

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

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

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

1. Approval of Agenda.

MOTION was made by Councilmember Chandler and seconded by Vice Mayor Schwerer to amend and approve the Agenda to remove Item 6 and add Item 2a., Sergeant Peter Doyle of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO).

Motion passed 7-0.

2. Approval of May 1, 2017, City Council Meeting Minutes.

MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Schwerer and seconded by Councilmember Krach to approve the May 1, 2017, City Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed 7-0.

a. PCSO Sergeant Doyle introduced two of his shift Deputies. He reminded everyone to continue to lock their vehicles to prevent burglaries and stolen vehicles, and he also reminded Residents that if they see an unusual amount of increased PCSO activity in their neighborhood to remain in their homes – do not come outside. He stated that if they would like information regarding the activity to please call the Sheriff's Office. City Council thanked the Deputies for their work.

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 June 15, 2017, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

MOTION was made by Councilmember Chandler and seconded by Councilmember Krach to approve the Proclamation.

Motion passed 7-0.

Regular Agenda:

- 5. Consideration of approving the Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County and its Municipalities for the extension of the Penny for Pinellas Infrastructure Sales Surtax from 2020-2030. (see backup)**

Discussion followed that the tax had been in place since 1990 and this extension would carry it through 2030; that the money was used for roads, trails, stormwater improvements and bridges, including the Belleair Beach Causeway Bridge, and that the money is distributed by population.

MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Schwerer and seconded by Councilmember Chandler to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Pinellas County and its Municipalities for the extension of the Penny for Pinellas Infrastructure Sales Surtax from 2020-2030.

Motion passed 7-0.

- 6. Consideration of Encroachment Easement by and between the City of Belleair Beach, Florida, a municipal corporation of the State of Florida, and James C. Ayscue and Cheryl M. Ayscue. (City Attorney) (see backup)**

Removed from the Agenda.

- 7. Request from Aluminum and Screening Contractor to change the City Ordinance on wall height of a screened enclosure of a swimming pool. (see backup)**

City Manager Gonzalez advised that the City Engineer had reviewed the City Code and stated that the City may want to review and consider a change in the Code.

Discussion followed regarding a change in the code; the maximum height if a change were to be considered; and that the normal industry standard deemed to be structurally sound is four feet above the fascia.

Consensus of Council was to have the City Attorney prepare an Ordinance for consideration at the July meeting stating the maximum height of a screen enclosure would be the fascia height plus four feet.

8. Update on Gulf Boulevard Beautification Project. (Community Services Director)

Community Services Director Lynn Rives gave an update on City projects:

- The bid opening for the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Project for City entry signs and Morgan Park landscaping would be Thursday, June 8
 - He expected to have the numbers for replacing the street lights at the Marina soon
 - The numbers for the undergrounding of lines from the south pole at the Marina to the City limit should be in by the middle of July and then some of those poles would be removed
 - He is expecting to receive a price for the 49 utility wires that cross Gulf Boulevard as part of the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Project approved by the BIG-C
 - The construction will begin on June 19th at the Gulf Boulevard intersection
 - There will be some landscaping done at the Belleair Shore easements
 - The Marina landscaping project will be put out for bid
 - He will be bringing proposals to City Council for the digital sign at the Gulf Boulevard intersection soon
- 9. Consideration of Appointment of Ms. Caroline T. Cornely, 2204 Bayshore Drive, to the Board of Adjustment. (City Clerk) (see backup)**

MOTION was made by Councilmember Chandler and seconded by Vice Mayor Schwerer to appoint Ms. Caroline T. Cornely, 2204 Bayshore Drive, to the Board of Adjustment.

Ms. Cornely introduced herself and thanked City Council.

Motion passed 7-0.

10. Mayor and Council Comments.

Councilmember Pietrowski stated he did not feel any additional time or money should be spent on the issue of undergrounding of utilities until the petition from the 51% of Residents that do want the undergrounding had been received.

Discussion followed regarding money that had been spent, an assessment; and securing of a loan.

Councilmember Cohen advised that the Bellevue Estates Island Ad Hoc Committee for Undergrounding (BEIAHCU) had met immediately prior to the City Council meeting and that Secretary Glenn Gunn would provide the minutes of the meeting showing that all of Councilmember Pietrowski's concerns had been addressed and included.

Councilmember Cohen inquired about the electronic sign on East Bay/West Bay Drive advising of the drive time to Gulf Boulevard. City Manager Gonzalez stated that Pinellas County had told her that the sign was in place near Largo Central Park and would be operational in approximately three months.

Councilmember Chandler stated she wished to address the email that Councilmember Gunn had received from a resident of Belleair Beach and had asked City Manager Gonzalez to "please forward this to all Council Members for their consideration." Councilmember Chandler wanted to comment on two points regarding the email, the first - that she did not "hold any validity to that email because there was no signature as to who it was from" and second - that her thoughts on the content of the email about the City Attorney and City Manager were: they are paid employees, and she felt it is better for Council and the Residents not to have an attorney that lives on a certain street or that may be apt to do what is in the best interest of that street or neighborhood as opposed to what is best for the Residents of the entire City. She felt that if an employee happened to live in the City, that's fine, and if they don't live in the City, it's fine.

Councilmember Gunn thanked Community Improvement Officer Jack White for taking care of the Airbnbs in the City. She stated that regarding the email Councilmember Chandler was referring to: "I was forwarding a note that I got from a Citizen, and being on City Council I believe we work for the Citizens so I wanted to pass that on for consideration."

Councilmember Chandler agreed that they work for the citizens and discussion followed that Council was appreciative of the forwarding of the email; "holding much stock" in something that was not signed; could Councilmember Gunn "supply, if they [the sender] emailed, their email address, or who it was."

Councilmember Gunn stated she could check and ask, but she had asked the Resident if “they had wanted their name attached to it...but for some reason they didn’t feel comfortable.”

Councilmember Krach also thanked Community Improvement Officer White for the job he was doing. He advised that he sees commercial vehicles in driveways, and on-street parking on the weekends. He asked if the Sheriff’s Deputies could address those issues on the weekends.

Vice Mayor Schwerer thanked Staff for their dedication on the budget work currently being done.

Mayor Notaro advised she had attended the PCSO awards ceremony. She stated that the City’s Lt. Kenneth Euler had been awarded a gold star at the ceremony.

11. City Attorney Comments.

City Attorney Marino stated that the Florida Senate had passed SB 80 regarding abuse of public records requests for profit. He also congratulated Mr. White for officially becoming the City’s Town Marshal. He also advised he would not be able to attend the July Council meeting.

12. City Manager Comments.

City Manager Gonzalez stated that Staff continued to work on the budget, and reminded everyone that the July City Council meeting would be on July 10th.

Mr. Glenn Gunn stated he would like to ask a question as a member of the Bellevue Estates Island Ad Hoc Committee on Undergrounding. He asked Councilmember Pietrowski [regarding his Councilmember Comments] “was that a personal opinion or an opinion of the Constituents on your street?”

Councilmember Pietrowski advised that there are “people on the street that are interested and wanting to know why part of the City is getting it [undergrounding of utilities] and part of the City is not, and they said if there’s going to be a bond being set up they would like to be included in it and have the whole City get underground[ing], and not just part of it.”

Mr. Gunn stated that was a good point as people on Harrison Avenue had expressed interest also.

ADJOURN

MOTION was made by Councilmember Krach to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed 7-0.

July 10, 2017
Date Approved

APPROVED: Leslie Ford Notaro
Leslie Ford Notaro, Mayor

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