
ROCKLEDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021 ♦ 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Rockledge City Council met in regular session on May 5, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Rockledge City Hall, 1600 Huntington Lane, Rockledge, Florida.

PRESENT:	Thomas J. Price	Mayor
	Michael Cadore	Councilmember, Seat #1
	Dr. R. Shaun Ferguson	Councilmember, Seat #2
	Sammie Brown Martin	Councilmember, Seat #3
	Frank T. Forester	Councilmember, Seat #4
	Duane A. Daski	Councilmember, Seat #5
	Ted J. Hartselle	Councilmember, Seat #6
	Joseph E. Miniclier	City Attorney
	Dr. Brenda Fettrow	City Manager
	Jennifer M. LeVasseur	City Clerk & Public Relations Officer

STAFF PRESENT:	Matthew Trine	Assistant City Manager & Finance Director
	John Cooper	Planning Director
	Joseph P. LaSata	Public Safety Director/Chief of Police
	Scott Brown	Public Works Director
	James Elmore	Wastewater Treatment & Water Reclamation Director
	Donna Seyferth	Deputy Chief of Police
	Tricia Olsson	Deputy City Clerk

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas J. Price.

2. INVOCATION

- The invocation was given by Councilman Hartselle.

3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A salute to the flag was given, and the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated in unison.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 21, 2021

Councilman Daski moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on April 21, 2021; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (7).

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Mayor Price

1. Mayoral Proclamation

- a. Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month

Mayor Price read aloud a Proclamation recognizing May 2021 as Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month. The Proclamation was presented to the Ehlers-Danlos Society and received by Rockledge resident Misti Blu Day McDermott. Ms. McDermott shared a few words about the importance of awareness efforts regarding this condition.

2. Certificate of Commendation

- a. Matthew 25:35 Ministry

Mayor Price read aloud a narrative illustrating the food distribution efforts of Matthew 25:35 Ministry throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. A Certificate of Commendation was presented to Pastor Addison K. Mitchell, Parker Memorial Missionary Baptist Church, Cocoa, and Bishop Anthony Hatcher, Faith Life Outreach Christian Cathedral, Rockledge, as representatives of Matthew 25:35 Ministry.

Pastor Mitchell introduced several partners and volunteers present in the audience and shared his gratitude for their service and sacrifice to the community. Pastor Mitchell read a letter recognizing Councilwoman Martin for her dedication to the Ministry and mission.

Councilmembers commended the Ministry for their commitment to the community.

TAKEN OUT OF ORDER (HEARD PRIOR TO ITEM 5.A.2.a.)

- B. Mark Ryan, Chairman, Legislative Subcommittee; Florida City and County Management Association

1. Recognition, 50th Anniversary of Council-Manager Form of Government

Mark Ryan, Indian Harbour Beach City Manager and Chairman, Legislative Subcommittee; Florida City and County Management

Association, recognized the City of Rockledge for the 50th anniversary of the council-manager form of government and lauded the City Council and City Manager Fettrow for their teamwork, leadership and dedication.

6. FINANCIAL / BUDGET REPORT

- None

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution: Urging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to Discontinue the Ban on Cruise Ship Operations from Port Canaveral

Councilman Ferguson offered a Resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) TO DISCONTINUE THE BAN ON CRUISE SHIP OPERATIONS FROM PORT CANAVERAL, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA" and moved to waive the reading and adopt the Resolution; seconded by Councilwoman Martin.

Councilman Forester indicated that he had some residual concerns about the health and safety of cruise ships during the ongoing pandemic.

Voting for the motion: Mayor Price and Councilmembers Cadore, Ferguson, Martin, Daski, and Hartselle. Voting against the motion: Councilman Forester. The motion carried with a vote of six (6) ayes and one (1) nay.

8. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilman Daski moved to be in receipt of the minutes of the following meetings:

- Police Employees' Retirement Board, Minutes of Meeting on February 19, 2021
- Fire Employees' Retirement Board, Minutes of Meeting on February 19, 2021
- Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners, Minutes of Meeting on April 28, 2021

and to consider independently any recommendation(s) contained therein; motion seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed unanimously (7).

- A. Police Employees' Retirement Board, Minutes of Meeting on February 19, 2021 (no recommendation)

B. Fire Employees' Retirement Board, Minutes of Meeting on February 19, 2021

1. Recommendation: Approval of Ordinance Providing for an Increased Multiplier for Certain Employees

...direct the attorney to prepare an ordinance enacting the benefit improvement as stated above; to direct the actuary to prepare an accompanying actuarial impact statement, and upon receipt, to forward said ordinance to city staff for placement on [C]ity [C]ouncil's agenda for action.

City Manager Fettrow reiterated that the recommendation is similar to the multiplier in the police pension plan.

Councilman Daski moved to accept the recommendation; motion seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried without objection (7).

- a. Ordinance: First Reading, Amending Section 2.2(B)(2) of the City of Rockledge Fire Employees' Retirement Plan, Providing for an Increased Retirement Income Multiplier for Certain Employees as Stated in the Collective Bargaining Agreement

Councilman Ferguson offered an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 2.2(B)(2) OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE FIRE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN, PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASED RETIREMENT INCOME MULTIPLIER FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES AS STATED IN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE," and moved for the first reading of the Ordinance by title only; seconded by Councilman Daski. The motion carried unanimously (7).

City Attorney Miniclier read aloud the title of the Ordinance for the first reading.

Councilwoman Martin moved to authorize publication and a public hearing to be held on May 19, 2021; seconded by Councilman Ferguson. The motion carried by unanimous vote (7).

C. Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners, Minutes of Meeting on April 28, 2021

1. Recommendation: Approval of Scope of Work and Cost Estimates, Barton Boulevard Road Diet Design

...recommend approval of the presented Scope of Work and cost estimates and forward the recommendation to City Council...

City Manager Fettrow explained that the Board recommended that Council approve the Scope of Work and cost estimates provided by Architects RZK in order to begin the design process for the Barton Boulevard Road Diet.

Councilman Daski moved to approve the Scope of Work and cost estimates from Architects RZK for the Barton Boulevard Road Diet design; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed without objection (7).

2. Recommendation: Approval of Upgrades and Estimated Costs for Don Griffin Trail Improvements

...recommend approval of the proposed upgrades and estimated costs of up to \$100,000.00 and to forward the recommendation to City Council...

City Manager Fettrow noted that the project will include upgrades to walking paths, along with low-level lighting and way-finding materials for easier access to the park.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the proposed upgrades and estimated costs of up to \$100,000.00 for the Don Griffin Trail improvements; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed unanimously (7).

3. Recommendation: Receipt of Community Redevelopment Agency Audit for Fiscal Year 2020

...moved to be in receipt of the audit and to forward the recommendation to City Council...

City Manager Fettrow shared that a new legislative requirement dictated that the Community Redevelopment Agency must undergo an independent audit.

Councilman Daski moved to be in receipt of the Community Redevelopment Agency audit for Fiscal Year 2020; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (7).

D. Reappointments and Appointments

- None

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

10. CONSENT BUSINESS

Councilman Daski moved for approval of these consent business items:

- A. Approval: Declaration of Surplus Property, Four (4) Public Safety Vehicles, and Authorization to Scrap/Sell Said Vehicles (Department of Public Safety)
- B. Approval: Award of Bid for Tree Trimming and Removal Services (Public Works Department)

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Martin and passed by unanimous vote (7).

After the motion passed, Public Works Director Brown explained that the proposal was awarded to the vendor that was the most responsive and would provide the most adequate professional services. Councilmembers requested that additional bid/proposal information be included in future agenda packets.

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT BUSINESS

- o None

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Approval of Final Plat, Harvest Landing Subdivision (Planning Division)

Planning Director Cooper informed Council that Harvest Landing subdivision consists of 156.16 acres and will provide for 364 single-family homes. All of the platting requirements have been met. The preliminary plat was approved in August 2020, and the subdivision will have two entrances; one will be located on Pluckebaum Road, and the other will be located on the Clearlake Road extension.

Councilman Daski moved to approve the final plat for Harvest Landing subdivision; seconded by Councilman Hartselle. The motion passed without objection (7).

- B. Action Item: Establishing an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Special Revenue Fund (City Manager/Assistant City Manager)

City Manager Fettrow explained that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, which was signed by President Biden in March 2021, appropriates almost \$2 trillion in federal funding to multiple levels of government. The estimated allocation to the City of Rockledge is \$11.86 million, which is subject to change once distributions are received by the State of Florida. In order to properly account for these funds, staff recommended that a separate and distinct fund be established via Ordinance to best provide for compliance and financial controls relating to these funds.

Councilman Ferguson moved to direct the City Attorney to draft an Ordinance creating a separate and distinct fund entitled "American Rescue Plan Act Special Revenue Fund;" seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (7).

13. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- None

14. REPORTS

A. City Manager Report

- City Manager Fettrow announced that the 2021 Legislative Session ended Friday, and the designation of Fiske Boulevard in Rockledge as "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Highway" did not pass.
- City Manager Fettrow respectfully requested that Council authorize her to work with Brevard County to institute changes that would allow pets on leashes to be able to utilize the Don Griffin Trail at Lake Betsi. Council was amenable to the idea.
- City Manager Fettrow explained that the Old St. Mary's Church has an active termite infestation and will be tented for treatment from May 17th through May 19th.
- City Manager Fettrow noted that the Brevard County Emergency Operations Center is now fully funded, and construction will commence soon.
- City Manager Fettrow shared that the City receives Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) funds, and the City's current balance is \$1.2 million. She requested Council's authorization to utilize up to \$95,270.00 for the conceptual design study to widen Eyster Boulevard from Murrell Road to Fiske Boulevard in preparation for the Barton Boulevard road diet, as well as to facilitate future sewer needs due to the annexation of over 800 acres of property west of I-95. City Manager Fettrow confirmed that the City will utilize one of the firms currently on a continuing services contract.

Councilman Ferguson moved to approve the utilization of \$95,270.00 for the conceptual design study to widen Eyster Boulevard; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion passed without objection (7).

- City Manager Fettrow announced that she will be out of town from Thursday, May 13th through Saturday, May 15th.

B. City Attorney Litigation Report

- None

C. Reports from the Dais

- City Attorney Miniclier provided a brief update regarding ongoing litigation with Watson Paving and REDI, LLC.
- Councilman Daski announced that John Mulkey, a member of the Fire Employees' Retirement Board, recently passed away.
- Councilman Ferguson:
 - Commended Councilwoman Martin for her work with Matthew 25:35 Ministry.
 - Congratulated City Manager Fettrow for her leadership recognition by the Florida City and County Management Association.
 - Expressed his disappointment that the memorial designation of Fiske Boulevard for Dr. King did not pass in Session, but reiterated that the effort will be renewed in the next Legislative Session.
 - Thanked Council for recognizing his father's 90th birthday at the last meeting.
 - Announced that the National Day of Prayer in Rockledge will be held on Thursday, May 6th at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.
 - Noted that he will be attending the Space Coast League of Cities Board of Directors meeting on Monday, May 10th.
 - Shared that he will be attending the Space Coast Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 6th.
- Councilman Cadore:
 - Commended City Clerk & Public Relations Officer LeVasseur for her public information efforts.
 - Expressed gratitude for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and noted that he has received positive feedback from Rockledge principals for the Council's support.
 - Recognized Councilwoman Martin for her work with Matthew 25:35 Ministry and congratulated Deputy Police Chief Seyferth for her recent appointment to the Board of Directors for the Eastern Florida State College Foundation.
 - Commended the Department of Public Safety and the Firefighters at Station 36 for their compassion and commitment to public service.

- Councilman Hartselle:
 - Mentioned the numerous developments on Barton Boulevard and noted his excitement to see many years of plans for Barton Boulevard coming to fruition.
- Councilwoman Martin:
 - Shared her appreciation in being part of the council-manager form of government.
 - Noted her enjoyment in working with Matthew 25:35 Ministry, thanked Councilman Forester for recommending that the Ministry be recognized and recommended that the Presbyterian ministry also be recognized for funding the food distribution efforts in April and May.
 - Announced that the next food distribution will be held at Faith Life Outreach Christian Cathedral (FLOCK) in Rockledge on Saturday, May 8th at 10 a.m.
 - Mentioned that a longtime-resident family in Rockledge recently lost their home to a fire and indicated that Andersen Elementary is collecting items for the family. Councilwoman Martin urged everyone to help if able.
- Councilman Forester:
 - Commended Matthew 25:35 Ministry for their selflessness and dedication to feeding the community throughout the last year.
 - Announced that he will be out of town starting Thursday, May 6th and will return in time for the next Council meeting.

15. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Price declared the meeting to be adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Council Chairman

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk