 Summer Breeze Rd. Mr. Ramos supported the proposed Ordinances.

- 13 **Ms. Barbara Snyder**, 14010 Pelican St. Ms. Snyder spoke of litigation concerns.
- 14 **Mr. Burnie Thompson**, 8317 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson questioned the motivation for the proposed Ordinances and their unconstitutionality.
- 15 **Mr.** Abe Bretlandell, 316 15th St. Mr. Bretlandell opposed the proposed Ordinances.
- 16 **Mr. Mustafa Swaidan,**Sara's Rentals. Mr. Swaidan opposed the proposed Ordinances.
- 17 Mr. Alex Fauss, California Cycles. Mr. Fauss opposed the Ordinances.
- 18 Ms. McKay Miller, 3107 Frankford Avenue. Ms. Miller opposed Ordinance 1415.
- 19 **Ms.** Joyce Cash, 104 Grand Island. Ms. Cash supported the proposed Ordinances.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 10:20 A.M.

Chief Whitman gave a lengthy presentation concerning the behavior of the scooter operators, increased traffic congestion, the use of the vehicles as toys/amusements, and the usage of vests and brochures. Captain Maddox distributed photos of signs prohibiting scooters at various businesses. **The photos and the list of businesses were entered into the record.** Chief Whitman recommended Ordinance 1415 effective immediately due to the behavior of the drivers and the complaints to his officers.

Regarding the ban, Councilman Solis questioned the Chief about adding a special fee or tax for law enforcement for scooters, banning scooters from Panama City Beach Parkway and Hutchison Boulevard, requiring helmets and number of Police vehicles damaged by scooters within the last three years. Chief Whitman said the scooters were taxing the resources of his Department and when focusing on one industry, his officers were reactive when he wanted them to be proactive. In his experience, the drivers were not trained, using the scooters as a toy.

Councilwoman Strange expressed hesitation about the proposed Ordinances, but said she did see the problem more at night and a safety issue for other motorists. Regarding the behavior of the operators, she said she did not like the scooters in the neighborhoods or the Parkway. The majority were in groups on Front Breach Road traveling on the sidewalks and down the center line.

Councilman Reichard said the scooters were more of a problem in the evenings. He said the City had grown too large, too busy, with too much traffic to have recreational activities happening on the public streets.

Councilman Chester asked about scooter rentals in the County. Chief Whitman said one business was in the unincorporated area whose scooters could travel into the City. Regarding overnight rentals, Councilman Chester said the scooters were hard to see and he had hoped the vests and brochures would have helped solve the problems.

Mayor Thomas mentioned the City regulating parasails, horses, and driving on the beach due to safety and the growth of the City. Scooters when first started were not a problem because the City was not so congested. Now with this many people, it was a problem. He said the City tried over the years to regulate the problems. He said nighttime was different, and he received more complaints from his guests about scooters than Spring Break.

Mr. Gisbert said the City had received about thirty emails which opposed the scooters and supported the Ordinances. He read brief comments from the emails. **He entered those emails into the record.**

Mr. Matthew Bush, Classic Rentals, questioned Chief Whitman on the number of scooters which could be controlled, the businesses who prohibited scooters on their property, stopped cars which taxed the resources of the Department, and selective enforcement. He questioned the Chief about officer discretion. Mr. Bush stated it was not against the law for scooters to ride in the neighborhoods. He recommended tabling Ordinance 1415 and talking more about the problem.

Councilman Solis said he had asked the City Manager specifically for more enforcement at night to see if the behavior could be helped. He explained how the Department stepped up the enforcement but the problem moved to other sections of the City. He drove every night to see the enforcement and behavior of the scooter operators. Councilman Solis said a recent study indicated that the Parkway was over Seventy Thousand vehicles over capacity during the summer which increased the bad behavior of the scooter operators. The operators felt that the rules were not for them so they weaved in and out of traffic, rode on the shoulders, drove down the center line, etc.

Ms. Colleen Swab and Mr. Rick Roof, California Cycles. Mr. Roof questioned Chief Whitman in now not being able to handle the sixty scooters per shop as had been promised three years ago. The Chief responded. Ms. Swab claimed there were over a Thousand personal scooters on the road so all scooters would not be banned. She mentioned selling thirty to fifty scooters per month and said the data presented by the Chief was not factual.

Mr. Ray Steinbrecher, attorney for Sara's Scooters, said this would be a regulatory taking under both Federal and State law. He questioned Chief Whitman on the number of calls for service from all bars. Chief Whitman replied that he had focused on the two super clubs where the majority of the population were during Spring Break. Mr. Steinbrecher urged the Council not to implement the ban.

Mr. Tom Reeves, attorney, said the Council had not been presented a written report. He said the overnight ban would make the businesses unprofitable and put them out of business. He recommended taking the time for a written report and number confirmations. He agreed with Mr. Steinbrecher in that it was a regulatory taking.

Mr. Bryan Trammell, King of Scooters, questioned Chief Whitman why the scooter operators were not given citations when they were stopped and could not provide the brochure. Chief Whitman responded and Mr. Trammel stated that law enforcement needed to be more stringent with more money spent for additional officers.

Mr. Sale said he had asked Chief Whitman for statistics on the calls to the two super clubs as compared to the resources dealing with the rental scooters. He confirmed that he only requested the two super clubs in this research, not all clubs. Mr. Sale said the problem was the behavior of the customers of these businesses out on the street. He asked the Council members if they had been approached by anyone asking them to adopt these Ordinances for any reason other than the behavior. Unanimously, the Council members stated no. Mr. Sale continued that in his legal opinion, these Ordinances were defensible.

Councilman Solis said based on the population growth, his observations of the Police efforts, behavior of society changing, and other areas enacting curfews due to behavior, the behavior worsens at night. Mr. Sale summarized that the Department did not chase every violation especially at night so the number of citations were not a compete reflection. Councilman Solis confirmed he personally witnessed the groups moving to different areas away from the Police presence.

Councilman Reichard asked Chief Whitman how much of the citation fines were kept by the City and Chief Whitman responded about \$4.00 with most going to the State, and the small amount kept only used for training.

Mr. Sale said the nexus was clear and the law did not require a perfect solution if a regulatory scheme was created to address the problem. He said the Council was determining that this industry was consuming more resources in the enforcement than was appropriate for the City. Since the focus changed to the customers themselves, the City adopted efforts with the brochures and vests. He stated the Council members were not required to have a study but could use their own personal experiences and rely on their own judgment to make decisions. Mr. Sale said the purpose of these Ordinances were not to put individual businesses out of business but rather to deny the resource to the customers because years of dealing with the problem had been fruitless.

Mr. Tom Reeves, attorney, said this Ordinance was an attempt to deny scooters to people who would rent them but the problem was that the Council did not have the absolute power nor right to do so. He referenced some of the majority opinion in the 1st District Court of Appeal that the prior Ordinances were stricken because they conflicted with Chapter 316. He elaborated. He said this behavior was not an extraordinary condition but something that people did. Mr. Reeves suggested a fee on the businesses for extra law enforcement should be something to explore. He mentioned an unlawful independent action and lawful traffic.

Mr. Sale said the 1st District opinion dealt whether the City was preempted to require vests. Whether this was a special condition within the context of the 316 regulation of traffic was not relevant in his opinion to the issue whether the City could prohibit the act of renting a scooter within the City based upon a reasonable understanding of how that scooter was to be used.

Ms. Swab said after reviewing the citations, the overnight was not an issue as most were issued during the day. She said the Police Department needed more officers, even when the Council decided on these issues. She discussed the citations and dates, and said much had been fabricated.

Ms. Bush said as an industry that they could not get together in a few minutes to discuss something taking effect immediately. In the past, she said her company had

done all they could to assist the City regarding enforcement and safety.

Mr. Sale said this Ordinance fit the criteria of a potential regulatory taking but in order for there to be a compensable regulatory taking, the owners of the scooters would need to be able to demonstrate that all beneficial or productive use of those scooters had been denied. He elaborated on the City's legal reasoning, and the reasons for the three-year period. He also explained how the Ordinance provided an appeal process specific to the amortization.

Mr. Cole Davis, another attorney for the City, introduced Mr. Chris Poulos, CPA and certified fraud examiner. Mr. Davis explained that Mr. Poulos had been engaged to determine the reasonable amount of time to amortize the property being phased out. Mr. Poulos explained how he determined the amount of time to recoup those amounts and the average daily rental of the scooters.

Councilman Reichard asked the depreciation period allowed by the Tax Code. Mr. Poulos explained in detail. There were no other questions from the Council. Mr. Davis invited questions from the representatives of the industry.

Mr. Bush asked who was paying the fee for Mr. Poulos. Mr. Poulos replied Panama City Beach.

Mr. Reeves stated that they would have their own experts look at the report from Mr. Poulos. He spoke of amortization and explained these businesses were being shut down which was different than using some product. Mr. Cole responded to Mr. Reeves. Mr. Davis entered the report from Mr. Poulos into the record.

Councilman Reichard asked Mr. Poulos if he agreed that the scooters would be fully depreciated within one year and Mr. Poulos concurred.

Mr. Steinbrecher, attorney for Sara's Scooters, said he would appreciate a copy of the report for review.

Mr. Trammel, King of Scooters, said the report did not include the cost of the three-wheeled cars which cost over Six Thousand Dollars. Mr. Poulos concurred. Mr. Sale said it appeared that some scooters to be banned at the end of the three years cost in excess of the figures presented by Mr. Poulos, and he asked Ms. Swab to respond. Ms. Swab said her company had Forty-Three scoot coupes costing Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars each, which would be covered by this Ordinance. Mr. Sale then recommended to Council that the Public Hearing be continued to a time certain based upon the fact that the study presented to the Council did not include the more expensive scooters.

Mayor Thomas said the evaluations would not be rushed and would be correct when completed and asked the Council to continue the Public Hearing until the Regular meeting of June 8th to be resumed from this point. Mayor Thomas said the decision did not involve time but rather loss of income. Discussion ensued concerning continuing Ordinance 1416 but moving forward on Ordinance 1415. Councilwoman Strange made the motion to continue the Public Hearing on Ordinance 1416 until the next meeting. Second was by Councilman Chester. The Mayor called for comments.

Mr. Reeves said that Mr. Sale had said the entire Public Hearing was on both Ordinances and the public comments had not separated the Ordinances. The Ordinance hurting the industry the most was Ordinance 1415, the overnight ban. He suggested continuing both Ordinances. Councilwoman Strange amended her motion to provide that both Ordinances 1415 and 1416 be continued until the next meeting. Councilman Chester amended his Second and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange
Councilman Solis
Councilman Reichard
Councilman Chester
Mayor Thomas
Aye

(Ordinances 1415 and Ordinance 1416 were not read by title during this portion of the Public Hearing.)

On the advice of Counsel, the Public Hearing was recessed at 1:00 P.M. to be continued until June 8, 2017 at 6:00 P.M.

ORDINANCE 1413, REGULATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES, 2ND READING, <u>PUBLIC HEARING</u> AND ADOPTION. Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1413 by title and explained a proposed change to the regulation of the industry and suggested continuing the Hearing until June 8th to allow sufficient time for Council to consider it. She elaborated and said this change did not change the intent of the Ordinance. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 1:05 P.M.

Mr. Patrick Rietkerk, 3648 Oakbrook Lane. Mr. Rietkerk asked why it was not dispensed in regular pharmacies. Ms. Myers responded that the product was prohibited under Federal Law so she did not think regular pharmacies were permitted to dispense it

until the law changed.

Ms. McKay Miller, 3107 Frankford Avenue. Ms. Miller asked if the Ordinance allowed for more dispensaries as the number of patients grew. The Mayor replied that three would remain until the Council changed the Ordinance. He closed the Public Hearing at 1:08 P.M. Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve Ordinance 1413. Second was by Councilman Reichard and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange Aye
Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Reichard Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Mayor Thomas Aye

4 RESOLUTION 17-94, GAYLE'S TRAILS EASEMENTS AND BUDGET AMENDMENT #38. Ms. Myers read Resolution 17-94 by title and said this portion of the Trail was east of Colony Club to Breakfast Point. She said the Budget Amendment was for the fees associated with the acquisition of these easements. Mr. Casto said the Trail was not going through the Trieste subdivision at this time and that this portion of the Trail would start about ½ mile east about 8500' long. He also explained the SunTrail grant for about One Million Dollars.

Councilman Reichard asked about going through the Holiday Golf Course instead of Trieste. Mr. Casto said it would be more expensive. Councilman Reichard said he thought land near Eagle might be a possibility and was trying to find an option rather than ending the Trail at Trieste. Mr. Casto explained the decision made a few years ago about skipping over Trieste. Councilman Reichard asked about the grant and if there were funds to use for the Golf Course. Mr. Casto deferred to Mr. Chris Forehand, Panhandle Engineering, who said the initial grant would just cover this phase but the State had 25 Million Dollars annually available. Councilman Reichard asked the last time the homeowners of Trieste were contacted and Councilwoman Strange said it had not been that long ago and they did not want those people in their neighborhood. She said she had met with homeowners who were adamant about not wanting the Trail through their subdivision but loving the Trail itself. Councilwoman Strange made the motion to approve Resolution 17-94. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange Aye
Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Reichard Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Mayor Thomas Aye

5 RESOLUTION 17-97, BUDGET AMENDMENT #35 FOR HIRING TWO PATROL OFFICERS. Ms. Myers read Resolution 17-97 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any questions and there were none. Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Resolution 17-97. Second was by Councilwoman Strange and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange
Councilman Solis
Councilman Reichard
Councilman Chester
Mayor Thomas
Aye

RESOLUTION 17-98, BUDGET AMENDMENTS #36 AND #37 FOR RECEIPT OF TDC FUNDS, OVER-TIME SALARIES AND PURCHASE OF POLICE EQUIPMENT. Ms. Myers read Resolution 17-98 by title. She said the phone system requested by the Chief would come back to Council at a later date but would be funded by this Budget Amendment. Mr. Gisbert explained this was for another 911 console. **Councilwoman**

Strange made the motion to approve Resolution 17-98. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange Aye
Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Reichard Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Mayor Thomas Aye

7 APPOINTMENT OF HALF-CENT SALES TAX CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION 17-39. Ms. Myers said the Resolution provided for each Councilor to nominate one member to the Committee who were residents and electors of the City. The nominations by each Councilor were:

Councilman Reichard
Councilman Chester
Councilwoman Strange
Councilman Solis
Mayor Thomas

Jeromey Gillespie
David Scruggs
Tom Klomps
Roger Scheeres
Doug Gilmore

8 ORDER 01-CU-17 AND FINDING OF FACTS, SSPCB HOSPITALITY SPRINGHILL SUITES HOTEL HEIGHT INCENTIVES. Ms. Myers explained the Order which ratified the decision from the Public Hearing held during the last meeting. Mayor Thomas said he asked that it be pulled from the Consent Agenda because he disagreed with Incentives in the Front Beach Overlay. Councilman Solis made the motion to approve the Order. Second was by Councilwoman Strange. Mayor Thomas said he had not seen where the City was consistently making developers follow the rules. Discussion ensued on incentives. The motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilwoman Strange Aye
Councilman Solis Aye
Councilman Reichard Aye
Councilman Chester Aye
Mayor Thomas Nay

Mayor Thomas said he thought it had been a mistake to allow height limitations and Councilwoman Strange mentioned not having the infrastructure. Ms. Myers said she thought it was planned for discussion by the Planning Board at a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Thomas opened the Public Comment section at 1:30 P.M.

- **1 Mr. Burnie Thompson,** 8317 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson spoke of education and rules of law, made comments about the Mayor's business kitchen and the distributed flyers.
- **Mr. Abe Bretlanddell**,316 15th. Mr. Bretlanddell made additional comments about Roberts Rules of Order and spoke with Ms. Myers.
- **3 Mr. Keith Curry**, 141 Coral Dr. Mr. Curry commented about thinking of the residents and government convenience.
- **4 Mr. Patrick Shaffer**, 125 Parish St, Dothan, AL, street musician. Mr. Shaffer said he had been playing his saxophone on the City Pier and had been asked to leave. He elaborated and said he had not been soliciting money. The Public Comments section was closed at 1:40 P.M.
 - Ms. Myers had no attorney report.
- Mr. Gisbert reported on the City positions available which were posted on the website.

Councilman Reichard and Councilwoman Strange had no comments. Councilman Chester said the Colony Club Exit Road was looking good and hopefully open by mid-June. Councilman Solis made remarks defending his family.

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 P.M.

READ AND APPROVED this 22nd of June 2017.

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