

**MINUTES
ORMOND BEACH CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL VIRTUAL MEETING**

April 14, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Present were: Mayor Bill Partington, Commissioners Dwight Selby, Troy Kent, Susan Persis, and Rob Littleton, City Manager Joyce Shanahan, Assistant City Manager Claire Whitley, City Attorney Randy Hayes, and City Clerk Colby Cilento.

A G E N D A

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from Special City Commission meeting – March 16, 2020

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-41:** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A WARRANTY DEED FROM DAVID T. SLICK AND ANTOINETTE N. SLICK FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15 SIGNAL AVENUE, AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK, PHASE I FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR RECORDATION; AND SETTING FORTH AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Staff Contact: Brian Rademacher, Economic Development Director (386-676-3266)

B. **RESOLUTION NO. 2020-42:** A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AND AFFIRMING AN EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT FROM J.D. WEBER CONSTRUCTION FOR REPAIRS TO THE MANHOLE LOCATED AT SUNSHINE BOULEVARD IN THE AIRPORT BUSINESS PARK; AND SETTING FORTH AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Staff Contact: Shawn Finley, Public Works Director (386-615-7049)

C. **Microsoft Enterprise Agreement - Advertisement for Bids**

Staff Contact: Ned Huhta, IT Manager (386-615-7031)

Disposition: Approve as recommended in the City Manager memorandum dated April 14, 2020.

D. **COVID-19 Food Pantry Crisis**

Staff Contact: Joyce Shanahan, City Manager (386-676-3200)

Disposition: Approve as recommended in the City Manager memorandum dated April 14, 2020.

E. **City Event Cancellations, Facilities Closures, and Staff Updates**

Staff Contact: Joyce Shanahan, City Manager (386-676-3200)

Disposition: Approve as recommended in the City Manager memorandum dated April 14, 2020.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. **Discussion of Upcoming City Commission Meeting Dates**

Staff Contact: Colby Cilento, City Clerk (386-676-3340)

5. REPORTS, SUGGESTIONS, REQUESTS

6. ADJOURNMENT

Item #1 – Meeting Call to Order

Mayor Partington called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Invocation

Pastor Scott Smith, First United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Partington led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #2 – Approval of Minutes

Mayor Partington advised the minutes of the March 16, 2020, Special City Commission meeting had been sent to the Commission for review and were posted on the city's website for public viewing. He asked for any corrections, additions, or omissions. He stated that hearing no corrections, the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Item #3 – Consent Agenda

Mayor Partington advised the actions proposed for the items on the Consent Agenda were so stated on the agenda. He asked if any member of the Commission had questions or wished to discuss any items separately.

Commissioner Persis moved, seconded by Commissioner Selby, for approval of the consent agenda.

Call Vote:	Commissioner Selby	Yes
	Commissioner Kent	Yes
	Commissioner Persis	Yes
	Commissioner Littleton	Yes
Carried.	Mayor Partington	Yes

Comments on Consent Agenda Items

Commissioner Persis stated her approval for Item 3D, which approved of a onetime grant of \$2,000 for nine local food pantries. She stated she hoped the Commission would consider providing more funds to the organizations if needed.

Commissioner Selby discussed his approval of Item 3A, which authorized the acceptance of a Warranty Deed for a portion of property located at 15 Signal Avenue in the Airport Business Park. He complimented the property owners for working with the city to facilitate the construction of a new access road to the Ormond Beach Municipal Airport.

Mayor Partington responded to Commissioner Persis's comment regarding Item 3D and stated the Commission could continue to monitor the need for additional funds for food pantries.

Item #4 – Discussion Items

Item #4A – Discussion of Upcoming City Commission Meeting Dates

Mayor Partington noted no public comments were submitted for the item.

Mayor Partington explained the item was to discuss the schedule of upcoming City Commission meetings. He reviewed staff's recommendations for upcoming meetings. Staff recommended that the Commission:

- Cancel the April 21, 2020, regularly scheduled meeting.
- Schedule a Special Virtual City Commission Meeting on COVID-19 issues on April 28, 2020, if necessary.
- Move the scheduled May 5, 2020, regular meeting to May 12, 2020.
- Keep the scheduled May 26, 2020, regular meeting on that date; as previously amended.

- Move the scheduled June 2, 2020, regular meeting and Capital Improvements Plan Workshop to June 9, 2020.
- Schedule another regular meeting on June 23, 2020, if necessary.
- Resume the regular meeting schedule in July with the July 28, 2020, regular meeting and Operating Budget workshop.

Commissioner Kent stated he believed the schedule changes proposed were the safest option due to the virus and supported staff's recommendations.

Commissioner Kent moved, seconded by Commissioner Persis, to approve staff's recommendations for revising upcoming City Commission meeting dates.

Call Vote:	Commissioner Kent	Yes
	Commissioner Persis	Yes
	Commissioner Littleton	Yes
	Commissioner Kent	Yes
Carried.	Mayor Partington	Yes

Item #5 – Reports, Suggestions, Requests

Fire and Police Updates on COVID-19

Fire Chief Richard Sievers provided the Commission with a brief update on operations at the city's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Ormond Beach Fire Department in response to COVID-19. He discussed the responsibilities and duties performed by the EOC and Fire Department in detail. He reviewed the city's supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) and the capacities at local hospitals. He noted that no staff in the Fire Department had tested positive for the coronavirus.

Commissioner Selby questioned when the new fire trucks the Commission had approved would arrive; whereby, Chief Sievers stated the fire trucks would take an estimated year to build and the purchase was pending to be placed on an upcoming agenda for approval.

Police Chief Jesse Godfrey provided a quick briefing on operations taking place at the Ormond Beach Police Department and sanitation procedures that were being implemented. He explained that no officers of the Ormond Beach Police Department had tested positive for the coronavirus, but one officer was under quarantine awaiting test results. He stated car breaks and burglaries were on the rise, but noted the Police Department had expected and prepared for the increase.

Commissioner Kent inquired what procedures the Police Department had implemented to deter car breaks within the city; whereby, Chief Godfrey discussed the department's plan in detail that had been implemented to assist in putting a stop to car breaks. He encouraged residents to lock their vehicles and remove any firearms before exiting their vehicle.

City Updates on COVID-19

Ms. Joyce Shanahan, City Manager, discussed protocols and procedures that were being implemented by the city at various city facilities and locations to help follow guidelines set in place by the Center of Disease Control (CDC). She noted three city employees were in quarantine: one awaiting test results, and two who were under a five date waiting period before being tested. She explained the waiting period was recommended by the CDC to help limit false negative cases.

City Closure Extension

Ms. Shanahan noted city events were currently canceled through April 21, 2020, but due to the State of Emergency order put in place by Governor Ron DeSantis; staff recommended extending the closures until the State of Emergency order was lifted on May 8, 2020. She explained she had the authority to implement the extension, but requested direction from the Commission. She noted staff would examine the need for further extensions on April 30, 2020. She reviewed a list of closures within the city and noted the city planned to reopen on a restricted basis before fully opening again.

Mayor Partington noted he had no objection to extending the city's closures to May 8, 2020, in accordance with the State of Emergency Order.

Commissioner Selby discussed his support for reopening the economy and the importance of doing so safely and effectively. He noted his belief that the United States

had implemented a rule for every state and city and not all locations were effected in the same way and should not have to follow the same guidelines. He stated he hoped Florida Governor Ron DeSantis would relax regulations so the city could allow residents to return to work. He discussed the economic impact from the virus and his support for reopening schools. He stated his approval of Ms. Shanahan's approach to gradually reopening the city. He stated he trusted Ms. Shanahan's judgement to reopen on May 8, 2020, with the exception that if Governor DeSantis loosened regulations sooner, that Ms. Shanahan would look to help reopen the economy sooner.

Commissioner Kent stated he was in agreement with Commissioner Selby regarding getting the economy back up and running, but trusted Ms. Shanahan's judgement on extending the closures.

Commissioner Persis stated she supported extending city closures to May 8, 2020, but hoped the city would not have to wait that long.

Commissioner Littleton stated he had no objections to extending the closures.

Temporary Signage for Businesses Effected by COVID-19

Ms. Shanahan explained nearby cities were allowing businesses to have temporary signage and staff was recommending to allow restaurants in the City of Ormond Beach to display one flag or banner, not to exceed 64 square feet, without a permit and with no fee until normal operations returned. She stated the current regulations allowed for up to two banners, not to exceed to 64 square feet, four times a year. She stated the city would most likely suspend that regulation until December 31, 2020. She stated if the Commission approved of the temporary signage, it would brought back at the next Commission meeting for formal approval.

Commissioner Selby inquired if Ms. Shanahan could make the temporary signage for businesses go into effect immediately; whereby, Ms. Shanahan stated she needed a resolution.

Commissioner Selby questioned if there was a way to implement the temporary signage more promptly; whereby, Mr. Randy Hayes, City Attorney, explained the process for approving the temporary signage, noting a resolution would be required for formal approval.

Commissioner Kent stated he agreed with Commissioner Selby on implementing the item as soon as possible to help local businesses. He inquired if the Thompson Rule could be waived so the item could be approved immediately without a resolution; whereby, Mr. Hayes stated a written document would be needed for approval.

Mayor Partington questioned if the Commission could provide staff with direction to allow businesses to display the signage without penalty until the resolution was approved at the next meeting; whereby, Mr. Hayes stated staff could implement the temporary signage operationally and not enforce code violations, and a resolution could come forward for approval at the next meeting and ratify all previous administrative action.

Commissioner Selby moved, seconded by Commissioner Kent, to direct staff to allow the relaxed temporary banner signage, not to exceed 64 square feet, for businesses effective April 15, 2020.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

COVID-19 Cases in Ormond Beach

Commissioner Littleton referenced a post on social media made by Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood which discussed the number of COVID-19 cases per city. He stated Ormond Beach's numbers seemed disproportionately high and questioned the potential reasons for that; whereby, Ms. Shanahan stated the data was presented by zip code and noted Ormond Beach had two zip codes: 32174 and 32176. She explained that both zip codes included areas outside of the corporate boundaries of the city limits, which may have contributed to the numbers appearing to be higher.

Mayor Partington noted portions of Bunnell were included in the 32174 zip code. He noted initially cost was an issue for people to get tested for the virus, but that did not appear to be an issue anymore. He stated so few people had been tested that the data was not completely reliable.

Ms. Shanahan noted in Volusia County just under 3,000 people had been tested and the county consisted of over 500,000 residents. She stated the standards to be eligible for a test had changed and persons who wanted to be tested should be able to do so. She noted testing should be free of charge or reimbursed through the government.

Florida Healthcare Plans

Ms. Claire Whitley, Assistant City Manager, explained the city had been partnering with Florida Healthcare Plans since the beginning of the virus. She noted Florida Healthcare Plans was prioritizing visits from city staff, with special regards to first responders. She noted if an employee had any exposure, a test could be quickly performed on that employee so that critical services could be continued. She noted the rapid test was now available and results would come back immediately. She thanked Florida Healthcare Plans for their partnership with the city.

Staff Compliments

Ms. Shanahan and Mr. Hayes complimented city staff on their hard work during the time of the coronavirus.

Commissioner Selby, Commissioner Kent, Commissioner Persis, Commissioner Littleton and Mayor Partington complimented first responders, Ms. Shanahan, Mr. Hayes, and all city staff for their hard work and dedication.

Commissioner Selby thanked staff for their work in implementing the right turn lane on southbound Nova Road at Granada Boulevard.

Commissioner Selby complimented Ormond Beach police officers who responded to a deadly shooting on North Beach Street in prior weeks. He stated he believed the situation would have become more dangerous if not for the bravery of the officers.

Trails Shopping Center

Commissioner Selby noted when construction began at the Trails Shopping Center there was a construction fence up with a banner that suggested the entire shopping center was closed for the redevelopment of Publix. He stated he was unsure if the city had any part in the display of the banner, but noted it was fortunately removed, which helped the tenants in the center continue to receive business.

Compliments

Commissioner Selby complimented Ormond Beach MainStreet (MainStreet) for the ads they were running through radio stations to promote business in Downtown Ormond Beach.

Commissioner Persis complimented all educators for their hard work and dedication to their students during the transition to online learning.

Commissioner Persis and Mayor Partington complimented citizens of Ormond Beach for their cooperation in following the guidelines.

Reuse Water Issues

Commissioner Selby discussed issues with reuse water that were brought to his attention from several residents within his zone. He noted residents were stating they were only receiving the reuse water intermittently or not at all. He noted one resident had mentioned they hoped to receive a credit or have the fee waived for services that the city did not supply. He noted he was sympathetic to the concerns and had been in touch with Ms. Shanahan and Public Works Director Mr. Shawn Finley regarding the issue.

Mayor Partington noted he had received emails regarding reuse water issues as well. He stated he agreed that a credit should be provided by the city if the city was unable to provide what they agreed to provide. He stated he believed the city should begin metering the reuse water. He noted he was under the impression that some residents believed the water was always available for use, which he stated was not the case. He noted dry spells were expected over the next few years and the problem needed to be addressed. He asked Ms. Shanahan to provide the Commission with more information regarding metering reuse water.

Supporting Local Businesses

Commissioner Persis and Mayor Partington discussed the importance of continuing to support local businesses.

Condolences

Commissioner Littleton stated that Mr. Kevin Tilley, a former member of the Citizen's Law Enforcement Advisory Board and Budget Advisory Board, had passed away. He asked that condolences be extended to Mr. Tilley's family.

American Legislative Exchange Council Webinar

Commissioner Littleton stated he was scheduled to attend a webinar held by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) to discuss rebooting the economy after impacts from the coronavirus.

Closing Comments on COVID-19

Mayor Partington noted the city had adequate hospital capacity to care for sick residents. He explained the purpose of staying at home and following guidelines was to help prevent overflow in the hospitals and eliminate the need to make a decision on who received treatment and who did not. He stated all members of the Commission were working closely with staff to continue monitoring the COVID-19 situation and were participating in multiple platforms of meetings to stay up-to-date on the latest information and best practices to provide the best service possible to the community. He asked that residents be patient as the city continues to implement guidelines to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Item #6 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

APPROVED: May 12, 2020

BY:

Bill Partington, Mayor

ATTEST:

Colby J. Cilento, City Clerk