



City Council Chambers
9101 Bonita Beach Road
Bonita Springs, Florida 34135

Bonita Springs City Council
Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Rick Steinmeyer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Invocation

Invocation provided by Rev. Ann Grandell from GulfShore Church.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Steinmeyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

Deputy Mayor Forbes motioned to allow Council Member Corrie to participate in the meeting remotely by phone; Council Member Purdon seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

The Clerk called the roll:

Present: 7 Mayor Steinmeyer, Council Member Bogacz, Council Member Purdon, Council Member Carr, Council Member Fullick, Deputy Mayor Forbes, Council Member Corrie (via phone)

Absent: 0

5. Approval of Agenda

No objections or change requests were noted.

6. Mayor's Welcome

Mayor Steinmeyer welcomed attendees.

7. Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

8. Proclamations and Presentations:

A. Presentation of audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022 by Jeff Brown, CPA, Partner with the audit firm of Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-154)

Jeff Brown, CPA with audit firm Ashley, Brown & Smith, presented highlights from the firm's audit of the City's financial statements for the fiscal year that ended September 30, 2022. Mr. Brown stated that there were no findings, and the firm has issued an unmodified "clean" opinion (audit report and audited financial statements on file in the Clerk's office).

B. Weston and Sampson Facilities Assessment Presentation (Green Sheet No. 23-07-151)

Wade Brown of Weston & Sampson and members of his team presented a summary of the findings, which included repair recommendations listed by priority level (report on file in the Clerk's office). Mayor Steinmeyer motioned to direct staff to look into the feasibility of repurposing the old library for shared use as a Sheriff substation and to house the City's Neighborhood Enhancement Department; Council Member Purdon seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 6-1, with Council Member Carr opposed.

9. Consent Agenda:

Deputy Mayor Forbes motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; Council Member Purdon seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approval of the June 21, 2023 Draft City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Confirm and ratify Resolutions extending Local State of Emergency due to Hurricane Ian (Green Sheet No. 23-07-144)
- C. Approve Fifteenth Addendum to Second Agreement for Law Enforcement Services (Green Sheet No. 23-07-143)
- D. Approve Resolution for budget transfer to Forrester Drive Drainage Improvement Project (Green Sheet No. 23-07-147)
- E. Approve amendment #2 for a time extension with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Imperial Bonita Estates/Quinn/Downs/Dean West of Imperial Parkways Infrastructure Improvement Project (Green Sheet No. 23-07-152)
- F. Authorize staff to partner with Lee County to transfer (at no cost to the City) three (3) parcels for a stormwater retention area in the Quinn/Downs/Dean neighborhood as part of the infrastructure project and accept the deed transfer from Lee County. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-153)
- G. Adopt Resolution approving the City's Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan (Green Sheet No. 23-07-155)

10. Mayor and Council Member Items:

A. Discussion regarding purchasing additional License Plate Readers for use by the Community Policing Unit of the Lee County Sheriff's Office. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-149)

Council Member Purdon discussed the benefits of resourcing the Community Policing Unit with two additional portable License Plate Readers for dedicated use in the City. Council Member Purdon further stated that the funds to purchase two additional LPR's are available in the General Fund Operating Contingency budget. Council Member Fullick motioned to approve the purchase of two portable License Plate Readers; Council Member Purdon seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 6-1, with Council Member Carr opposed.

B. Discussion regarding potential property acquisition along Goodwin Street and Terry Street. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-150)

Council Member Purdon discussed the reasons that he thinks it would be in the City's best interest to purchase the following three parcels: 10601 Goodwin Street, 10420 West Terry St, and 10430 West Terry St. Assistant City Manager Matt Feeney stated that two of the properties are listed for the sale, but not the third. Research would need to be conducted to determine purchasing costs, potential funding sources, and to identify potential uses for the parcels. Council Member Purdon motioned to direct staff to conduct research on the three parcels and come back to Council with findings; Mayor Steinmeyer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

11. City Attorney's Items:

A. First Reading of the following Ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 24 - FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION - TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF MARKET VALUE AS APPLIED TO EXISTING BUILDING IN SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION AND SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-146)

The Clerk read the Ordinance title into the record. Mayor Steinmeyer motioned to move to Second Reading, seconded by Council Member Carr. The Clerk called the roll; the motion carried unanimously.

12. City Manager's Items:

A. Approve scope of work of the scoping, drafting, and adoption of the State-mandated Comprehensive Plan Amendments, as determined by the City's Evaluation and Appraisal Review (E.A.R.), as well as the scoping of any optional Comprehensive Plan amendments. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-145)

Council Member Carr motioned to approve; seconded by Council Member Purdon. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion regarding potential regulations for traffic fatality memorials in public right of ways and direction to staff. (Green Sheet No. 23-07-148)

Assistant City Manager Matt Feeney informed Council that staff has researched several policies and it appears that the policy of St. Paul, MN closely aligns with the ideas previously expressed by Council. The policy allows the memorial to remain for six months from the date of its discovery or must be removed immediately if deemed hazardous. City Attorney Rooney will be bring a resolution back on a future agenda for Council consideration.

C. Update regarding Hurricane Ian recovery

Ayita Williams, Floodplain Manager, provided an update from Community Development.

Assistant City Manager Matt Feeney informed Council that representatives from Lee County will attend the August 2nd City Council meeting to present the spending plan for disaster recovery funds.

Assistant City Manager Matt Feeney also informed Council of an opportunity for potential CDBG-DR grant funding to develop a long-range plan for improvements to Rosemary Park. Council Member Carr motioned to go forward with submitting the Rosemary Park Improvements proposal to the Recovery Task Force; Mayor Steinmeyer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

13. Mayor and Council Member Reports

Deputy Mayor Forbes asked for formal approval by Council in support of submitting to the Recovery Task Force the three proposals that he discussed at the last council meeting, as follows: YMCA, Feed Thy Neighbor, Higher Minimum Flood Standard. Council Member Fullick stated that he is in support of two of three proposals, but doesn't have enough information to support the Feed Thy Neighbor proposal. Deputy Mayor Forbes made a motion to formally approve the three proposes; Council Member Purdon seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 6-1, with Council Member Fullick opposed.

Council Member Bogacz stated that the fire department is on track to open station seven on Hickory Blvd.

14. Public Comment

Ben Hershenson – commented on the time and expense involved when the Zoning Board hears a case, which then must be automatically repeated a few weeks later at a City Council meeting. He suggested that Council holds a workshop to discuss implementing a process for an applicant to appeal a Zoning Board decision to the City Council, rather than City Council automatically re-hearing every case.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

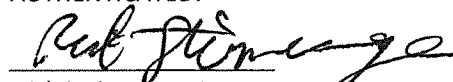
Prepared by:


Mike Sheffield, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

Date: 8/2/23

AUTHENTICATED:


Rick Steinmeyer, Mayor