



City of Gulfport Florida
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 5, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Gulfport City Council was held on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 2401 - 53rd Street South, Gulfport, Florida.

Michael J. Yakes, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Councilmember Sam Henderson, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Present were Councilmembers Barbara Banno, Jennifer Salmon and Samuel Henderson; Vice Mayor David Hastings; Mayor Michael J. Yakes; City Manager James O'Reilly; Attorney Caitlin Sirico representing City Attorney Andrew Salzman and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth.

The mayor briefly explained the public session and went over the rules.

1. Public Session.

Margarete Tober, 1513 59th Street S, commended the City for the Fourth of July celebration and the Rand McNally committee for their work. Ms. Tober questioned City Manager O'Reilly about the money for the sign at Clymer Park and asked for an explanation of the sign.

Amy Oatley, 5137 29th Avenue S, commented that she felt the City was making a mistake in the sign selection and urged the City Council to gather a group of artists to create a different sign.

Lynn DiVenuti, 5137 29th Avenue S, spoke on the sign that WRAB has chosen and asked Council to reconsider the choice of the sign.

John Zitzmann, 2900 45th Street S, asked for an update on the red-light cameras.

Jerry O'Regan, 2800 45th Street S, questioned why we would engage an architect who was not a resident of Gulfport to design the sign for Clymer Park.

2. City Manager Report.

City Manager O'Reilly reported:

- Responding to the question regarding the Clymer Park sign, funds can be rolled over into the next fiscal year. He added he has asked the chairman of the WRAB to attend the next meeting and asked that discussion of the sign be placed on for discussion at the next meeting. There was no objection from council,
- The Gulfport trail spur off the Pinellas County trail has reopened,
- The city budget is still being addressed and the budget will be presented before July 15, 2011.

In response to Mayor Yakes asking for questions from councilmembers, Vice Mayor Hastings asked if we had an out-of-pocket expense for the red light camera to which Police Chief Vincent explained the "cost neutrality clause" of the city's contract.

Mayor Yakes commented that he is interested in the safety statistics that the red-light cameras generate to which Chief Vincent advised that this will be forthcoming as more data is collected. Councilmember Salmon expressed a concern that the camera light is very bright at night.

Councilmember Salmon inquired about scholarships for summer camp programs to which City Manager O'Reilly advised the attendance in the camps has dropped but there are reduced fees if needed.

3. City Attorney Report None.

4. City Clerk Report None.

5. Consent:

Consider approval of the Council Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2011.

Motion by Councilmember Henderson, second by Vice-Mayor Hastings to approve the consent agenda.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION

6. Ordinance:

- a. 2011-11, First Reading: An ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida amending the Charter, Section 304. Mayor; Presiding Officer; Section 306. Vacancies; Filling of Vacancies; Section 307. Procedure; Section 309, Ordinance and Resolutions in General; Section 311, Emergency Appropriations; Section 314. Charter Amendment; Article IV. Administrative; Section 403. Acting City Manager; Section 406. Personnel System; Article V. Qualifications and Elections; Section 502. Wards; Section 504, Qualifications; Section 505. Nominations; General Election; Article VII. City Attorney; Section 702. Duties; providing for the repeal of ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; providing for severability; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance No. 2011-11 by title only.

City Clerk DeMuth explained some of the major changes in this Ordinance, including Section 304, the Election Section of the Charter, Personnel Management System, and duties of the City Manager. She reported that the City Attorney's Office will bring back four Charter referendum Ordinances that will need to be addressed.

Vice Mayor Hastings had a question regarding Page 4 which the City Clerk agreed to change. He also inquired about an Elections procedure which was clarified.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion.

Bob Newcomb, 921 Freemont Street S, commented on adding a run-off election to the Elections procedure.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Henderson, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Ordinance No. 2011-11 on First Reading.

Councilmember Salmon responded to Mr. Newcomb's request by having a discussion with City Clerk DeMuth regarding the run-off procedure.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
VICE MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

- b. 2011-12, First reading: An Ordinance of the City of Gulfport, Florida, amending Article II of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances, pertaining to the city departments; establishing a new Section 2-24-2, providing for a Department of Human Resources/Risk Management; providing for severability; providing for the repeal of ordinances, or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict; and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Ordinance No. 2011-12 by title only.

Mayor Yakes opened for public discussion.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Councilmember Henderson to approve Ordinance No. 2011-12 on First Reading.

Councilmember Salmon asked City Manager O'Reilly if this appointment is someone already on staff to which City Manager O'Reilly replied it was to put the position within the City Manager's office.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
VICE MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Resolutions:

- a. 2011-29, A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida authorizing the city manager to sign a Facility Use Agreement with Stetson University, Inc., and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Resolution 2011-29 by title only.

City Manager Jim O'Reilly explained the resolution and noted the Hold Harmless Agreement between the employees and the city.

Mayor Yakes opened the public discussion. Neither hearing nor seeing anyone who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Henderson, second by Councilmember Banno to approve Resolution No. 2011-29.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
VICE MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED TO PASS.

- b. 2011-30, A resolution of the City of Gulfport, Florida providing for a proposed millage rate for ad valorem tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2011/2012 at a rate not to exceed 4.0 mills or \$4.0 per \$1,000 of assessed property value; providing for public hearing dates and providing for an effective date.

City Clerk DeMuth read Resolution 2011-30 by title only and advised the dates for the public hearing are Thursday, September 8, 2011 and Wednesday September 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

City Manager O'Reilly explained the resolution advising this will generate the same amount of revenue that was generated last year.

Councilmember Henderson and Vice Mayor Hastings noted that the council is not setting the millage rate tonight, but setting the maximum rate that could be applied. Councilmember Banno questioned the impact of the rate if a resident's property value had fallen. City Manager O'Reilly and Dan Carpenter, Administrative Services Director, explained the millage rate tax assessment. Mayor Yakes commented that the City has adopted the practice of the roll forward rate for the past three years which was confirmed. Councilmember Salmon commented on the homestead exemption and the impact of the millage rate. Vice Mayor Hastings proposed a 4.0 for the millage rate.

Mayor Yakes opened the public discussion.

Margarete Tober, 1513 59th Street S, commended the council for considering the future and not continuing to use the City's reserves for needed repairs to the City. The revolving loan fund was mentioned as well.

Bob Newcomb, 921 Fremont Street S, commented that he believes the public will accept a reasonable increase in the rate and encouraged the council to go forward with the roll forward rate.

Neither hearing nor seeing anyone else who wished to speak, Mayor Yakes closed the public discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Councilmember Salmon to approve Resolution No. 2011-29, with the millage rate of 4.0.

ROLL CALL:	VICE MAYOR HASTINGS	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER HENDERSON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER SALMON	YES
	COUNCILMEMBER BANNO	YES
	MAYOR YAKES	YES

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Old Business.

Councilmember Salmon commented on the signage on the beach regarding dogs on the beaches, and requested we update those signs to include the language that dogs are prohibited on every sign.

Mayor Yakes stated he has a tentative appointment for July 15 to discuss the murals and beautification project with Save-a-Lot.

9. New Business.

Councilmember Salmon commended the city for the fireworks display at the 4th of July celebration and asked about the citizen's use of fireworks. Chief Vincent advised the police would issue a citation if the citizen was in violation.

10. Council Reports

Councilmember Henderson commended the City of Gulfport for the July 4th celebration.

Councilmember Salmon also commended Bob Worthington and CERT and the Parks Department during the July 4th celebration. She reported attending Pride and Hands Across the Sand and thanked Lee Stapella for bringing the submerged land and business at the dock to the council. She noted she has a town hall meeting Thursday, July 7, 2011 at 6:30.

Councilmember Banno noted that City Manager O'Reilly and the Sanitation Department had done a great job this weekend. She thanked Lori Russo, the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association for the work on the schedule and noted that the Rand McNally team was able to see the heart of the City.

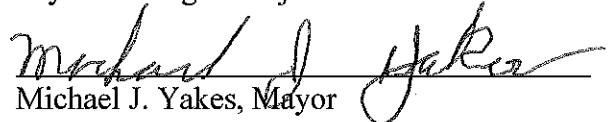
Vice-Mayor Hastings stated he was proud to be a part of the 4th of July celebration and thanked Lori Russo for a job well done.

Mayor Yakes commented that Lori Russo excels at teamwork and thanked the volunteers. He noted the attendance seemed to be the largest ever for the holiday events and commended CERT and the City, Council and staff for their efforts.

11. Adjournment.

Motion by Councilmember Banno, second by Vice Mayor Hastings to adjourn.

Date Approved: 7-19-2011


Michael J. Yakes, Mayor


Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk