

RESOLUTION NO. 10-54

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR THE **MODIFICATION OF THE NUMBER OF VOTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITYWIDE COUNCIL**; PROVIDING FOR ALTERNATE MEMBERS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR EXCESSIVE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, City of Fort Pierce Resolution No. 80-26 adopted a Citizen Participation Plan as an element of the City's Community Development Program, in which the City Commission created a Communitywide Council consisting of twelve (12) persons from the community of which seven (7) were to be minority representatives and of low and moderate income; and

WHEREAS, City of Fort Pierce Resolution No. 88-84 adopted an amended Citizen Participation Plan which changed the number of voting members on the Communitywide Council to fifteen (15) members and further specified that six (6) members should be of low and moderate income, six (6) members would come from the community at large and three (3) members would be residents of federally assisted housing, representatives of community organizations or otherwise eligible for participation in the CDBG program; and

WHEREAS, City of Fort Pierce Resolution No. 98-08 further amended the Citizen Participation Plan and changed the composition of members of the Communitywide Council to eleven (11) members, consisting of four (4) persons of low and moderate income, five (5) from the community at large and two (2) residents of federally assisted housing, representatives of community organizations or persons otherwise eligible for participation in the CDBG program; and

WHEREAS, citizen participation on the Communitywide Council waned during a period in 2008 and 2009, making it impossible to convene a Council meeting with a quorum of members present, effectively preventing any Council votes on agenda items, the final meeting being held on July 8, 2009, at which time a quorum was not present and no action was taken; and

WHEREAS, the Community Services Department was disbanded by the City in February 2010, and the responsibilities for the administration of all federally-funded CDBG programs was transferred to the newly formed Department of Urban Redevelopment in March 2010; and

WHEREAS, the members of the existing Communitywide Council, having been polled by Department staff to ascertain their interest in continued public service and public applications having been advertised, accepted and appointed to fill certain vacancies by the Fort Pierce City Commission, the Communitywide Council was reconstituted on October 18, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the new Communitywide Council, having observed certain problematic issues in convening a quorum by the previous body, considered, voted and approved certain changes in the makeup of the Council, as reflected in the minutes of the October 18, 2010, Council meeting and requested that those changes be conveyed to the Fort Pierce City Commission for their consideration; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida as follows:

SECTION 1: The Communitywide Council shall consist of seven (7) regular voting members and four (4) alternate members, to be appointed by the City Commission, the regular voting members consisting of four (4) persons of low and moderate income from the CDBG target area and will be residents of federally assisted housing, representatives of community organizations or otherwise eligible for participation in the CDBG program and three (3) members of the community-at-large; the alternate members shall consist of two (2) persons from each group described above and shall have no voting powers, except to fill the seat of an absent regular voting member and vote in their stead, as required, as determined and requested by the Chairman of the Communitywide Council, based on the seating seniority of the alternate; alternate members shall fill the vacant seats of regular voting members that may be term-limited or dismissed from the Council for cause; the City Commission shall appoint replacement alternates as the need arises.

SECTION 2: Any regular voting member who has three or more unexcused absences from Council meetings within a twelve month period will be dismissed from the Council and his or her seat taken by the senior alternate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Resolution was duly adopted this 6th day of December, 2010.



Robert J. Benton, III, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cassandra Steele, City Clerk

(CITY SEAL)