

MINUTES of 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 August 27, 2020.

Mayor Sheldon called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

MAYOR MARK SHELDON
VICE MAYOR GEOFF MCCONNELL

COUNCILORS:

PAUL CASTO
PHIL CHESTER
MICHAEL JARMAN

Others present were City Manager Tony O'Rourke, Interim City Clerk Jo Smith, City Attorney Kevin Obos, Directors and members of the public and press.

Councilman Jarman gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sheldon called for additions and/or deletions to the agenda. Hearing and seeing none, **Councilman Casto moved to approve the agenda. Councilman Jarman seconded the motion. All were in favor by a roll call vote (5-0).**

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

PUBLIC COMMENTS - NON-AGENDA BUSINESS (LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES)

Mayor Sheldon opened the floor for non-agenda public comments.

1. **Ms. Colleen Swab with California Cycles** – Ms. Swab commented on the scooter ban. Ms. Swab discussed Hurricane Michael and COVID shutting down her business. Ms. Swab commented on Ordinance 1416 and requested more time to recoup her investment. Ms. Swab discussed complaints filed against her company.
2. **Mr. Gary Beck** - Mr. Beck spoke of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, crime syndicates, no legal assistance and media attacks.

Hearing and seeing no further comments, Mayor Sheldon closed the Public Comments section.

REGULAR AGENDA- DISCUSSION/ACTION

ITEM 1. RESOLUTION 20-142, ANNUAL STORMWATER ASSESSMENT FOR FY 2020-2021, PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Sheldon introduced Mr. Kevin Obos as the city's Acting Attorney. Mr. Obos read Resolution 20-142 by title only. Mayor Sheldon introduced Mr. Mark Lawson. Special Counsel Mark Lawson provided a brief explanation of the resolution and explained that public hearings for stormwater and fire assessments should be taken today. Mayor Sheldon opened the public hearing at 9:12 AM. Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Sheldon closed the public hearing at 9:12 AM. Mr. Lawson reported the process now was for Council to consider the resolution. Mayor Sheldon called for comments from Council.

Councilman Casto commended the city's Stormwater Department on how they handled the recent record rainfall. Councilman Casto noted that historical places in the city that had flooded in the past did not flood because of the assessment. Councilman Casto recommended approval. Mayor Sheldon called for further comments. Hearing and seeing none. **Councilman Jarman moved to approve Resolution 20-142. The motion was seconded by Councilman Casto. Mayor Sheldon asked the Clerk to call the roll. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote (5-0).**

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

ITEM 2. RESOLUTION 20-143, ANNUAL FIRE ASSESSMENT FOR FY 2020-2021, PUBLIC HEARING.

Mr. Obos to read Resolution 20-143 by title only. Mayor Sheldon introduced Mr. Lawson. Special Counsel Mark Lawson provided a brief explanation of the resolution. Mr. Lawson reported the assessment had been validated by the local court as well as the concept had been approved by the Florida Supreme Court.

Mayor Sheldon opened the public hearing at 9:17 AM.

1. Ms. Linda Herring – Ms. Herring inquired if the assessment went before the Council before it was put in, how the 4% would be used, and if it would continue forever.

Mayor Sheldon called for further public comment. Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Sheldon closed the public hearing at 9:18 AM. Special Counsel Lawson discussed the sliding 4% scale. Mr. Lawson reported it was up to Council if the assessment went on forever and Council would need to consider this from year to year.

Mayor Sheldon called for comments from Council. Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Sheldon discussed the city not having an ad valorem tax and using this funding to make sure the city's life safety team has adequate funding. Councilman Jarman further explained the sliding 4%. Ms. Herring inquired as to how the city came up with her assessment. Mr. Lawson briefly discussed the evidentiary report included in the packet. Further discussion regarding how the assessment was determined took place.

Mayor Sheldon called for further comments. Hearing and seeing none, **Councilman Chester moved to approve Resolution 20-143. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jarman. Mayor Sheldon asked the Clerk to call the roll. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote (5-0).**

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

Mr. Lawson reported the next step in the process would be to certify the CRA and these assessments to the roll. Mr. Lawson recommended that Council ratify and confirm all three assessment resolutions and certify them to the tax collector. Mr. Obos concurred with Mr. Lawson. Vice Mayor McConnell inquired if that could be done without an additional public hearing. Mr. Obos stated yes. **Councilman Chester moved to ratify and confirm the three assessments/resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Casto. Mayor Sheldon asked the Clerk to call the roll. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote (5-0).**

Councilman Jarman	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Councilman Chester	Aye
Councilman McConnell	Aye
Mayor Sheldon	Aye

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. O'Rourke reported, due to the recent tropical storm and hurricane, the city had been under double red flag conditions. Mr. O'Rourke added 16 citations had been issued to beachgoers who would not leave the water. Mr. O'Rourke asked beachgoers to please adhere to the double red flag standards to help keep our first responders safe.

Mr. O'Rourke reported approximately 28% of the customer survey had been returned at this point and asked residents to please complete and return the survey to the city.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Casto called for prayers for our neighbors in Louisiana and Texas. Councilmen Chester, Jarman and McConnell concurred with Councilman Casto. Mayor Sheldon asked City Manager O'Rourke, along that same line, to reach out to our neighbors to see if Panama City Beach could be of assistance.

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

*** ACTION ITEMS NOTED WITH AN ASTERISK ARE TAKEN BOTH BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PANAMA CITY BEACH REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY JOINTLY AND CONCURRENTLY.**


READ AND APPROVED this 8TH day of October, 2020.

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



Mark Sheldon, Mayor
City of Panama City Beach, Florida

ATTEST:



Lynne Fasone, MMC
City Clerk