

CITY OF PALM BAY, FLORIDA

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING 2021-22

Held on Thursday, the 2nd day of September 2021, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 120 Malabar Road, SE, Palm Bay, Florida.

This meeting was properly noticed pursuant to law; the minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Palm Bay, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at the hour of 7:01 P.M.

Pastor David Myers, Eastwind Pentecostal Church, Palm Bay, gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR:	Rob Medina	Present
DEPUTY MAYOR:	Kenny Johnson	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Randy Foster	Present
COUNCILMEMBER:	Donny Felix	Present
CITY MANAGER:	Suzanne Sherman	Present
CITY ATTORNEY:	Patricia Smith	Present
CITY CLERK:	Terese Jones	Present

CITY STAFF: Christopher Little, Utilities Director; Patrick Murphy, Acting Growth Management Director; Nancy Bunt, Community and Economic Development Director.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S):

Deputy Mayor Johnson announced the following vacancies and solicited applications for same:

- 1. One (1) term expiring on the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District Board (represents 'resident of the District' position).+**
- 2. One (1) vacancy on the Business Improvement District Board (represents 'at-large' member who owns a commercial property or operates a business within the District).++**
- 3. Two (2) vacancies on the Community Development Advisory Board (represents 'residential home builder', 'actively engaged in home building', 'employer within the City', 'for-profit provider' or 'not-for-profit provider' positions).++**
- 4. Two (2) vacancies on the Youth Advisory Board (represents 'at-large' student member positions).++**

5. One (1) vacancy on the Youth Advisory Board (represents ‘adult member, 30 years and older’ position).+

AGENDA REVISION(S):

1. Ms. Sherman advised that Item 4, under Public Hearings (Ordinance 2021-51) had been revised to include an additional Whereas clause noting requirements pursuant to law.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items of business under the ‘Consent Agenda’ heading were enacted by the following motion:

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented with the removal of Items 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 20, and 25 from consent. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

1. Adoption of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting 2021-19; August 5, 2021.

The minutes, considered under Consent Agenda, were approved as presented.

2. Adoption of Minutes: Special Council Meeting 2021-20; August 17, 2021.

The minutes, considered under Consent Agenda, were approved as presented.

3. Adoption of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting 2021-21; August 19, 2021.

The minutes, considered under Consent Agenda, were approved as presented.

4. Award of Bid: Mowing maintenance, rights-of-way and corridors – IFB 56-0-2021 – Public Works Department (STS Maintain Services, Inc. - \$105,510).

Staff Recommendation: Award the bid for mowing maintenance, rights-of-ways and corridors, to STS Maintain Services, Inc. (Palm City) in the amount of \$105,510 for a one-year period, with the option for staff to renew for four (4) additional one-year terms.

Bill Battin, resident, questioned if the Community Development District (CDD) around the St. Johns Heritage Parkway were responsible for the rights-of-way within the CDD. He said that these areas would be mowed twice per month, but other areas near residents would be mowed maybe twice per year. Ms. Sherman responded that future development agreements would reflect the responsibility of the mowing would be borne by the respective CDD. The goal was to improve the level of service to the residents, but staffing

was an issue so there was a need to utilize outside contractors to assist in mowing areas more frequently.

Deputy Mayor Johnson asked if the staffing issue was because positions needed to be filled. Ms. Sherman said that part of the problem was that staff had not increased substantially over the past few years, but new administration was addressing the issue.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to award the bid for mowing maintenance to STS Maintain Services, Inc. as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

5. Award of Bid: Canal clearing, multiple locations – IFB 57-0-2021 – Public Works Department (Aquatic Control Group, Inc. - \$398,419).

Staff Recommendation: Award the bid for canal clearing at seven (7) locations to Aquatic Control Group, Inc. (Miami) in the amount of \$398,419.25.

Bill Battin, resident, asked several questions including why clearing had not been performed in thirty (30) years, if the funding source was the Stormwater Fund or General Fund, and if the vacating of easements caused problems with accessing the canals. Ms. Sherman responded to the questions and advised that it was a stormwater funded project; access was not an issue, but staffing was a problem which caused the need to outsource the project.

Deputy Mayor Johnson asked if additional staffing would be considered in the future in order to save money. Ms. Sherman said that the Public Works Director was looking at various ways to increase the level of service including staffing.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to award the bid for canal clearing to Aquatic Control Group, Inc. as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

6. Award of Proposal: Group vision and hearing discount services – RFP 48-0-2021 – Human Resources Department (EyeMed Vision Care, LLC – estimated \$71,169, employee paid).

Staff Recommendation: Award the proposal for Group vision and hearing to EyeMed Vision Care, LLC (Mason, Ohio) for the annual premium cost of \$71,168.76 (100% employee paid through payroll deductions) and authorize staff to negotiate a final agreement; authorize approval to establish a thirty-six (36) month term contract, renewable by the Procurement Department for two (2) additional twelve (12) month terms.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

7. Contract: Administrative Services Agreement for 401(a) Money Purchases Plans and 457 Deferred Compensation, renewal - Human Resources Department (ICMA-RC (dba Mission Square)).

Staff Recommendation: Acknowledge the execution by the City Manager of the renewed Administrative Services Agreement Plans 107091, 109147 and 301159.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

8. Contract: Superion NaviLine/HTE and Click2Gov public administration software maintenance and support, renewal – Information Technology Department (Central Square (dba Superion) - \$148,488).

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the City Manager to execute the contract with Central Square (dba Superion) for public administration software maintenance and support in the amount of \$148,488.20.

Bill Battin, resident, asked if staff was comfortable with this software interfacing with existing software. Ms. Sherman advised that this was a maintenance renewal cost to the existing software that had been used by the city for many years.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve the contract renewal with Central Square (dba Superion) as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

9. Contract: Superion public safety software maintenance and support, renewal – Information Technology Department (Central Square (dba Superion) - \$114,555).

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the City Manager to execute the contact with Central Square (dba Superion) for software maintenance and support in the amount of \$114,554.89.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

10. Contract: Neptune water meters and parts, purchasing authority – Utilities Department (Sunstate Meter and Supply, Inc. – \$300,000)(sole source)).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the increase of \$300,000 in annual purchasing authority for the sole source purchase of Neptune Water Meters and parts to Sunstate Meter and Supply (Newberry).

Bill Battin, resident, asked how many homes would be covered by the \$300,000. Mr. Little said that the number of meters was based on the number installed in the previous year. Due to COVID and the number of residential units being constructed, the number of meters needed was more than anticipated. This purchase was for approximately 1,000 water meters which included new installations and replacements.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve the purchasing authority for Neptune water meters and parts from Sunstate Meter and Supply, Inc. as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

11. Miscellaneous: 'Cooperative Purchase', fire training center facility, Fire Station 5 (Federal Supply Schedule 084) – Fire Department (WHP Training Towers - \$583,554); authorize use of additional Fire Impact Fees (\$73,517).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the purchase of the WHP Custom 2nd Alarm Standard Training Simulator for Fire Station 5 from WHP Training Towers (Overland Park, Kansas) utilizing cooperative Federal Supply Schedule 084; and authorize the use of an additional \$73,516.87 in Fire impact fees for this project

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the cooperative purchase for the fire training center facility and authorize use of Fire Impact Fees as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

12. Resolution 2021-42, conveying City-owned surplus real estate located at 1042 Moonlight Court to buyer Teresa A. Linton.

The City Attorney read the resolution in caption only.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

13. Resolution 2021-43, conveying City-owned surplus real estate located at 2050 Agora Circle SE to buyer EJ & JT Associates, Inc.

The City Attorney read the resolution in caption only.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

14. Ordinance 2021-55, amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget by appropriating and allocating certain monies (fourth budget amendment), first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

15. Consideration of the City's state legislative priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Staff Recommendation: Approve the 2022 Legislative Priorities of the City and authorize City staff, in coordination with the City's state lobbying firm, to pursue the City's legislative agenda and seek legislative support and sponsorship from the Brevard Legislative Delegation.

Deputy Mayor Johnson said that, historically, Council would prioritize the items and asked if Council was open to same. Council concurred to leave the priorities as is.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve the 2022 Legislative Priorities as recommended by staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

16. Consideration of the Housing Programs Standard Operating Procedures Manual and Supplemental – State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Housing Repair Program Manual.

Staff Recommendation: Approve the Housing Programs Standard Operating Procedures Manual and Supplemental – State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Housing Repair Program Manual.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

17. Consideration of partial pre-payment of the Special Assessment Revenue Note, Series 2016 (\$482,000).

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the partial prepayment of the Special Assessment Revenue Refunding Note, Series 2016, in the amount of \$482,000.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve the partial prepayment of the Special Assessment Revenue Note, Series 2016, as recommended by

staff. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

18. Consideration of submitting a grant application to the Rebuild Florida Mitigation General Infrastructure Program, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-MIT) for the construction of future Fire Station 7 (\$4,000,000); and authorize a budget amendment reappropriating \$358,318 in previously approved funding to serve as a match.

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the City to submit a CDBG-MIT grant application and authorize staff to submit a budget amendment in the amount of \$358,316 to serve as the City's contribution to the construction of future Fire Station 7.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

19. Consideration of utilizing Police Impact Fees for engineering costs related to the Property and Evidence Office expansion (\$6,654).

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the use of Police Impact Fees in the amount of \$6,653.50 from the 32907 Nexus for engineering costs related to the Property and Evidence Office expansion.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

20. Consideration of utilizing General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance for an access control and security camera study (\$9,667).

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the use of General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance in the amount of \$9,667 for an Access Control and Security Camera Study.

Bill Battin, resident, asked the purpose of the request and the expected outcome from the analysis. Ms. Sherman said that staff had attempted to analyze the security, such as cameras and key fobs but found that all components were not properly integrated, and staff did not have the required expertise to address it. Information was received from various vendors and staff decided to utilize an outside expert to provide a clear and simple solution of how to move forward.

Mr. Felix supported the request but wanted staff to be more cautious and utilize in-house staff before outsourcing. He felt there were key personnel that would be able to provide their expertise. Mr. Foster said that the use of an individual or company that was skilled

and trained in security was necessary. He said that the lives of employees and residents should not be at risk because of improper equipment or equipment not being placed at the needed locations.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to authorize the use of General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance for an Access Control and Security Camera Study. Mr. Felix wanted to clarify that all internal resources should be exhausted before seeking outside vendors. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

21. Consideration of appropriating funds from Fund Balance for the North Regional Water Treatment Plant Carbon Dioxide Conversion Design, Permitting, and Bidding Services, Task Order 21-05-IS, Amendment 1 (Infrastructure Solution Services, Inc. - \$7,300).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the appropriation of funds on the next scheduled budget amendment, amount \$7,300, for Task Order 21-05-IS, Amendment No. 1.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

22. Consideration of travel and training for specified City employees (Growth Management Department).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the travel and training as specified.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

23. Consideration of travel and training for specified City employees (Legislative Department).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the travel and training as specified.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

24. Consideration of travel and training for specified City employees (Police Department).

Staff Recommendation: Approve the travel and training as specified.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was approved as recommended by City staff.

25. Acknowledgement of a corrective Legislative Memorandum relating to the sale of City-owned surplus real estate located at 1048 Hunt Street to buyer Susan C. Ayer; and authorize a corrective budget amendment to transfer \$198,128 into the General Fund.

Bill Battin, resident, asked if the monies received would be placed in the Road Maintenance Fund. He said there was originally \$3 million in the Road Maintenance Fund (RMF) and asked if it had been spent as the current budget reflected \$700,000. He asked if the funds from the sale of the marina property remained in the Bayfront area or were placed in the RMF. Ms. Sherman explained that the \$700,000 was new funding that was being placed into the RMF, which was separate from property sale monies that were also being placed into the RMF. She explained that the marina property sale included a few parcels, which were owned in part by the Bayfront Community Redevelopment Agency and/or the City. The funds had to be given to the appropriate entity; however, the funds from the City's portion would be placed into the RMF.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to acknowledge the corrective Legislative Memorandum relating to the City-owned surplus property sale and authorize a corrective budget amendment as requested. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

26. Acknowledgement of the City's monthly financial report for July 2021.

The item, considered under Consent Agenda, was acknowledged by City Council.

PRESENTATION:

1. Anthony Zorbaugh, Executive Director, The Source - Christian outreach ministry serving the poor and homeless. Mr. Zorbaugh explained that The Source, located in Indian River County, provided services to the poor and homeless and assisted them in obtaining the resources necessary to become productive citizens and achieve lasting life recovery. Services included supporting the physical, civil, social and spiritual needs of individuals. They also provided a culinary training program, catering services and a food truck business.

Mr. Zorbaugh said The Source had a "Dignity Bus" which provided safe, temporary overnight accommodations with the aim of getting people off the street and keep them safe and healthy until they could get back on their feet. The Dignity Bus had twenty (20)

secure, climate-controlled individual sleep pods with a lockable door, under-bus storage, pet pods for companion animals, an onboard overnight security person, and monitored surveillance. One Dignity Bus provided 7,300 safe sleeps per year.

Councilmembers expressed interest in The Source providing services in Palm Bay.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S)/RESPONSE(S): (Non-agenda Items Only)

Individuals made general comments.

1. Steve Headley, resident, said that the bulk rates through Republic Services were being billed separately for multi-unit buildings that had less than four (4) units. If there were more than four (4) units, the fee would be for a commercial rate. Mr. Headley said that multi-unit buildings should not be treated any differently than single unit rental properties.

Ms. Sherman advised that staff was currently having discussions with Republic Services for several amendments to the contract, including the situation as indicated by Mr. Headley.

2. Bennie Jackson, Community Alliance Pushback Organization, requested a waiver of fees for use of the City's mobile stage for their event to be held in Melbourne on September 18th. Council concurred to consider the item at the September 16th regular Council meeting.

A brief recess was taken after which time the meeting resumed.

PUBLIC HEARING(S):

1. Ordinance 2021-52, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 174, Floodplain and Stormwater Management, Subchapter 'Stormwater Management and Conservation, Part 2: Drainage Plan', by modifying provisions for finished floor elevations for single-family residential construction and the appeals process related thereto (Case T-23-2021, City of Palm Bay), final reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only. The public hearing was opened and closed as there were no comments.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to adopt Ordinance 2021-52. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

2. Ordinance 2021-53, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 185, Zoning Code, Subchapter 'District Regulations', by including Indoor Commercial

Recreation as a principal use and conditional use within GC (General Commercial District) zoning (Case T-28-2021, City of Palm Bay), final reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only. The public hearing was opened and closed as there were no comments.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to adopt Ordinance 2021-53. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

3. Ordinance 2021-45, amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 185, Zoning Code, Subchapter 'District Regulations' by modifying provisions of the BMU - Bayfront Mixed Use District (Case T-8-2021, City of Palm Bay), first reading. (CONTINUED FROM RCM 08-05- 21)

The Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of the request.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only. The public hearing was opened. Mr. Murphy presented the item to Council.

Individuals spoke in favor of the request.

The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve Ordinance 2021-45. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

4. Ordinance 2021-51, amending Ordinance 2020-17, which established the Everlands Community Development District (CDD), by expanding the designated land area for which the CDD would exercise special powers related thereto, first reading.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only. The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council and noted the revision made to the ordinance.

The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to adopt Ordinance 2021-51. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

5. Ordinance 2021-56, vacating portions of the rear and side public utility and drainage easements located within Lots 16, 17, and 18, Block 1983, Port Malabar Unit 40 (Case VE-5- 2021, Azzurri Property Holdings Inc.), first reading.

Staff recommended approval of the request with the conditions per the Analysis Section of the Staff Report.

The City Attorney read the ordinance in caption only. The public hearing was opened. Bruce Moia, representative for the applicant, presented the request to Council.

The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Ordinance 2021-56. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

6. Ordinance 2021-57, vacating a portion of the side public utility and drainage easement located within Tract “D”, Port Malabar Unit 42 (Case VE-6-2021, Massimiliano “Max” Delli), first reading.

Staff recommended approval of the request with the conditions per the Analysis Section of the Staff Report.

The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council. The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve Ordinance 2021-57. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

7. Ordinance 2021-58, vacating a portion of the rear public utility and drainage easement located within Lot 4, Block 2507, Port Malabar Unit 48 (Case VE-7-2021, Robert and Heather Whitmire), first reading.

Staff recommended approval of the request with the conditions per the Analysis Section of the Staff Report.

The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council. The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve Ordinance 2021-58. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

8. Ordinance 2021-59, vacating a portion of the rear public utility and drainage easement located within Lot 27, Block 2668, Port Malabar Unit 50 (Case VE-8-2021, Brian and Michelle Mallonn), first reading.

Staff recommended approval of the request with the conditions per the Analysis Section of the Staff Report.

The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council. The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Ordinance 2021-59. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

9. Ordinance 2021-60, vacating a portion of the rear public utility and drainage easement located within Lot 11, Block 193, Port Malabar Unit 7 (Case VE-9-2021, Jose Santana), first reading.

Staff recommended approval of the request with the conditions per the Analysis Section of the Staff Report.

The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council. The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Foster, to approve Ordinance 2021-60. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

10. Request by Barbara Gamerl for a variance to allow a proposed garage to encroach eight (8) feet into the 25-foot side-corner building setback in RS-1, Single-Family Residential District, zoning as established by Section 185.033(F)(7)(c), Palm Bay Code of Ordinances (0.31 acres) (V-29-2021). (Quasi-Judicial Proceeding)

The Planning and Zoning Board recommended approval of the request.

The public hearing was opened. The applicant presented the request to Council. The public hearing was closed.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to approve the request. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of one (1) member to the Community Development Advisory Board.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Johnson, seconded by Mr. Felix, to appoint Cristina I. Wright to the Community Development Advisory Board representing the 'employer within the City' position. Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmembers addressed various subjects.

1. Mr. Felix said he had received comments that developers were having a difficult time receiving their permits and Certificates of Occupancy from the City. He requested a workshop to discuss the City's process. Council concurred. Mr. Foster suggested that developers and stakeholders be invited to the workshop.
2. Pursuant to discussions during the Palm Bay Municipal Foundation meeting (held immediately prior to this Council meeting), Mr. Felix requested authorization to utilize the City's fire stations to serve as drop-off locations for supplies to assist in the relief efforts for Haiti. Council concurred. Ms. Sherman asked if time frame to accept supplies would coincide with the 30-day time frame to accept donations specifically for Haiti. Mr. Felix confirmed same and said he would be the point of contact regarding any questions for drop-offs and pickups at the fire stations. A list of needed items would be placed on the City's website.
3. Mr. Foster appointed Phil Moore to the Utilities Advisory Board.
4. Deputy Mayor Johnson said he would be meeting with staff to discuss amendments to the ordinance regarding variances and vacating of easements. He felt that more could be handled administratively. Council concurred.
5. Deputy Mayor Johnson said that the Police and Fire Chiefs recently made presentations at the Mayor's State of Palm Bay breakfast. He thought it was very informative and felt that departmental reports should be presented to Council as it would make the residents aware of what was going on in their city. He suggested one department per month.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Consideration of implementing the Mayor's Business Spotlight Program; and authorize the Mayor to recognize the business of the quarter on behalf of the City Council. (Mayor Medina)**

Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to implement the Mayor's Business Spotlight Program and authorize the Mayor to recognize the business of the quarter on behalf of the City Council.

Ms. Bunt presented the item to Council. Interested businesses would be able to submit an application to the Community Planning and Economic Development Department (CPED) for review. Businesses had to be physically located within the city and must have an active business tax receipt. Selection criteria included longevity of the business (must have been in business for at least two (2) years), show some growth in revenue (whether physical expansion or number of employees), company innovation, and community involvement. Ms. Bunt said there would be a selection committee consisting of the Mayor, a member of staff from both CPED and the communications team. The selected businesses would receive an acknowledgement by the Mayor on behalf of the City Council along with a certificate of recognition/proclamation at a regularly scheduled City Council meeting, a business spotlight feature on the City's Community and Economic Development website and recognition in the City's Community Connection quarterly newsletter for the entire length of the quarter, and receive an exclusive "Mayor's Business Spotlight" window decal/cling to proudly display at their place of business. The program would begin October 1, 2021.

Mr. Felix asked if the business had to apply or if someone could nominate a business. Ms. Bunt said that both options were acceptable.

Mr. Foster asked if the committee made the recommendation to Council. Ms. Bunt responded that there was no recommendation from the committee and the committee made the selection. Mr. Foster asked if Council had any input on the selection. Ms. Bunt said there would be no presentations to Council except to recognize the selected business. Mr. Foster asked if any other cities, specifically in Brevard County, had similar programs. Ms. Bunt said that this program was mirrored from other cities and counties but was unsure if any cities in Brevard had this program. Mr. Foster asked if this program conflicted with the Greater Palm Bay Chamber of Commerce (Chamber). Ms. Bunt said it was different as a business had to be a member of the Chamber in order to be promoted by the Chamber. Mayor Medina said he did not want to compete with the Chamber but wanted to offer a program to promote businesses and they did not have to pay any dues.

Mr. Felix suggested that a business be established for at least one year instead of two (2). He also felt that major franchises should be excluded. Mayor Medina agreed with reducing the establishment of the business to one year but did not want to hinder another business by excluding franchises. Mr. Felix said that the businesses should be encouraged to be members of the Chamber.

Deputy Mayor Johnson said that he did not agree with excluding franchise businesses and that Council had no say in the selection of the business. He said councilmembers could go out into the community and advocate on their own. He did not support the request. There was further discussion among councilmembers.

Phil Defranco, resident, suggested that Council introduce new businesses to the city at Council meetings or create a “Best of Palm Bay” and let the residents select their top businesses.

Motion by Mr. Felix, seconded by Mayor Medina, to approve implementing the Mayor’s Business Spotlight Program as requested, with the business being established for at least one year.

Mr. Foster wanted the mayor to highlight businesses and represent the city but expressed concern with the effects on the Chamber. However, he supported the request.

Deputy Mayor Johnson felt that all councilmembers could highlight businesses, and council had no say in the process. He also did not like the recognitions being done quarterly and said it should be done more frequently and by all councilmembers. Mr. Foster noted that Deputy Mayor Johnson recently recognized small business during Small Business Week. He said that councilmembers could still recognize businesses in their own way if desired. Deputy Mayor Johnson still wanted to recognize more than four (4) business per year but would support the request. Mayor Medina said every quarter was a starting point and it could be modified as needed.

Motion carried with members voting as follows: Mayor Medina, Yea; Deputy Mayor Johnson, Yea; Councilman Foster, Yea; Councilman Felix, Yea.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL REPORTS:

1. Ms. Sherman commented on Council’s request for a workshop with developers regarding the city’s processes. She said staff had recently solicited a bid for an outside contractor to provide an objective review of how developments were processed and handled. She would request that the selected consultant give a presentation at the workshop.

2. Ms. Sherman said she would provide Council with a timeline regarding departmental reports over a 12-month period. She did not want the reports to interfere with any other presentations that may come before Council.

Mayor Medina suggested a community event in which those presentations could be given for the public, it would not be in such a formal setting as a Council meeting, and the community could engage directly with staff. Deputy Mayor Johnson said that the previous town hall meetings did not have a good turnout from the public. He felt Council meetings

would be more appropriate. Mr. Felix felt that one of the issues with the town hall meetings was that they were held at City facilities. He said that these presentations should be out in the community at various venues.

3. Ms. Sherman advised that the city had received its annual allocation through the Department of Justice grant program. This year's allocation was \$37,000 and would be used to purchase rifles, support the Pirates to Police program and required funding for records staff and the collection of data for the national incident-based reporting system.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/RESPONSES:

Individuals made general comments.

1. Bill Battin, resident, suggested that the scrolling banner on the City's website include the fund-raising advertisement for the Disaster Relief Committee.
2. Deputy Mayor Johnson appointed Chelsea Sutherland to the Youth Advisory Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 10:38 P.M.

Rob Medina, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Terese M. Jones, CITY CLERK