

City Council Meeting
May 11, 2021, 9:00 a.m.
City Hall – 201 Paradise Path

Present

Mayor, William A Cathey
Councilman, Bobby Pollock
Councilman, Jerry Smith
Councilwoman, Sharon Call
Councilman, Darrell Key

Also Present

City Administrator, Mario Gisbert
City Clerk, Tammy Brunson
City Attorney, Nick Beninate

Meeting was Called to order at 9 a.m.

Meeting minutes approved by consent was brought to the table.

Mr. Pollock motioned, and Mr. Key seconded to approve meeting minutes from January 12, 2021 thru March 23, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Rock asked about a new boat ramp road and was informed by Mr. Gisbert that it is in the permitting stage with FDOT for a 2nd cut into the highway. He also asked about the ropes going up to keep people off the dunes at the beach. FDOT will not allow the ropes to go back up.

Department Reports

Ms. McLeod will be available for the next meeting.

Fire Chief Walker stated the ATV is now equipped with lights. They are working on the 2022 Fire plan for the ISO ratings. Sugar Sands hydrants passed inspection.

Lieutenant Williams gave the Departments monthly statistics.

Ms. Johnson reported on new residential permits and the Gulf View Motel got their permit this week.

Ms. Lyons updated Council on house demolitions. 4 properties that have no response to violations. Special Master will have to review cases before city proceeds to tear structures down. Mr. Gisbert will get estimates for the cost.

Mr. Davis reported dredging will only be 2 days a week due to turtle season. They pressure washed the boat slips and are getting temporary power to the fish cleaning station and a tarp for shade.

Mr. Martin gave updated monthly duties and statistics. They had a line break and a hydrant hit on 44th St.

Dave reported they have addressed questions and resubmitted permit request back to DEP and DOT for Sunset Park and the Boat Ramp Expansion. The Corp wants plans for the poles and exactly what will be dredged in the canal. FEMA still questioning 15th Culvert, they are trying to work through.

Ryan updated on several FEMA projects and obligated funds. Infrastructure plans submitted for 5-million-dollar beach renourishment. Ryan talked with DEO at the kickoff meeting for new projects being allowed. FEMA is offering public assistance for 8 million dollars for right of way clean up. FEAM is now asking for a cost analysis for the Jetty, there is no new update for the Pier Project, and they are fighting codes for the Municipal Complex.

Variance Request – 318 Robin Ln (To improve the existing structure without elevating or dry floodproofing the meet requirements of LDC) was brought to the table.

Open public hearing at 9:35 a.m.

Celina Gladwin, Architect, spoke on behalf of the project. Church was damaged more than 50% and would have to be built back to new elevation only standards. Since building is slab foundation with brick exterior there is no feasible way to increase the elevation of the building which means it would have to be torn and completely rebuilt.

Michael Archibald was also representing the church and said the 1-1/2 ft elevation increase would not have made a difference for them since they had 3 feet of water inside. They have 235 members from all over the area and are excited to get back to serving the community.

Closed public hearing at 9:43 a.m.

Mr. Smith motioned, and Ms. Call seconded to approve the variance for 318 Robin Ln. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Cathey welcomed them back.

Variance – 110 39th St - front setback was brought to the table.

Open public hearing at 9:49 a.m.

Brooks Hayes, Contractor stated there was a last-minute change to the outside stairs that caused the bottom step to be in the set back. Error was caught at final inspection.

Closed public hearing at 9:55 a.m.

Mr. Benanite sited that Mr. Key would need to abstain from voting as his company did work at the property in question.

Mr. Pollock motioned, and Mr. Smith seconded to approve the variance for 110 39th St, front setback. Motion passed unanimously with a 4–0 vote.

Replat – 228 Kim Kove – Lot split was brought to the table.

Open public hearing at 10:02 a.m.

No public comments were made.

Closed public hearing at 10:02 a.m.

Mr. Pollock motioned, and Mr. Smith seconded to approve the replat – lot split for 228 Kim Kove. Motion passed unanimously.

Commercial Development Order - 625 15th St – New storage facility was brought to the table.

Open public hearing at 10:04 a.m.

Harry Phillips, property owner, explained this will be a climate controlled one-story storage facility with an entrance on 5th St.

Closed public hearing at 10:07 a.m.

Mr. Key motioned, and Ms. Call seconded to approve Commercial Development Order - 625 15th St – New storage facility. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 21-21 was brought to the table.

Mr. Smith motioned, and Mr. Pollock seconded to read Resolution 21-21 (By title only)

Mr. Key motioned, and Ms. Call seconded to approve Resolution 21-21. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 761 (Second reading) was brought to the table.

Mr. Key motioned, and Ms. Call seconded to read Ordinance 761 (By title only)

Mr. Smith motioned, and Mr. Key seconded to approve Ordinance 761. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance 762 (First reading) was brought to the table.

Mr. Smith motioned, and Mr. Pollock seconded to read Ordinance 762 (By title only)

Boat Slips Discussion

Mr. Smith suggested Council look at increasing daily and yearly boat launch permits and boat slip rentals. He said we have 29 slips available now and the remainder by the end of the month. After much discussion from the public and Council it was agreed that a charge by the foot for boat slip rentals and raising the yearly boat launch permit fee was more in line with the area. Mr. Smith also suggested a free-standing credit card machine at the boat ramp to make it easier for people to pay for a permit. Mr. Gisbert will investigate this option.

Mr. Beninate will prepare an ordinance for the next meeting to facilitate raising the rates for boat slips and yearly permits. He will also use language to allow review and change of rates when necessary.

City Attorney Report

Mr. Beninate reported on the 2 applicates for Special Master. Both had an hourly rate, but Mr. Beninate said with similar qualifications he did not see the need to spend the extra money.

Mr. Smith motioned, and Mr. Key seconded to accept The Morris Law Firm as Special Master. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Benenate will contact the Law Firm and Mayor Cathey asked to get this moving as quickly as possible.

City Administrator Report

Mr. Gisbert reported that the Welcome Center building and the Landscape Project should be completed by the end of the month.

Bay County could do our street signs, but they are at least 2 months out from starting. RFQ came in with a sign fabricator in Alabama and they could get started immediately. Their price was \$33,613.33 which was half of previously accepted contract. Mr. Gisbert asked if Council would release him for \$35,000.00, to allow for any leeway, so they could get the project started. The first bid process had no response, the second bid process had a contract accepted, but was later cancelled and the third bid process had no response. FEMA funds are already obligated for this process. This will be ratified at the next meeting.

Mr. Smith motioned, and Mr. Key seconded to release Mr. Gisbert for \$35,000.00 to get started on the project. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gisbert said FDOT is open to installing 6 crosswalks across 98 to the beach. It was noted crosswalks provide somewhat of a false sense of security and most people will not use them. They will cross wherever they happen to be, but at least Council is trying to do something to keep citizens safe. Consensus is to pursue installing the crosswalks.

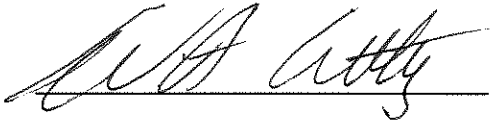
Council Comments

Mr. Smith commended the Building Department for all their hard work.

Mr. Pollock motioned to adjourn the meeting.

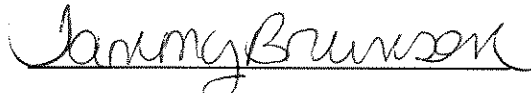
Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

By:



Mayor William A Cathey

Attest:



Tammy Brunson, City Clerk