

# Panama City Beach

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MINUTES of the April 25, 2024 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.

Vice Mayor Paul Casto called the April 25, 2024 meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

# **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pastor Derrick Bennett from the Ark Church led the invocation. Councilmember Mary Coburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# **OATHS OF OFFICE**

Vice Mayor Casto invited Mayor-Elect Tettemer to stand and be sworn in. Pastor Derrick Bennett administered Mayor-Elect Tettemer's Oath of Office. Vice Mayor Casto invited Mayor Tettemer to take his seat at the dais.

Vice Mayor Casto invited Councilman Jarman to stand and be sworn in. Mr. Lee Jarman administered Councilman Jarman's Oath of Office. Vice Mayor Casto invited Councilman Jarman to take his seat at the dais.

Vice Mayor Casto invited Councilman-Elect Register to stand and be sworn in. Mr. Scott Register administered Councilman-Elect Register's Oath of Office. Vice Mayor Casto invited Councilman Register to take his seat at the dais.

Vice Mayor Casto asked Clerk Fasone to call the roll.

#### **ROLL CALL**

COUNCILMEMBER MARY COBURN COUNCILMAN ETHAN REGISTER COUNCILMAN PAUL CASTO COUNCILMAN MICHAEL JARMAN MAYOR STUART TETTEMER

A quorum was present with all five members of City Council. Others present were City Manager Drew Whitman, Assistant City Manager Holly White, City Attorneys Cole Davis and Julia Maddalena, City Clerk Lynne Fasone, Directors, staff, and members of the public and press.

# **CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS**

RESOLUTION NO. 24-123, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA ACCEPTING THE RESULTS OF THE SUPER TUESDAY ELECTION.

Attorney Davis read Resolution 24-123 by title only. Mayor Tettemer called for approval of Resolution 24-123. Councilmember Coburn so moved. Councilman Jarman seconded the motion. Resolution 24-123 was unanimously approved by a (5-0) roll call vote.

Councilmember Coburn	Aye
Councilman Register	Aye
Vice Mayor Casto	Aye
Councilman Jarman	Aye
Mayor Tettemer	Aye

#### **ELECTION OF VICE MAYOR**

Mayor Tettemer passed the gavel to Councilman Casto. Mayor Tettemer nominated Councilmember Mary Coburn as Vice Mayor.

Councilman Casto passed the gavel to Councilman Jarman.

Councilman Jarman called for additional nominations from the floor. Vice Mayor Casto nominated Councilman Michael Jarman as Vice Mayor.

Councilman Jarman inquired if Council should use a roll call or paper ballots. Attorney Davis reported that it was at the pleasure of Council, either a roll call or paper ballots would be fine, however a paper ballot may be more efficient since Council has two nominees, which is how Council has done in the past. Discussion regarding how to vote took place. Attorney Davis reported that ultimately since the gavel was passed to Councilman Jarman he would decide, this was not something Council voted on. Councilman Jarman asked Clerk Fasone to distribute and collect the paper ballots.

Councilman Jarman announced there were two (2) votes for Councilmember Coburn and three (3) votes for himself (ballots attached). Attorney Davis reported at this point Vice Mayor Jarman should pass the gavel back to Mayor Tettemer. Councilman Casto congratulated Vice Mayor Jarman.

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Tettemer presented community announcements.

### APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Tettemer called for approval of the April 11, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Councilman Casto so moved. Vice Mayor Jarman seconded the motion. The April 11 meeting minutes were unanimously approved by a (5-0) roll call vote.

Councilmember Coburn	Aye
Councilman Register	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Vice Mayor Jarman	Aye
Mayor Tettemer	Aye

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Tettemer called for approval, additions and/or deletions to the agenda. Manager Whitman recommended adding a Proclamation recognizing April as "Fair Housing Month" to the Presentation section of the agenda. Vice Mayor Jarman moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Councilman Casto seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor of approval of the agenda as amended by a (5-0) roll call vote.

Councilmember Coburn	Aye
Councilman Register	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Vice Mayor Jarman	Aye
Mayor Tettemer	Aye

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

On behalf of City Council, Councilmember Coburn presented: (1) 5-years of service plaques to Firefighter Logan Cook and Firefighter Luke Leonard; (2) an Arbor Day Proclamation to City Biologist Tannyr Lamica Bush; (3) a "Motorcycle Awareness Month" Proclamation to Mr. Michael Jinenez and group; and (4) a "Fair Housing Month" Proclamation to Chuck Sowers, CPAR Governmental Affairs Committee Chair.

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

Mayor Sheldon opened the floor to non-agenda business public comments, limited to three minutes each.

- 1. Molly Allen, Lullwater Lake resident, Ms. Allen congratulated the new Mayor and offered her support. Ms. Allen invited everyone to attend the Bay Point 7th Annual Save the Bay Golf Tournament. Ms. Allen commented that she was proud of the City's Tree City USA designation, however, she was opposed to the Mandy Lane Connector Road which will take down old trees. Ms. Allen commented that she sent an email to Council and would like to make a public notification to Mosquito Control, FWC, City Staff and Parks & Recreation that since the CRA has done a drawn down on Lullwater Lake to move its weir, the water in the Lake had disappeared and was causing a smell and likely mosquitos.
- 2. <u>Cheryl Carquile (sp), the "Wagon Lady" Bay County resident</u>, Ms. Carquile reminded everyone that we live together in a wonderful beach community and asked everyone to work together. Ms. Carquile requested a no kill shelter on the Beach.
- 3. <u>Michael Jimenez, 123 Palm Bay</u>, Mr. Jimenez respectfully requested the City install permanent "Watch for Motorcycles" signs on the Beach, since PCB is an all-season motorcycle destination. Mr. Jimenez requested the City at least install the signs on Rt. 79, Back Beach Road, and Alf Coleman Road. Mr. Jimenez commented that he would request from the County that a similar sign be installed at the base of the Hathaway Bridge onto the Beach.
- 4. Scott Heilman, 137 Johnson Bayou Drive, Mr. Heilman commented on a dying tree in front of his house. Mr. Heilman requested the City take care of the tree, per the Land Development and City Codes. Mr. Heilman stated he would leave a packet of information regarding the same. Mr. Heilman further commented that he was used in a campaign commercial without his consent. Mr. Heilman noted this had an adverse effect on him physically and professionally. Mr. Heilman requested an apology and the assurance that he would not be used in the future. Mr. Heilman discussed being a Hometown Hero after Hurricane Michael and taking care of patients for free after Hurricane Michael.
- 5. <u>Peter Fischetti, 308 Tarpon Street</u>, Mr. Fischetti congratulated the Mayor and asked that Council take seriously the issues of the residents including the CRA, bus lanes and mobility. Mr. Fischetti asked Council to delay any work on CRA Segments 4.1 and 4.2 until public hearings were held.
- 6. <u>Jim Smith, 506 Tarpon Street</u>, Mr. Smith reported that he cannot hear Council when watching the council meetings live from home, other than the city attorney.
- 7. Captain Gary Wayne Beck, 2601 Beech Street Mr. Beck congratulated the new Council and commented on his name being forged on documents, someone trying to take his home and his inventions, child abuse, and his civil rights being violated.

Mayor Tettemer asked the public to keep the name calling out of this public forum. Mayor Tettemer called for further public comments. Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Tettemer asked City Manager Whitman to respond to the questions, other than Mr. Heilman's, which he would address.

Manager Whitman reported with respect to Ms. Allen's comments, he had not had an opportunity to read her email yet, however he would, including forwarding it to the appropriate agencies. Manager Whitman reported with respect to the "no kill zone," the City contracts with Bay County and recently Council discussed a spay and neuter program that can be discussed during the upcoming budget session, if Council so desires. Manager Whitman reported in reference to the motorcycle signs, there currently were a couple

on city streets, however, he would reach out to the Chipley DOT because some of the roads Mr. Jimenez mentioned were State Roads. Manager Whitman reported in reference to the tree on Johnson Bayou, he would look into it as some HOAs had taken over the rights and maintenance of trees. Manager Whitman reported in reference to the commercial, he was unsure what Mr. Heilman was referring to. Manager Whitman reported in reference to stopping the CRA, that would come from the dais, not the City Manager, that designs were pretty much complete so that would be costly. Manager Whitman reported he would address any audio problems. Lastly, Manager Whitman reported he had no control over Captain Beck's inventions nor the 14th circuit court, nor code enforcement issues in Bay County.

Mayor Tettemer responded to Mr. Heilman's comments - that they had already talked on the phone about this and by being featured in a commercial for the election was fully within the Mayor's rights. Mayor Tettemer added that as soon as he was made aware that Mr. Heilman's likeness was used, he pulled the commercial, even though he did not have too. Mayor Tettemer stated that he had apologized on the phone and would do so again here, however, appearing in a political commercial was part of the game and everything that was said was true.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Tettemer asked Clerk Fasone to read the Consent Agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-124, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE PURCHASE FROM CORE & MAIN, LP. OF 500, ¾ INCH SENSUS IPERL RESIDENTIAL WATER METERS FOR THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$63,625.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-125, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA, APPROVING A TASK ORDER WITH INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION SERVICES, LLC FOR CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$97,500.00.

ACTION ITEM, APPROVING THE CREATION OF A NEW POSITION OF UTILITIES OPERATIONS MANAGER FOR THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT AND DEFINING THE JOB CLASSIFICATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

**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 and authorizes disposal in any lawful manner.

Mayor Tettemer noted the Consent Agenda was available to Council. Vice Mayor Jarman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Register seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor of approval of the consent agenda by a (5-0) roll call vote.

Councilmember Coburn	Aye
Councilman Register	Aye
Councilman Casto	Aye
Vice Mayor Jarman	Aye
Mayor Tettemer	Aye

## **REGULAR AGENDA- DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

ITEM 1. DISCUSSION ITEM, EMERGENCY ALERTS / SIRENS.

Mayor Tettemer invited Chief Morgan to the podium.

Chief Morgan reported about three years ago he was asked by the dais to make a presentation about tornado sirens that was voted down at that time. Chief Morgan stated he would be happy to answer any questions.

Councilman Casto noted, if he remembered correctly, the Council concluded that this was old technology with the advances of cell phones and that Alter Bay had been doing a fantastic job notifying the community. Councilman Casto discussed the loss of 9 lives in the gulf and recommended the City spend the money on enhancing the City's lifeguard program. Councilman Casto discussed the City being responsible for maintaining the sirens and issues that might come with sirens not working properly. Mayor Tettemer concurred with Councilman Casto and noted he would be interested in seeing if there might be new and/or other technology the City could look at as well.

Chief Morgan reported about three years ago the hardware cost was approximately \$150,000, not including the infrastructure, the property to locate them on and maintenance. Chief Morgan an added expense of approximately \$100,000 was not unreasonable. Chief Morgan discussed that no system being perfect, that it would be a tool in the toolbox, and further discussed maintenance issues. Discussion regarding six sirens being placed within the City limits, not county-wide, took place.

Councilman Register noted he would like to hear from Attorney Davis on liability in light of what just happened in Maui. Attorney Davis reported he had not researched the issue; he had read the stories about what happened in Maui and noted he could look at the liability issue. A brief discussion regarding which agency would be responsible for activating the system took place.

Vice Mayor Jarman discussed researching the issue and speaking with a meteorologist. Vice Mayor Jarman reported the consensus was that sirens would not be a benefit to the already four systems in place: Alert Bay, weather radios, the news, and the wireless emergency alerts. A brief discussion regarding the cost, if sirens penetrate houses, monthly testing, and maintenance took place.

Mayor Tettemer noted exploring weather radios and public education may be the way to move forward. Mayor Tettemer discussed alert fatigue. Mayor Tettemer noted he'd like to see a full cost estimate.

Chief Morgan reported that the national average is 70% of tornado warnings tend to be false. Discussion regarding if other gulf coast communities use sirens took place.

Mayor Tettemer noted his preference would be to explore weather radios and give direction to rentals. Chief Morgan recommended everyone sign up for alerts at <u>AlertBay.org</u>.

Mayor Tettemer called for public comments.

- 1. Nancy Viejo, 117 Seaclusion Drive Ms. Viejo commented that she felt there were a lot of concerns about not having sirens. Ms. Viejo discussed turning her phone off at night. Ms. Viejo noted she was in favor of weather radios and requested that since the City has the ability to buy in bulk, that the City purchase weather radios and provide them at a cost to residents. Ms. Viejo further commented on the recent tornado that touched down around Thomas Drive.
- 2. <u>Captain Gary Wayne Beck</u> Captain Beck spoke in favor of tornado sirens.
- 3. <u>Gracy Krivyanik, 212 San Pablo Street</u>, Ms. Krivyanik spoke in favor of sirens and commented that sirens do work because she lived in Nashville, TN and had seen them work.

- 4. <u>Molly Allen, Lullwater Lake resident</u>, Ms. Allen commented on a tornado that hit the bleachers at Frank Brown Park. Ms. Allen commented on her Great Dane dog saving her and further spoke in favor of sirens.
- 5. <u>Jim Smith, 506 Tarpon Street</u>, Mr. Smith commented on Tyndall Air Force Base's one siren and sirens can be made out of Kevlar instead of metal. Mr. Smith commented on the testing being done during the day.

Mayor Tettemer called for further public comments. Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Tettemer thanked those who spoke. Mayor Tettemer recommended the City explore the costs, where sirens would be located, how they would be alerted, explore grant funding, the cost of maintenance, and other options including weather radios and clarity on how Alert Bay is triggered. Mayor Tettemer called for further comments from Council.

Councilmember Coburn suggested that Council perhaps have a company come and do a demonstration. Manager Whitman asked Council to keep in mind that if the City has a company come in and do a demonstration, the City would not be able to purchase that product from that vendor because that would violate the City's procurement rules.

Manager Whitman asked Council, as an entire Board, to provide him with clear directions on next steps. Manager Whitman added he would have the Communications Department start putting out alerts about how to be more aware during weather emergencies, such as tornados. Manager Whitman further added he would have staff start looking for grants for weather radios and see if the City would be able to give those away to residents. Manager Whitman asked Council, as an entire Board, to provide him with clear directions on the next steps.

Mayor Tettemer noted his preference would be to get full costing for the classic sirens, costing on weather radios, and grants for both of the classic sirens and weather radios, and cost of maintenance options. Mayor Tettemer called for further comments from Council.

Councilman Casto suggested perhaps the same company could sound the sirens for people to stay out of the water during double red flags days.

Vice Mayor Jarman noted he would like to see a cost analysis on the sirens and look at weather radios and grant options.

Manager Whitman thanked Council.

### ITEM 2. DISCUSSION ITEM, BOARD APPOINTMENTS.

Mayor Tettemer turned the floor over to Manager Whitman. Manager Whitman reported that anytime we have a new Council there are Boards seats to fill, however, he did not need action today. Manager Whitman added the four main seats that he requests direction on at the next meeting were: Chairman for the Audit Committee, Councilmember from the dais for the Estuary Committee and nominations for the TDC and the TPO. Manager Whitman reported there were a few other seats that he will talk with councilmembers about during their one-on-ones. Manager Whitman noted, lastly, he needed direction on the Planning Board vacancy; should the application process be opened back up or does Council want to go with the list of those how have already applied.

Mayor Tettemer noted he would be open to extending the Planning Board deadline for one more week. Councilmembers noted they were fine with opening it up for one more week. Mayor Tettemer suggested adding an action item to the next agenda of those four boards that absolutely need appointments. Councilmember concurred.

<u>CITY MANAGER REPORT</u> –Manager Whitman congratulated the new Council and asked those who were just sworn in to get with Ms. Lynne to sign their Oaths after the meeting.

<u>CITY ATTORNEY REPORT</u> – Attorney Davis welcomed the new Council and noted he looked forward to working with everyone.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS** – Mayor Tettemer called for comments from Council.

Councilmember Coburn suggested Council talk about the cable installers who were coming into our neighborhoods and yards causing damage. Councilmember Coburn recommended staff look at and tighten up the current ordinance, so they have to provide notification, to ensure they are licensed, and do not use missel boring, which some of them had been doing recently. Councilmember Coburn discussed damage to city and private property. Councilmember Coburn asked if Council would direct staff and legal to look into this. Councilmembers concurred. Manager Whitman concurred and added he would like to introduce some sort of bond requirement for cable companies working in our City limits.

Councilmember Coburn recommended that Scott with the CRA take a look at the water quality, mosquito control and odor at Lullwater Lake in all parts of the lake, not just by the weir. Councilmember Coburn congratulated the Mayor and Vice Mayor. Lastly, Councilmember Coburn noted she saw a lot of negative posts and text messages during the campaign and as public officials we should be held to higher standards.

Vice Mayor Jarman inquired about the timeframe on the construction of the weir. Manger Whitman responded 90 days and briefly described the process. Councilman Casto concurred and noted the same process had been used at Bay Point. Vice Mayor Jarman welcomed the Mayor, Councilman Register and thanked everyone for coming in today.

Councilman Register thanked everyone for coming in today as well and added that Council would address everyone's concerns, that the City had a great staff, great Chiefs and he would focus on public safety. Councilman Register noted that he had grown up here, was raising a family here, and understood the pros and cons of living in this great tourist community.

Councilman Casto congratulated the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilman Register and noted he looked forward to working with everyone. Councilman Casto added the City has some challenges, that Council would not always agree, however, hopefully the Council could work together to be productive. Councilman Casto noted he was ready for some cake!

Mayor Tettemer addressed the weir and noted he felt that it was the City moving on its own CRA schedule. Mayor Tettemer noted that he would like to see public hearings going forward with the CRA. Mayor Tettemer congratulated the Vice Mayor. Mayor Tettemer noted this was your public forum and while Council sees all the emails, etc. it was easier for Council to discuss everything here from the dais and make decisions here in public. Mayor Tettemer noted that his goal was to work together in truth and love with eyes on God.

Vith nothing further, Mayor Tettemer adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 10:23 a.m.
EAD AND APPROVED this 4 day of May, 2024.
Stuart Tettemer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lynne Fasone MMC City Clerk

City of Panama City Beach, Florida

<sup>\*</sup> ACTION ITEMS NOTED WITH AN ASTERISK ARE TAKEN BOTH BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PANAMA CITY BEACH REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY JOINTLY AND CONCURRENTLY. IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE FOREGOING MINUTES AND A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THESE MINUTES, THE FOREGOING MINUTES SHALL CONTROL.

Those voting for Councilman Jarman for Vice Mayor were: Councilman Casto, Councilman Jarman and Councilman Register.

Those voting for Councilmember Coburn for Vice Mayor were: Mayor Tettemer and Councilmember Coburn.

Ballot for Election of Vice Mayor
Choose One:
Councilman Casto
Councilmember Coburn
Councilman Jarman
Councilman Register

Ballot for Electi	on of Vice Mayor		**
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