
ROCKLEDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 ♦ 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Rockledge City Council met in regular session on May 19, 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
Joseph E. Miniclier	City Attorney
Dr. Brenda Fettrow	City Manager
Jennifer M. LeVasseur	City Clerk & Public Relations Officer

ABSENT:

Ted J. Hartselle	Councilmember, Seat #6
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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
James Wilson	Deputy Fire Chief
Tricia Olsson	Deputy City Clerk

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

2. INVOCATION

- At the invitation of Mayor Price, the invocation was given by Councilman Ferguson.

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 May 5, 2021

Councilman Daski moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 5, 2021; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion carried unanimously (6).

5. PRESENTATIONS

- None

NOT AN AGENDA ITEM

At the invitation of Councilman Cadore, Bo Smith, 1197 Bolle Circle, longtime Rockledge resident, announced that he recently opened Concierge Fitness, an 850-square foot fitness establishment on Barton Boulevard. Mr. Smith shared his passion for health and fitness and his desire to reach individuals of all fitness levels.

6. FINANCIAL / BUDGET REPORT

- Month of April 2021

Councilman Ferguson moved to be in receipt of the Financial/Budget Report for the month of April 2021; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed by unanimous vote (6).

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

- A. Ordinance: Second Reading and Public Hearing, Ordinance No. 1818-2021, 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 Daski offered Ordinance No. 1818-2021 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 second reading of the Ordinance by title only and to open the matter for public hearing; seconded by Councilman Ferguson. The motion carried by unanimous vote (6).

City Attorney Miniclier read aloud the title of the Ordinance for the second reading. Chairman Price declared the matter open to the public for discussion.

There being no public comment, Chairman Price declared the public hearing to be closed.

Councilman Daski moved for the adoption of the Ordinance; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. Voting for the motion: Mayor Price and Councilmembers Cadore, Ferguson, Martin, Forester, and Daski. The motion carried by unanimous vote (6).

- B. Ordinance: First Reading, Comprehensive Plan Amendment to Future Land Use Map, Recreational Public Mixed Use in Planning District 4, 10 Acres on North Side of Pluckebaum Road, .50 Miles West of S. Fiske Boulevard (CPA-21-01)

Councilman Ferguson offered an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE ROCKLEDGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO REVISE THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP (FLUM) TO CHANGE 10 ACRES LYING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF PLUCKEBAUM ROAD, APPROXIMATELY .50 MILES WEST OF S. FISKE BOULEVARD FROM MEDIAN DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO RECREATIONAL PUBLIC MIXED USE IN PLANNING DISTRICT 4; DECLARING THAT INVALIDITY OF ANY PORTIONS HEREOF SHALL NOT AFFECT THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," and moved for the first reading of the Ordinance by title only; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (6).

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 June 2, 2021; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion carried by unanimous vote (6).

- C. Ordinance: First Reading, Creating the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund

Councilman Daski offered an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROCKLEDGE, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, CREATING THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUND; DECLARING THAT INVALIDITY OF ANY PORTION HEREOF SHALL NOT AFFECT THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," and moved for the first reading of the Ordinance by title only; seconded by Councilman Ferguson. The motion carried unanimously (6).

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

City Manager Fettrow explained that this Ordinance will authorize the City to begin the budgeting process for the funds, based on guidance and eligibility requirements for expenditures.

Councilman Daski moved to authorize publication and a public hearing to be held on June 2, 2021; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried by unanimous vote (6).

8. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilman Ferguson moved to be in receipt of the minutes of the following meeting:

- Nuisance Abatement Board, Minutes of Meeting on May 10, 2021

motion seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed unanimously (6).

- A. Nuisance Abatement Board, Minutes of Meeting on May 10, 2021 (no recommendation)

- B. Reappointments and Appointments

- 1. Reappointments

- a. Business Development Committee

Councilman Ferguson moved to reappoint Gregory Phelps, Josiah Gattle, Sean Farrell, Amy Tidd, Daniel Henn, Desiree Babbs, Janet Monaco, Ronald Ramsey and Erinn Stranko to the Business Development Committee for additional two-year terms; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion passed without objection (6).

- 2. Appointments

- a. Board of Adjustment

Councilman Daski moved to appoint Gail Morris to the Board of Adjustment as a regular member; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (6).

- b. Citizens Advisory Committee to the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (Alternate Member)

Councilwoman Martin moved to appoint Debbie Sapp as the alternate member of the Citizens Advisory Committee to the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion passed without objection (6).

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

10. CONSENT BUSINESS

Councilman Daski moved for approval of these consent business items:

- A. Approval: Use of Forfeiture Funds to Purchase Treadmill for Public Safety Gym (Public Safety Department)
- B. Approval: Scope and Fee Proposal, Jacobs Engineering, and Transportation Impact Fee Trust Fund Disbursement Agreement, Brevard County Board of County Commissioners, Conceptual Design of Four-Laning Eyster Boulevard from Murrell Road to Fiske Boulevard (City Manager)

Item 10.C. was removed from Consent Business for discussion.

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Martin and passed by unanimous vote (6).

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT BUSINESS

- C. Approval: Donation of Funds from Florida State Asset Forfeiture to the RFK Solutionz Corporation for S.T.E.M. Cyber Teenz Academy Sponsorship (Public Safety Department)

Councilman Forester inquired as to whether the schedule for this program would conflict with the school schedule; it was affirmed that the program would not conflict with the beginning of the school year.

Clarification was provided as to the protocol and eligibility for donations, particularly via Asset Forfeiture funds. Additionally, Council discussed the action of removing items from Consent Business for discussion as well as the proper procedure for removing said items for discussion.

Councilwoman Martin moved to approve the donation of funds for the S.T.E.M. Cyber Teenz Academy; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion passed without objection (6).

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Professional Services Agreement with Joe Payne, Inc. (JPI) for Building Department Services (Building Department)

City Manager Fettrow explained that the City's building official is currently working part time, and on occasion, the Building Department is in need of assistance with inspections, plan review and other functions. Staff requested approval to enter into an agreement for Professional Building Department Services under a piggyback agreement on a Brevard County Continuing Services Contract with Joe Payne, Inc. on an as-needed basis.

Council discussed the ongoing needs of the Building Department as well as the current job market, which has created hiring difficulties, particularly

for a Building Official, which requires specific knowledge, licenses and certifications.

Councilwoman Martin moved to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Joe Payne, Inc.; seconded by Councilman Cadore. The motion carried without objection (6).

13. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- None

14. REPORTS

A. City Manager Report

- City Manager Fettrow announced that Independence Day fireworks will again take place in Riverfront Park in Cocoa this year. The Cocoa City Council would like to create a video promotion, featuring City Councils from both Rockledge and Cocoa, which would encourage event attendees to follow CDC guidelines relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Council agreed to participate and selected Mayor Price as the video representative.
- City Manager Fettrow explained that last year, Council authorized the City to apply for a FEMA grant for funds dedicated to the hardening of Fire Stations 35 and 37, which would enable the buildings to withstand Category 5 weather conditions. The City's application was ranked 34th out of approximately 118 projects, and the City was informed that 30-40 projects may be funded. Very recently, Deputy Fire Chief Wilson was informed that the State has approximately \$4-5 million in funds available through Hurricane Dorian relief, and only \$100,000.00 has been applied for thus far. City Manager Fettrow requested authorization to redirect the application for Hurricane Dorian relief and to increase the amount of the City's 25 percent matching funds to \$601,000.00 due to the substantial increase in materials and construction costs.

Councilman Daski moved to authorize the City Manager and staff to redirect the current FEMA application to the Hurricane Dorian Fund and to approve the expenditure of additional matching funds of \$601,000.00; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried without objection (6).

- City Manager Fettrow shared that she and Wastewater Treatment Director Elmore recently traveled to Palatka to attend the St. Johns River Water Management District Board Meeting, as the Equalization Basin project was on the cost share list. The project was approved with a ranking of 4th out of 36 total projects. The City anticipated receiving \$1.5 million; however, the City will actually receive \$1,917,250. City

Manager Fettrow will bring back a formal agreement for approval at a subsequent meeting.

- City Manager Fettrow thanked Public Safety Director LaSata and Councilman Cadore for representing the City at the swearing-in ceremony for the new City of Cocoa Police Chief.

B. City Attorney Litigation Report

- Month of May 2021

Councilman Ferguson moved to be in receipt of the City Attorney Litigation Report dated May 6, 2021; seconded by Councilman Daski. The motion passed unanimously (6).

City Attorney Miniclier provided a brief update on the cases referenced in the report and also provided clarification on the action of removing items from Consent Business.

C. Reports from the Dais

- City Clerk & Public Relations Officer LeVasseur announced that the annual *About Town* newsletter was sent to residents this week.
- Councilman Daski expressed happiness that City events were being reinstated.
- Councilman Ferguson:
 - Announced that the next Space Coast League of Cities meeting, scheduled for June 14th, will be hosted outdoors at the Field of Dreams in West Melbourne.
 - Noted that he was pleased with the *About Town*.
 - Praised Public Safety Director LaSata for his recent interview with Space Coast Daily.
 - Shared that the recent Mayor/City Manager video update was informative and beneficial to the community.
 - Welcomed Bo Smith and congratulated him on his new business venture.
- Councilman Cadore:
 - Echoed positive remarks regarding the *About Town* newsletter and the videos from Public Safety Director LaSata, Mayor Price and City Manager Fettrow.
 - Announced that he will be attending the Rockledge High School graduation ceremony on May 28th, where he will be conferring Associates Degrees for Eastern Florida State College.

- Reminded Council of the Alura Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Rockledge High School Baccalaureate Ceremony, both scheduled for May 26th.
- Councilwoman Martin:
 - Shared positive comments regarding the *About Town* newsletter and suggested that Mayor Price's photo be included with the Mayor's Message in the future.
 - Announced two upcoming food distributions on May 22nd and May 29th at Faith Life Outreach Christian Cathedral.
 - Acknowledged Bo Smith in the audience.
- Mayor Price announced that he recently toured Rockledge Flats and encouraged Councilmembers to also tour the complex.

15. **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Price declared the meeting to be adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Council Chairman

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk