

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, and when permitted or required by the subject matter, the Panama City Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, held on December 13, 2018.

ROLL

MAYOR MIKE THOMAS

COUNCILORS:

PAUL CASTO

PHIL CHESTER

GEOFF MCCONNELL

HECTOR SOLIS

CITY MANAGER:

MARIO GISBERT

CITY CLERK:

JO SMITH

CITY ATTORNEY:

AMY MYERS

Mayor Thomas called the Regular Meeting to order at 6 P.M. with all Councilmen, the City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney present.

Ms. Cameron Whitten of the Woodlawn United Methodist Church gave the invocation and Councilman Chester led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Thomas announced the upcoming Community Events.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting for Hurricane Michael Updates/Needs of October 18, the Regular Meeting of November 8 and the Special Meeting of November 26, 2018 were read. **Councilman Chester made the motion to approve the Minutes as written. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

Mayor Thomas asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda. There were none. **Councilman Chester made the motion to approve the Agenda as written. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**PRESENTATIONS**

1 **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CIVIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.** Councilman Chester introduced Ms. Aniyah Amedetohou and presented her with the Civic Achievement Award for exemplary service to the Beach Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Latina Reed, Club representative, spoke of Aniyah's contributions to the Club. The audience responded with applause.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (REGULAR NON-PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONSENT ITEMS)**

Mayor Thomas opened the Public Comments section of the meeting at 6:07 P.M. and invited comments.

1 Mr. Dave Otano, President of Coqui Disposal Services, spoke of his solid waste collection business and experience with EWS. He asked for the Council not to exclude his business from consideration of a Franchise Agreement.

2 Mr. Todd Ingram spoke of Ordinance 1484 and the City's growth in tourism since the 300 LSV cap was established. He said LSVs were regulated by the State and Federal Government.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Public Comments section at 6:12 P.M.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Smith read the Consent Agenda Items by title.

- 1        **RESOLUTION 19-20, NEW YEAR'S EVE STREET PARTY, BALL DROP AND ROAD CLOSURES.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach related to the New Year's Eve Street Party event; authorizing various road closures within Pier Park on December 29, 30 and 31, 2018 for the event's street party and ball drop; and providing an immediately effective date."*
  
- 2        **REVISION OF THE MASTER AUDIT LIST TO REMOVE OBSOLETE ITEMS.** *These items are to be removed from the Master Audit List. STAFF RECOMMENDS approval. By approval of this matter in the Consent Agenda, the City Council makes a finding of surplus for these items and approves their removal from the Master Audit List.*
  
- 3        **RESOLUTION 19-21, NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN, 110 SAN SOUCI STREET N.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an amount of \$2,463.25 to be liened on property located at 110 San Souci Street N for costs incurred by the City to abate nuisances located upon such property; authorizing the appropriate officers of the City to record the lien and notify interested parties of such lien; and approving an immediately effective date."*
  
- 4        **RESOLUTION 19-22, NUISANCE ABATEMENT LIEN, 9617 BEACH BLVD.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an amount of \$1,533.28 to be liened on property located at 9617 Beach Blvd. for costs incurred by the City to abate nuisances located upon such property; authorizing the appropriate officers of the City to record the lien and notify interested parties of such lien; and approving an immediately effective date."*
  
- 5        **RESOLUTION 19-23, BID AWARD - PARKS MULTI-FACILITY RESURFACING PROJECT.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with American Tennis Courts, Inc., related to the PCB Parks & Recreation Multi-Facility Resurfacing Project, in the amount of \$143,666.00."*
  
- 6        **RESOLUTION 19-24, JEEP BEACH JAM ROAD CLOSURES.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, authorizing temporary road closure of a portion of South Pier Park Drive and authorizing rerouting of traffic on a portion of Front Beach Road, on Saturday, May 18, 2019, for the "Jeep Beach Jam" Parade; and providing an immediately effective date."*
  
- 7        **RESOLUTION 19-25, BID AWARD- PARKS HEAVY DUTY VEHICLE.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation in the amount of \$24,881.89 for the purchase of a Toro Workman Utility Vehicle with Dump Bed; and providing an immediately effective date."*
  
- 8        **RESOLUTION 19-26, WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY REPLACEMENT ELECTRICAL BREAKER PURCHASE.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving the purchase of a Magnum Replacement Breaker for the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility from Eaton Corporation in the amount of \$12,441."*
  
- 9        **RESOLUTION 19-27, BID AWARD- PARKS IN-FIELD GROOMER.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with Jerry Pate Turf & Irrigation in the amount of \$18,386.49 for the purchase of a Toro SP3040 In-field Groomer."*
  
- 10       **RESOLUTION 19-28, BID AWARD- FRANK BROWN PARK CONCESSION MANAGEMENT & OPERATION SERVICES CONTRACT.** *"A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, approving an Agreement with Morris Enterprises in the amount of \$70,100 for Frank Brown Park Concession Management and Operation Services."*

11 **RESOLUTION 19-35, NORTH RICHARD JACKSON BLVD. ROAD CLOSURE.** *“A Resolution of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, authorizing temporary closures of portions of North Richard Jackson Boulevard on December 17, 2018 through December 20, 2018, for construction related to alleviate flooding in the area.”*

**Councilman Casto made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**ITEM 1 ORDINANCE 1465, RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE COLLECTION, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1465 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:17 P.M.

1 Ms. Karen Mathson, 166 Christopher Dr. Ms. Mathson spoke of the 1% of people who did not attend to their trash and that this Ordinance would not stop illegal dumping. She questioned the City being able to assess a franchise fee.

2 Mr. Tom Trossen, 107 Heron Turn, rep of Glades Owners’ Assn, asked if garbage companies had already been selected and how a resident would be able to verify if their provider was one of those selected by the City. He asked numerous other questions concerning the franchises and the City setting rates.

3 Mr. Burnie Thompson, 19272 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson questioned if this Ordinance affected businesses. Councilman McConnell stated that businesses were already required to have garbage service. Mr. Thompson said there were numerous people who did not need to pay for trash service for various reasons.

4 Mr. Tom Klomps, 614 Poinsettia Ct. Mr. Klomps said comments had been made about short-term rentals not having sufficient trash pickups and he did not see this Ordinance solving that problem. He questioned the justification for the Ordinance and what benefit it would be for the residents.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:30 P.M. Ms. Myers said the contractors had been selected in the Franchise Agreements. Regarding rates, the City reserved the rights to change the rates. This Ordinance was drafted only for residential collection. Councilman McConnell said the purpose was not to charge fees. Ms. Myers said the Ordinance gave the Council the right and authority to set rates in the future. Mr. Trossen asked from the audience that the language be removed.

Ms. Myers continued that one section of the Ordinance had been amended to add a grace period so that no civil penalties would be given prior to February 1<sup>st</sup> to allow residents who needed to acquire garbage service the time to do so. Councilman McConnell suggested delaying to March 1<sup>st</sup> to allow 90 days. Councilman Casto asked about the 2% Franchise Fee. Ms. Myers said that was included in Item 14, Franchise Agreements, and not this Ordinance. Related to yard debris, Ms. Myers said this Ordinance addressed residential dwelling garbage, trash and waste materials which would contemplate yard debris and white goods. Councilman Solis said this Ordinance did not stop the City from picking up yard debris, and currently spent almost \$500,000 per year picking up the yard debris at no cost to the residents.

**Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve Ordinance 1465 but strike the authority to set rates and move the grace period to March 1, 2019. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 2 ORDINANCE 1475, AMENDING LDC REPEALING HEIGHT INCENTIVES, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1475 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:38 P.M.

1 Ms. Genese Hatcher spoke of Height Incentives recently approved for resorts but yet this Ordinance prohibited residences from having increased height. She spoke of the additional three feet in height to be able to park under houses.

2 Mr. Burnie Thompson, 19272 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson spoke of resorts being built near Mike's Diner and the deal made for a special road in exchange for an affirmative vote for the Height Incentive. He spoke of Tallahassee politicians making special deals.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:42 P.M. He stated that he did make a deal for a road with the developer in public at the meeting even though he personally agreed with Councilman Solis that the City should have stayed with fifteen stories. He said this road would help the community with the extra traffic. Councilman Chester asked Mr. Leonard about the parking issue involving Mr. Allen. Councilman Solis clarified that he had not voted for the Height Incentives, and that the road approved with one of the Height Incentives was a condition of approval, not a deal. He spoke of the benefits of the road and that all comments had been made in the open.

**Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve Ordinance 1475. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 3 ORDINANCE 1477, AMENDING LDC RELATED TO UTILITIES IN SCENIC CORRIDORS, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1477 by title. Mayor Thomas asked if all utilities were aware of the changes being made and their responsibility to meet those requirements. Ms. Myers said this contemplated all of the Scenic Corridors. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:46 P.M. There were no comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:47 P.M.

**Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Ordinance 1477. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 4 ORDINANCE 1478, AMENDING CHAPTER 19 RELATED TO PROHIBITING UTILITIES ON SOUTH SIDE OF SCENIC CORRIDORS, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1478 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:48 P.M. and invited comments. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 6:49 P.M.

**Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Ordinance 1478. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 5 ORDINANCE 1479, AMENDING LDC RELATED TO TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD OVERLAY DISTRICTS, 2<sup>ND</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1479 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 P.M.

1 Mr. Tom Trossen, 107 Heron Turn. Mr. Trossen spoke of the development of the closed Hombre Golf Course and if this Ordinance would apply to that property.

There were no further comments. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:50 P.M. Ms. Myers explained that this Ordinance would allow Traditional Neighborhood Overlay Districts in residentially-zoned properties. The Code already allowed TNODs in commercial areas zoned CH so she did not believe it would materially affect Hombre.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Ordinance 1479. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Councilman Solis	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Mayor Thomas	Aye

**ITEM 6 ORDINANCE 1480, ST. JOE LARGE SCALE COMP PLAN AMENDMENT, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1480 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:55 P.M. and invited comments. There were none. He closed the Public Hearing at 6:55 P.M.

Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve Ordinance 1480. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Councilman Solis	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Mayor Thomas	Aye

**ITEM 7 ORDINANCE 1481, ST JOE REZONING, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1481 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:56 P.M. and invited comments from the public. There were none. He closed the Public Hearing at 6:56 P.M.

Councilman Casto made the motion to approve Ordinance 1481. Second was by Councilman Chester and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Councilman Solis	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Mayor Thomas	Aye

**ITEM 8 ORDINANCE 1483, AMENDING COASTAL MANAGEMENT ELEMENT OF THE COMP PLAN-SEA LEVEL RISE, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING, PUBLIC HEARING.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1483 by title. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:57 P.M. and invited comments from the public. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 6:57 P.M.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Ordinance 1483. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Councilman Solis	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Mayor Thomas	Aye

**ITEM 9 RESOLUTION 19-29, HORIZONTAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMPLETION AGREEMENT (HICA) FOR BREAKFAST POINT PHASE 3C, PUBLIC HEARING.** Ms. Myers read Resolution 19-29 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 19-29. Second was by Councilman Casto and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:

Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Councilman Solis	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Mayor Thomas	Aye

**ITEM 10 PLAT APPROVAL, BREAKFAST POINT PHASE 3C, PUBLIC HEARING.**

Ms. Myers said Staff had reviewed the Plat and the outstanding infrastructure was now secured by the bond approved in the HICA. She said the Plat met all procedural and substantive requirements of our Code and Florida Statute. Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:59 P.M. and invited comments. There were none. He closed the Public Hearing at 6:59 P.M.

**Councilman Chester made the motion to approve the Breakfast Point 3C Plat. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 11 PLAT APPROVAL, NAUTILUS COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC HEARING.** Mayor Thomas opened the Public Hearing at 6:59 P.M. and invited audience comments.

1 Mr. Tom Klomps, 614 Poinsettia Ct. Mr. Klomps said this was a large development which would bring a lot of traffic including City workers going through this area to reach the traffic light at Nautilus. He spoke of the new Fire Station and how they would get onto the Parkway with congested traffic.

Ms. Myers said the Plat was reviewed by Staff and that the Plat was only the conveyance of land. She said an error had been corrected in the certificate and she could confirm that the mylar was correct for the Council members to sign. There was no infrastructure to dedicate to the City so no need for a HICA. The Mayor asked if there were further comments and there were none. He closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 P.M.

Councilman McConnell said Nautilus was a big concern and he knew there was the issue with the traffic light system. He said there were many issues on the traffic side and he was in constant communication with the County on the traffic light system. Unfortunately, a lot of the fiber optic infrastructure had been damaged across the bridge by the hurricane. He said no one thought the new roadway to Nautilus would solve all the traffic problems.

Councilman Solis said the Council did not approve the commercial entities to build. They merely approve the Plat. As far as the new Fire Station, the private road would have quick access to Nautilus. A Fire Station in the center of the City would cut response time and centrally locate emergency vehicles.

Councilman Chester said that intersection also had a lot of pedestrian traffic which would also stop traffic.

Mayor Thomas said this would not alleviate the traffic congestion but the intersection would be better for the Fire Station due to the turn lanes. The City employees were entering the Parkway at an unsafe unlit road at Harley which was dangerous. The rerouting would put the same number of employees on the Parkway but at a safer intersection. He explained the delays in starting the second phase of Bay Parkway.

**Councilman McConnell made the motion to approve the Nautilus Commercial Development Plat. Second was by Councilman Solis and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 12 PLAT APPROVAL, SHOREWALK SUBDIVISION, PUBLIC HEARING.**

Ms. Myers said Staff recommended continuing the Public Hearing until January 10, 2019. There were no objections.

**ITEM 13 ORDINANCE 1484, CONFIRMING LSV CAP, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1484 by title. She said this Ordinance confirmed the 300 cap and the only substantive change was to allow the medallions to be shared among affiliated businesses which would afford some flexibility for the business owners. The Mayor asked if there were any questions for Staff and there were none.

Councilman Chester asked about the County's Ordinance and Ms. Myers stated she had no knowledge of a County ordinance. Councilman McConnell stated that the 300 cap had existed for two years and he did not see any reason to change the number. Ms. Myers said this Ordinance memorialized and made permanent the number for the future

**Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Ordinance 1484. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Nay</b>

**ITEM 14 RESOLUTION 19-33, BID AWARD- NON-EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS.** Ms. Myers read Resolution 19-33 by title and explained how the City solicited information from the existing haulers on the island and their willingness to enter into a Franchise Agreement with the City. The form of the Agreement was also advertised, and amendments were made to the form during the process, and the final version was in the Agenda Package. She explained that of the six haulers (BCC Waste Solutions, Mr. Trash, Nate's Sanitation, Waste Management, Coqui Disposal Services and Waste Pro) that responded, Coqui was not included in this Resolution based on the responses received. It appeared that company did not have lengthy and extensive residential service on the island although it was clear he had commercial business on the island. Mayor Thomas asked if the company had any residential business in the City and Ms. Myers responded affirmatively. Councilman McConnell stated that he thought Coqui should be added to the list because the intent had been not to impact the businesses. There were no further questions or comments.

**Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Resolution 19-33 with the addition of Coqui Disposal Services. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 15 RESOLUTION 19-34, BID AWARD- DISASTER DEBRIS REMOVAL, REDUCTION AND HAULING SERVICES.** Ms. Myers read Resolution 19-34 by title and explained that the City had solicited bids from interested haulers and received fourteen responses. The Qualifications Review Committee reviewed the proposals and ranked the firms, CrowderGulf, AshBritt Inc., and Phillips and Jordan, Inc., as the top three firms. She said Staff recommended a five-year contract be awarded to all three firms and at the January meeting, a Task Order would be presented to one firm, CrowderGulf, to finish some of the City's removal, reduction and hauling services. The Mayor asked if there were any questions of Staff and there were none.

**Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 19-34. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 16 ORDINANCE 1482, CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING CIVIL SERVICE BOARD POWERS, 1<sup>ST</sup> READING.** Ms. Myers read Ordinance 1482 by title and explained this Ordinance would dissolve the current Civil Service Board and reorganize it as a Grievance Board in the City's Charter. She said substantively the biggest change was that they were no longer given the authority to hire employees. Councilman McConnell asked if all terminations or disciplinary actions would go back to the Board and Ms. Myers responded affirmatively. He said the hiring process would go through the City Manager more quickly and Ms. Myers responded yes.

Councilman Casto said the Civil Service Board had been in existence for fifty years, and by making them merely a Grievance Board, this would remove 95% of their duties. He said the Commissioners spend hours interviewing potential employees and he could not understand why the Board should be changed. He continued that the Board had agreed to meet twice per month to speed up the process of interviewing potential employees. He recommended having a Workshop with the Civil Service Board prior to voting on this Ordinance. He said he thought most of the Department Heads opposed doing away with the Civil Service Board and that the Board would not stay together if only meeting occasionally to hear a grievance.

Mayor Thomas said the Department Heads did not bring the matter to him although he had talked with all of them. He said when the City was short on Staff, new employees needed to be hired as quickly as possible. He said hiring a new employee even with meeting twice per month would take three weeks. He reasoned that if a Department needed personnel, then the Department Head needed to do the interviewing. He said Federal laws and State laws now took care of employee treatment where in the past, they had not done so. The Mayor said this would still leave the protection of a grievance board.

Councilman McConnell asked Ms. Myers about timing in order to be placed on the April ballot. Ms. Myers said if the intention was to be on the April ballot, the City would need an adopted Ordinance and Resolution creating the ballot language by the end of qualifying. She explained the different timing options.

Mayor Thomas said he did not have a problem with the job performed by the current Civil Service Board. He said it was the process in delaying hiring when the City needed employees. Discussion ensued and Councilman Casto said the change did not have to occur this April. He recommended a workshop and to receive input from the employees.

Councilman Solis said the voters would make the final decision and he had spoken with some of the Department Heads who said this change would help. He said he did not oppose moving forward.

Councilman Chester said he had served on the Civil Service Board and many nights, he had reviewed applications to narrow the qualified applicants for interviews. This would place the burden then on the Department Heads to do that time-consuming task. He said narrowing the applicants down to the top ten saved the City time. Mayor Thomas said having the Department do the interviewing would save time.

**Councilman Solis made the motion to approve Ordinance 1482. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by majority roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Nay</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 17 RESOLUTION 19-32, BUDGET AMENDMENT #7 FOR NEW POLICE VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT.** Ms. Myers read Resolution 19-32 by title. The Mayor asked if there were any questions and there were none.

**Councilman Chester made the motion to approve Resolution 19-32. Second was by Councilman McConnell and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote recorded as follows:**

<b>Councilman Chester</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman McConnell</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Solis</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilman Casto</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Thomas</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**ITEM 18 CITY CLERK POSITION- DISCUSSION RELATED TO HIRING AND COMPENSATION.** Mr. Gisbert said eight people had applied to date but some were disqualified due to the mandatory typing speed. Ms. Smith was included in all but one interview, and one applicant withdrew. He presented the Council the top three applicants, with Ms. Bossert being the top applicant due to her experience with the City and knowledge of the system. He said all three applicants were well qualified.

Councilman Solis said he wanted more information about each applicant. Councilman McConnell asked if there would be one-on-ones with the applicants. Mr. Gisbert asked if that should occur during a Council meeting. Ms. Myers said the Council interviews would have to be in a public meeting. Councilman Solis said he wanted to talk



more with Mr. Gisbert, not the applicants. The matter would be brought back to the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **DELEGATIONS**

Mayor Thomas explained the Delegations period and opened this portion of the meeting at 7:31 P.M.

1 Mr. Burnie Thompson, 19272 Front Beach Road. Mr. Thompson spoke of comments made on Facebook and criminal indictments for the Tallahassee Mayor. He spoke of racketeering.

2 Mr. Tom Trossen, 107 Heron Turn, representative of the Glades Homeowners' Assn. Mr. Trossen thanked Ms. Kelly Jenkins and her crew picking up debris.

3 Ms. Joanne Weatherford, 6220 Thomas Drive. She said she was a member of Keep PCB Beautiful and spoke of the cigarette butt recycle program. She asked to install those units at the City Pier and the City Parks. She mentioned that they were applying for a grant and if awarded, would like to install the coke bins at the City Pier. Mayor Thomas said Mr. Ponek would meet with her after the meeting to discuss the issues.

4 Mr. Frank Sewell, Hidden Pines neighborhood. Mr. Sewell said Thomas Drive was getting worse by the day and he asked the time frame for the City's work on the new manholes.

5 Ms. Genese Hatcher. Ms. Hatcher asked about the stench from the Wastewater Plant and if anything could be done. She mentioned priorities.

6 Ms. Karen Mathson, 166 Christopher. Ms. Mathson said the stench was near Highway 79 & 98 when she moved to the beach. She said the 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Treatment Plant did not smell. She questioned the overhead wires and the weight of the wires.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Delegations period at 7:42 P.M.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

Ms. Myers stated she had no report.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Gisbert read the open bids and available jobs.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Solis asked Mr. Shortt to comment about the Thomas Drive projects. Mr. Shortt explained that the Manhole contract had already started prior to the hurricane but no contractors were doing anything except disaster work for the 6 to 8 weeks afterward. Royal American, the contractor, had remobilized and about half of the manholes were replaced. The consultant who was tasked to move the utilities on Thomas Drive lost use of their offices and their people were doing a lot of the disaster relief work to support the City. They were back on task now and a 90% completed set of plans had been submitted to the County on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Although the beach did not have the impacts as those across the bridge, some of the people we use were impacted. He said the projects were back up to speed now.

Regarding the stench, Mr. Shortt said Staff had tried many options but there was not a magic bullet to eliminate the smell. Chemicals and scrubbers were tried but some of the equipment was at the end of its lifespan. Mr. Shaeffer was reviewing competitive equipment and different chemicals for the system, but historically, the winter had the most smell because of the northern winds. He continued that some of the ozone units to be replaced were \$500,000 and chemicals would reduce the smell some but not totally eliminate the smell.

Councilman McConnell said one of the Ordinances today addressed burying the overhead lines and the schedule for the Capital Improvements projects were posted on the wall for all interested. He also reported problems with the sole asphalt plant in the County, damaged by the storm, which would impact all road construction in the County. He urged the people to be patient as the effects of the hurricane were County-wide.

Councilman Casto thanked the Department Heads and Staff for the outstanding job during the last two months after one of the worst hurricanes ever hitting the area.

Mayor Thomas said he did not do Facebook but had been told what was being said. He said the traffic congestion would continue probably for another year due to the amount of cleanup to do. He reminded that he had been part of the meetings where events were canceled to make room for people here on the beach. He said the City had been very receptive to do anything to help Panama City and the other cities at this time. He said he would do all he could to make things better.


With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

READ AND APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> of January, 2019.

**IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FOREGOING MINUTES AND A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THESE MINUTES, THE FOREGOING MINUTES SHALL CONTROL.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk