

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rob Baldwin, followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Roll Call: Present were Councilmembers Jeril Cohen, Pamela Gunn, Mitchell Krach, John Pietrowski, and Wanda Schwerer; Mayor Rob Baldwin, Vice Mayor Leslie Ford Notaro, City Manager Nancy Gonzalez, City Clerk Patricia Gentry, Finance Officer Melanie Kruszona, City Attorney Paul Marino, and Community Services Director Allen Godfrey.

Mayor Baldwin requested that Agenda Item numbers 8 and 9 be switched; there were no objections from Council.

1. Approval of Agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Schwerer and seconded by Councilmember Krach to approve the Agenda as amended.

Motion passed 7-0.

2. Approval of April 6, 2015, City Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Pietrowski and seconded by Councilmember Cohen to approve the April 6, 2015, City Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed 7-0.

3. Citizens Comments. (Each speaker will be recognized once and will be limited to a (3) three minute presentation on any subject that is not on the Agenda)

Seeing no one, Citizens Comments was closed.

Consent Agenda:

4. Proclamations: Proclaiming Monday, April 21, 2015, as PowerTalk 21® Day, started by Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD)

Proclaiming the month of May, 2015, as Older Americans Month

Proclaiming May 10, 2015, as World Lupus Day

Proclaiming May 11 – 17, 2015, as Women’s Lung Health Week

Proclaiming May 17 – 23, 2015, as National Public Works Week

Proclaiming May 3 – 9, 2015, as Municipal Clerks Week

MOTION was made by Councilmember Cohen and seconded by Councilmember Schwerer to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion passed 7-0.

Public Hearing:

- 5. Consideration of Ordinance 15-01, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Belleair Beach, Florida, Amending Section 54-62 of the City Code Pertaining to an Annual Residential Rental Registration Fee; Providing for Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date. Second Reading. (City Manager) (see backup)**

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach and seconded by Councilmember Schwerer for Ordinance 15-01.

Motion passed 7-0.

Regular Agenda:

- 6. Consideration of giving up three “parking by permit only” spaces at Morgan Park. (City Manager) (see backup)**

Mayor Baldwin stated that Andy Squires, MS, CPM, Section Manager, Coastal & Freshwater Resources, and John E. Bishop, Ph. D., Coastal Management had attended the worksession preceding the City Council meeting. He advised that if the City relinquished the three spaces reserved for Belleair Beach parking decals only, it would reduce the number of spaces required for beach nourishment. Councilmember Pietrowski suggested giving up two spaces and keeping one for residents. It was noted that residents could use the three other beach accesses in Belleair Shore, even though Morgan Park is the only access that has a restroom.

MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Notaro and seconded by Councilmember Schwerer to give up the three parking by permit only spaces at Morgan Park.

Councilmember Cohen	Aye
Councilmember Gunn	Aye
Councilmember Krach	Aye
Councilmember Pietrowski	Nay
Councilmember Schwerer	Aye
Vice Mayor Notaro	Aye
Mayor Baldwin	Aye

Motion passed 6-1.

7. Request City Council's authorization for the City Manager to accept the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) submitted by Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District. (City Manager) (see backup)

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach and seconded by Councilmember Schwerer to authorize the City Manager to accept the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) submitted by Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District.

Motion passed 7-0.

8. Discussion on Bismarck Palm tree located in the pedestrian crosswalk at the 19th Street beach access. (Requested by Mayor Baldwin)

Mayor Baldwin advised this issue had come up at the last GBS&B Committee meeting. Ms. Eva Devries, 1851 Gulf Boulevard, had expressed concern that the palm tree had been placed in front of her home and was blocking the view of the beach from their third-story window on one side of her house.

Discussion followed regarding that palm trees would be placed all along Gulf Blvd; City Attorney Marino advised that there is no legal right to a view, and it could be potentially opening a "Pandora's box" as pertains to this particular tree and he would not like to see Council set a precedent by moving this tree when there is no legal right to the view; Councilmember Krach stated he could sympathize, however, the City hired an engineer to do this properly so that it would be a safe haven for people to cross the street and if changes were made contrary to the engineer's recommendations that it could become a liability issue, and the larger issue is that there had been dozens of meetings with full transparency and that all of the plans had been presented for anyone to voice an objection – not after all of the work had been done; Council and Drew Copley discussed tree heights and their relation to traffic engineering and how taller trees would affect overhead power lines, growth rates, and trimming; and where trees could be placed by code, as it is a County road.

Ms. Devries distributed pictures and read a letter she had written.

Mr. Godfrey advised that the cost to relocate the tree would be \$6,000.00, and in addition the County would have to be reimbursed \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 for the funding of the tree alone, which does not include the cost of the MOT traffic control – so, approximately \$11,000.00 to relocate the tree. If it were determined that the tree was to be moved it would be cheaper to cut the tree down, which would be approximately \$3,000.00 not including MOT costs for closing the road again. He stated he had received no other complaints and all comments he received had been positive.

Mr. Devries stated their home is unique on Gulf Boulevard and there is no other home from Redington to Sand Key that has the view they have on Gulf Boulevard. The tree takes away the view and the LED lights are too bright, and shine in their window.

Ms. Martha Vasquez, 2500 Gulf Boulevard, stated that when she bought her condo, there was a palm tree that blocked their view but that it has grown and the view is much better now. She stated that she sympathized with what a person had bought changing because Morgan Park, which is next door to her, was not open to the public, so the beach behind her home was like a private beach until it was opened to the public to help the City qualify for beach nourishment. She stated it has impacted their quality of life as now there is a public beach access on both sides of her home which hadn't been the case when she bought it. She advised that things do change in the City that you will have no control over.

Consensus of Council was to take no action.

Motion passed 7-0.

9. Update on Gulf Boulevard Safety & Beautification Committee Meeting. (To be presented by Mayor Baldwin) (see backup)

Mayor Baldwin stated that the first phase of the Gulf Boulevard Improvement Project, the pedestrian islands and the bike racks, had been completed. He advised that the next recommendation of the committee would be upgrades to the intersection of Causeway and Gulf Boulevards, the two main entrances to the City, and undergrounding the electric lines at the Marina. Mr. Godfrey stated since the condominiums did not want landscaping around the bike racks those funds would be spent elsewhere. He advised that the County would be checking the transportation impact fees from Clearwater that are generated whenever they add a new building on Clearwater Beach, as that traffic goes through the City. He stated that the design by Copley Design Associates is one of the best he has seen and something the City should be proud of. Councilmember Schwerer suggested adding accent lighting to the trees on the pedestrian islands. Mr. Godfrey advised the Sanibel fixtures were used because with other types of directional lighting that is focused on the trees and foliage sometimes vehicles lose sight of the pedestrians. He stated that adding additional lighting to the design could be discussed with Duke Energy and at the next Council meeting.

10. Consideration of a two-year term reappointment of Calvin Warren and Dean Scharmen, from the City of Indian Rocks, Beach as representatives for Group C Cities of the Technical Management Committee, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste. (see backup)

MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Notaro and seconded by Councilmember Schwerer for the two-year term reappointment of Calvin Warren and Dean Scharmen, from the City of Indian Rocks, Beach as representatives for Group C Cities of the Technical Management Committee, Pinellas County Department of Solid Waste.

Motion passed 7-0.

11. Consideration of reappointment to the Park and Recreation Board. (City Clerk) (see backup)

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach and seconded by Vice Mayor Notaro to reappoint Robert Sample to the Park and Recreation Board for a two-year term.

Motion passed 7-0.

12. Consideration of Resolution 2015-02, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Belleair Beach, Florida, Authorizing Signatures Which are to Appear for Purchases of Certificates of Deposit, City Check Writing, Withdrawal and Transfer of Funds, Wire Transfers and Any Other Financial Transaction on the Part of the City, Instructing Any Financial Institution to Accept Any Certified Copy of This Resolution as Evidence of Legal Authority Over City Accounts; and Establishing an Effective Date. (see backup)

MOTION was made by Councilmember Schwerer and seconded by Councilmember Krach for Resolution 2015-02.

Motion passed 7-0.

13. Mayor and Council Comments.

Councilmember Gunn had no further comments.

Councilmember Schwerer stated the BIG-C presented their budget and Pinellas County would be paying the FS&BPA Beach Watch dues, and the BIG-C annual dues would be \$100.00 this year. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council spoke regarding sea-level rise and that cities need to consider this as part of their long-term stormwater planning. The fifty-year projection for Tampa Bay was three feet.

Councilmember Krach had no further comments.

Councilmember Pietrowski stated that landscaping vehicles had been parking on the median of Gulf Boulevard again and the PCSO needs to step up the enforcement of no parking in the median.

Councilmember Cohen stated she has received compliments from non-residents on how beautiful the landscaping on Gulf Boulevard was. Mayor Baldwin said he had received compliments also.

Vice Mayor Notaro stated she had attended seminars on the National Flood Insurance Program. She complimented City Manager Gonzalez on her work on the CRS program to get the residents the discount on their flood insurance.

Mayor Baldwin stated the employee evaluations from City Council for Nancy and Patti were "off the charts, per usual" and thanked them. He asked if

there would be interest for an ordinance regarding temporary roofs, such as tarps, which the Code does not address. All agreed for City Attorney Marino to write an ordinance. He also advised the density and traffic on Clearwater Beach is having a big impact on Belleair Beach. It was agreed to have someone from the MPO come to the June meeting.

14. City Attorney Comments.

City Attorney Marino advised that Crown Castle, LLC, a telecommunications company, is seeking application for right-of-way rights. He had sent a letter with technical questions to them and is awaiting an answer. He advised he may be a little late to the June meeting.

15. City Manager Comments.

City Manager Gonzalez stated that at the last meeting Fire Chief D' Angelo, of the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District, had asked for Council's support regarding EMS funding and reinstating Station 26. All agreed to support the PSF&R District. She reminded everyone the photo shoot for the Quality Cities issue would be at 5:15pm before the June City Council meeting.

ADJOURN

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Dennis Calvin, 2900 Gulf Boulevard, inquired regarding the landscaping around the bike racks. City Manager Gonzalez stated it had been the consensus not to do the landscaping per the condominium's requests so as not to draw attention to the bike racks.

Mayor Baldwin offered everyone's sincere condolences and their thoughts and prayers to Vice Mayor Notaro in the passing of her husband, Mr. Michael R. Notaro, Jr.

Date Approved

APPROVED: _____
Rob Baldwin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Patricia A. Gentry, CMC, City Clerk