



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

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**
August 16, 2023

1. Call to Order

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

2. Invocation

Rev. Jeff Chitwood from Anchor Christian Church provided the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Steinmeyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll:

Present: 7 Mayor Steinmeyer, Council Member Bogacz, Council Member Purdon, Council Member Carr, Council Member Corrie, Council Member Fullick, Deputy Mayor Forbes

Absent: 0

5. Approval of Agenda

No changes

6. Mayor's Welcome

Mayor Steinmeyer welcomed attendees and thanked them for their interest in city government.

7. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Brandon Forker, an applicant for the Technology Advisory Board, introduced himself to the Council.

Ben Nelson commented on agenda item 11B, dock setbacks as presented in the draft ordinance.

Trish Leonard, President of the Downtown Alliance, commented on the request from the Historical Society under agenda item 10B, and informed Council that the City is the Downtown Alliance's Member of the Month for August.

Joe Mazurkiewicz, representing the SW Florida Marine Industry Association, commented on agenda item 11B, dock setbacks as presented in the draft ordinance.

8. Proclamations and Presentations:

A. Appearance by the new President of Florida Gulf Coast University, Dr. Aysegul Timur. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-179)

Dr. Steve McIntosh and Dr. Timur briefly addressed the Council. Dr. Timur stated that she looks forward to working with council members during FGCU's next chapter.

B. Presentation and approval of Streamline Technology proposal to calibrate Imperial River Flood Forecast Tool. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-169)

Pete Singhofen of Streamline Technologies presented a proposal for a flood forecasting system for the City of Bonita Springs, which has the ability to provide both real-time flood risk information and 7-day advance flood forecasts. The tool will aid residents and emergency management personnel.

Council Member Carr motioned to approve the proposal; seconded by Deputy Mayor Forbes. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Consent Agenda:

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

- A. Approval of the August 2, 2023, Draft City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Confirm and ratify Resolutions Extending Local State of Emergency (Green Sheet No. 23-08-170)
- C. Approve a Resolution to engage ten (10) firms for the City's Miscellaneous Water Quality Design and Engineering Services (CN 23-14) and authorize staff to enter into negotiations with the firms selected. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-166)
- D. Approve a Resolution to accept the Selection Committee's recommendation to engage ten (10) firms for the City's Miscellaneous Traffic Engineering Services (CN 23-16) and authorize staff to enter into negotiations with the firms selected. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-167)
- E. Approve Resolution awarding the Vegetation Management & Debris Removal in Leitner & Rosemary Canal Segments RFB 23-09 to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Mettauier Environmental, in the annual bid amount of \$76,089.80, upon approval of all documentation. (Green Sheet 23-08-168)
- F. Approve amendment #2 with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Imperial Bonita Estates/Quinn/Downs/Dean west of Imperial Parkway Drainage Improvement Project (Green Sheet No. 23-08-171)
- G. Approve purchase agreement amendment #2 for the Voluntary Home Buyout Program extending the agreement expiration date from August 25, 2023 to December 29, 2023 (Green Sheet No. 23-08-172)

- H. Approve Resolution accepting the Selection Committee's recommendation to engage nine firms for the City's Miscellaneous Planning Services (CN 23-11). (Green Sheet No. 23-08-174)
- I. Authorize staff, in coordination with Bonita Springs Utilities, to submit a grant proposal for a Septic to Sewer Project to the Florida Department of Environmental Water Quality Improvement Grant Program (Green Sheet No. 23-08-180)

10. Mayor and Council Member Items:

A. Update regarding the Lee County Recovery Task Force. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-173)

Council Member Corrie stated that the Recovery Task Force will be busy the next couple of months evaluating the initiatives that were developed by the nine committee branches. The Task Force held a joint meeting with the Board of County Commissioners Aug. 15, where it was decided by the Commission that, going forward, County staff will participate more directly in the efforts of the Task Force.

Council Member Corrie also reported on a recent meeting that he, the City Manager, and Assistant City Manager had with County representatives for the purpose of reviewing the City's project initiatives which were previously submitted to the Recovery Task Force.

B. Consider a request from the Historical Society to send a cutting of our Banyan tree to the town of Lahaina in Maui, Hawaii. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-177)

Council Member Corrie introduced the request on behalf of the Bonita Springs Historical Society. Council Member Corrie stated that the largest Banyan tree in the United States is currently in the town square of Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii; however, it was badly scorched in the recent brush fire. If the tree does not survive, the largest town center Banyan tree in the United States will then be the Bonita Springs tree. The Historical Society proposed gifting a cutting from our tree to Lahaina, if their tree does not survive, to grow a new tree. He clarified that the gift does not need to be sent now, but at an appropriate time.

Mayor Steinmeyer asked whether the City should consult an arborist before taking a cutting. City Manager Hunter stated that the City has an arborist on staff. Council Member Purdon stated that he commends the gesture but opposes proceeding so soon after the fire. Council Member Carr concurred with Council Member Purdon and questioned whether Lahaina would want the cutting. City Attorney Rooney stated that staff would need to first conduct research, as Hawaii has many agricultural restrictions. Staff will provide an update on their findings at a future Council meeting.

C. Consider two applications for appointment to the Technology Advisory Board. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-175)

Mayor Steinmeyer motioned to appoint Brandon Forker to the Technology Advisory Board; seconded by Council Member Carr. The motion carried unanimously.

11. City Attorney's Items:

- A. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF INTERIM BORROWING NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000,000 IN PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF A DEBT OBLIGATION TO FINANCE CONTINUING GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A COVENANT TO BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE LEGALLY AVAILABLE NON-AD VALOREM REVENUES TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE DEBT OBLIGATION; PROVIDING FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE HOLDER OF SUCH NOTE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-178)

The Clerk read the ordinance title into the record. Council Member Carr motioned to move to Second Reading; seconded by Deputy Mayor Forbes. The Clerk recorded the vote by roll call; the motion carried unanimously.

- B. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BONITA SPRINGS FLORIDA, AMENDING THE BONITA SPRINGS LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE CHAPTER 7- ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND MARINE FACILITIES, STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT, ARTICLE XII. - DOCK AND SHORELINE STRUCTURES; AND CHAPTER 9- DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS OF LAW, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, SCRIVENER'S ERRORS, AND MODIFICATIONS THAT MAY ARISE FROM CONSIDERATION AT PUBLIC HEARING AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Green Sheet No. 23-08-176)

The City Clerk read the ordinance title into the record. Mayor Steinmeyer motioned to move the ordinance to second reading; Deputy Mayor Forbes seconded. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Steinmeyer stated that he thinks that the draft ordinance should be reworked to align with the industry's opinions expressed previously. Council Member Purdon recommended that staff talk to Ben Nelson to gain a full understanding of his concerns, so Council can evaluate all sides of the issue before making a decision. Council Member Carr questioned the need for the ordinance. John Dulmer, Director of Community Development, addressed questions from Council.

The Clerk recorded the vote by roll call; the motion carried 6-1 (Council Member Carr opposed).

12. City Manager's Items:

A. Update regarding Hurricane Ian recovery

City Manager Hunter informed Council that staff continues to work with the City's consultant, Hagerty, on the Hurricane Ian after-action report.

John Dulmer, Director of Community Development, announced that the new software upgrade has been completed and the department can now accept online payments.

B. Update regarding fiscal year 2023-2024 draft budget

City Manager Hunter advised that staff will present an updated Capital Improvement Plan at the Sept. 6th Council meeting. She also reiterated the upcoming budget hearing schedule, and asked for direction on changing the start time of the Sept. 20th Council meeting from 9 am to 5:30 pm, to begin immediately follow the budget hearing. There were no objections to making the change.

City Manager Hunter and City Attorney Rooney addressed a letter from the County's Charter Review Committee, which invited the City to send a representative to a meeting scheduled for Sept. 12 regarding proposed Charter amendments involving municipal annexation of unincorporated areas. City Attorney Rooney will reach out to the County Attorney's office for more information about the proposed amendments and will report back to Council on Sept 6.

13. Mayor and Council Member Reports

Purdon - Provided an update from the Florida League of Cities Conference, held Aug. 10-12.

Bogacz - Announced that Fire Station #27 is officially re-open and operating at full capacity.

Corrie - Stated that there is an initiative for congressional legislation regarding hurricane income tax relief.

Fullick - Provided an update from the recent TDC meeting RE: lower bed tax revenue projections.

14. Public Comment

Ron George, President of Seascapes Condominiums, thanked Community Development for their help in with hurricane recovery.

15. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Prepared by:



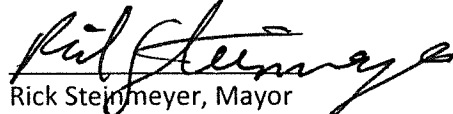
Mike Sheffield, City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

Date:

9/6/23

AUTHENTICATED:



Rick Steinmeyer, Mayor