



**Special City Council Meeting
City of Belleair Beach, Florida**

**Monday, November 18, 2019
Community Center, 5:30PM**

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
AGENDA**

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

1. Authorize the City Manager to Hire Additional Sheriff, Police, or Private Security to Provide Protection at all Council Meetings and Establish a Safety and Protection Plan for City Council Meetings. (Requested by Mayor Manzo)

Mayor Joseph Manzo email dated November 5, 2019. To comply with Florida's Sunshine Law, please do not have any interaction between or response from the other Council Members concerning the email from Mayor Manzo.

Adjournment

Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for such purposes may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. The law does not require the City Clerk to transcribe verbatim minutes, therefore, the applicant must make the necessary arrangements with a private reporter or private reporting firm and bear the resulting expense. Any person with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should call 727.595.4646, ext 124 or fax a written request to 727.593.1409.

Patricia A. Gentry, CMC
City Clerk

Patti Gentry

From: Joseph Manzo <mayormanzo@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 05, 2019 9:45 AM
To: Lynn Rives; Patti Gentry; June VanScoyoc; mleiner@pcsonet.com
Subject: Sheriff Protection at Belleair Beach Council Meetings

Dear Captain Leiner and City Manager Rives:

At last evening's city council meeting, we began the meeting with four sheriff's deputies and finished with none. While there certainly is no need, typically, for four officers, there is always a need for at least one. Again, there was a breakdown in Sheriff coverage, and it's not the first time. Recall the dangerous situation that happened when former city attorney Paul Marino and his supporters disrupted the May council meeting to the point of having me temporarily stop it and phone for sheriff coverage.

Perhaps you will say nothing happened last night - and perhaps you would be wrong. After the meeting, there were two separate confrontations in the parking lot involving the mayor and vice mayor. In my situation, the argument involved a citizen whose wife previously disrupted the September meeting, who repeatedly challenged me to a fistfight.

At my last meeting with Sheriff Gualtieri, he made it quite clear to me that "his men do not want to get involved in issues between citizens and the council at the meetings." So, perhaps as elected officials we should just wait until there is physical violence against one or more of the councilmembers and then we can address the issue. Or perhaps we can address the issue right now.

Here's my choice, as Mayor -- I am calling a special council meeting on November 18, 2019 at 5:30 to address this issue. The Sheriff's Office can bring whomever it feels needs to be there - or it can , bring no one at all - it is up to you. The "Action item" will be "Authorize the City Manager to Hire private security to provide protection at all council meetings and establish a safety and protection plan for city council meetings".

The City is now on notice that it is failing in its duty to protect its councilmembers - perhaps a quick call to the City Attorney will enlighten the City Manager as to what that means in terms of future liability to the City when (not if) someone finally gets hurt.

A copy of the letter is simultaneously being directed to Patti Gentry for distribution to all council members with the proviso there be no comment to me.

A copy of this letter is also being directed to the city attorney who should determine if this meeting, given the issue, is a qualified exception to the Sunshine Act.

To be clear, safety of the community is the number one goal of our strategic plan - and if we can not protect the council during and immediately after its meetings - we truly have a problem.

Mayor Joseph A. Manzo