

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, HELD IN THE CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 100 NORTH U.S. #1, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, AT 4:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Linda Hudson called the May 16, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Commission to order at 4:30 P.M.

2. OPENING PRAYER -- Evangelist Mary Sirmons of Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Arnold Gaines; Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.;
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson; Commissioner Thomas Perona; Mayor
Linda Hudson

Staff Present: City Clerk Linda Cox
City Manager Nicholas Mimms
City Attorney Tanya Earley

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Minutes from May 02, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Perona, seconded by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson to approve the minutes of the May 02, 2022 Regular Meeting.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

6. PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Public Works Week Proclamation
- b. Proclamation for Trauma Informed Care Month
- c. Proclamation for Community Action Month
- d. Emancipation Day Proclamation

7. LETTERS TO COMMISSION

- a. Email from Dolores Tindal commending the following Public Works employees for an extremely excellent job cleaning up the huge tree branch that broke off her very old oak tree and completely covered S. 23rd Street: Streets & Drainage Division - Ramon Perez, Jeff Pederson, Jerome Scott, Robert Hennis, and Tora Parker; Parks & Grounds Division - Paul Bertram; and Public Works Inspector Andy Avery.

8. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Clerk Linda Cox submitted a Letter of Support for St. Lucie Cultural Alliance in their request for 2023-24 grant funding to be added as agenda item 13d.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Arnold Gaines to approve the Agenda as amended.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS NOT REQUIRING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Any person who wishes to comment on an agenda item which is not under Public Hearings on the Agenda may be heard at this time and must sign up to speak in advance. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less, as directed by the Mayor, as this section of the Agenda is limited to thirty minutes. The City Commission will not be able to take any official actions under Comments from the Public. Speakers will address the Mayor, Commissioners, and the Public with respect. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated.

No comments

10. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

a. Retirement Board Presentation - Keith Stephens, Chairman

Keith Stephens, Retirement Board Chairman, presented the retirement board benefit plan, eligibility and changes, plan contributions funding, progress, investment allocation target and cost of living adjustments.

Commissioner Perona commented that Fort Pierce retirement is one of the healthiest municipalities in the US, many municipalities defined retirement is not sustainable.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson inquired what COLA's may look like. Mr. Stephens explained the unfunded liabilities need to be reduced and an influx of money.

Commissioner Gaines commented he is looking forward to the next Retirement Board meeting and urged people to attend the meetings.

Mayor Hudson explained that the meetings are opened to the public and although the main job is to have a good retirement it is also to protect the taxpayer.

b. Parking Committee Recommendations.

City Manager Nick Mimms introduced Mr. Michael Broderick, Parking Committee chair, and Special Projects Coordinator, Audria Moore-Wells to present the parking committee recommendations.

Mayor Hudson commented that she donated her parking space for thirty-minute parking as a convenience for those needing to run into City Hall.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson commented that the paid parking portion

should be tabled and revisited and that the City should engage the County regarding parking infrastructure.

Commissioner Perona commented that we need to know a count of parking utilization to identify parking solutions.

Mayor Hudson commented that the City may need buy-in from the County to support parking solutions.

Commissioner Gaines inquired what needs to be done for a joint meeting to discuss the parking situation.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson explained that a starting point for County discussion is contacting them with the parking concerns and then bringing it before the County Commission.

Commissioner Perona commented that the County needs to be asked about their parking needs because that needs to be a part of the discussion.

City Manager Nick Mimms commented that there is a disconnect in communication between the County, a more comprehensive strategy is necessary, and will he begin the process to determine the need.

Mayor Hudson commented that we must initiate the process.

Commissioner Gaines inquired on the continued delay concerning the parking solution.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson reiterated the comments of Mr. Mimms and completing the request.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson commented that the Commission must be prepared for a difference in County goals and the effects of the possible relocation of the courthouse.

Commissioner Perona commented that having a twenty-year plan addressing parking solutions is key.

Mr. Broderick commented that the County is not unified on communication.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson believed the Commission parking spaces should be relocated and signage present.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson commented that he respects the committees' recommendations or Commission parking and signage.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of a Blanket Purchase Order for the Fort Pierce Police Department to purchase desktop computers, laptop computers, and ancillary equipment required to upgrade to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) system in an amount not to exceed \$131,249.
- b. Approval of a Partial Release of Unity of Title for 100 Misty Lane
- c. Approval to enter into a two-year agreement with Flock Safety for 26 License Plate Readers in an amount not to exceed \$146,100.00.
- d. Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Fort Pierce and the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association for the Sergeants' and Lieutenants' Unit for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.

- e. Approval of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Fort Pierce and the Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association for the Police Officers Unit for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024.
- f. Approval of Letter of Support for state funding of Project LIFT.
- g. Approval of letter of support of the Manatee Observation and Education Center (MOEC), endorsing its grant application to the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for general operating support for 2023-2024.
- h. Approval of travel for Commissioner Arnold S. Gaines to attend the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials in Jacksonville, Florida from June 09, 2022 to June 11, 2022 in the amount of \$927.18.
- i. Approval of the request from St. Lucie County for a letter of support for the runway extension project at the Treasure Coast International Airport.

Motion was made by Commissioner Arnold Gaines, seconded by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr. to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Quasi-Judicial Hearing - Review and approval of an application for a Conditional Use and Site Plan (Development Review and Design Review) to construct a four (4)-story self-storage facility totaling approximately 106,860 square feet and associated site improvements at 1300 S US Highway 1, more specifically located at Parcel Control Number: 2415-602-0002-000-2.

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Conditional Use Approval to allow certain uses proposed for the redevelopment of the former Orange Blossom Mall.

Mayor Linda Hudson asked all present to listen carefully to what City Attorney Tanya Earley would read regarding Quasi-Judicial Hearings as they apply to subsequent Quasi-Judicial Hearings tonight. Tanya Earley, City Attorney, reviewed the quasi-judicial hearing rules and procedures.

Mayor Linda Hudson called the proceeding to order.

City Clerk Linda Cox confirmed the City complied with the advertisement and notice requirements.

Mayor Linda Hudson inquired with the Commission regarding ex-parte communications and asked City Clerk to call the roll:

Commissioner Arnold Gaines - No
Commissioner Curtis Johnson Jr.- No
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson - No
Commissioner Thomas Perona- No
Mayor Hudson - No

City Clerk Linda Cox swore in those wanting to speak during this Quasi-Judicial hearing.

Staff Presentation:

Senior Planner, Vennis Gilmore presented the review and approval application for Conditional Use and Site Plan for 1300 S US 1. Staff recommends approval of the requested application with the following condition:

1. A certified letter of completion by a landscape architect, cost estimate, and landscape bond pursuant to City Code 123-6 shall be required before the Final Certificate of Occupancy is approved for the site.

Questions of Staff:

Commissioner Curtis Johnson inquired of the property entry points. Mr. Gilmore explained that there would be two entry points one shared with Aldi grocery.

Questions of the Applicant:

Thomas McDonald, Thomas Engineering Group, clarified that gated access would be present on the property in the rear.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson inquired of the gate's location near US, how many feet in the rear allow for stacking, and if the green area will address storm water. Mr. McDonald explained that the gate is near the ADA parking spaces, they are approximately 40 feet and 20 feet from the easement, and the green space is outside the property.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson inquired if the gates access meets code, are moving vehicle used more than standard vehicles, will a fencing component be present, does it meet City Code for setback, and how will drainage be addressed. Mr. McDonald explained that it does meet code requirements, the facility is built to accommodate all vehicles, they have met all code requirements as established by staff, and drainage discharges are handled on site.

Mayor Hudson opened the public hearing
Seeing no one, she closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr. to approve the application for Conditional Use and Site Plan with one condition.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

- b. Quasi-Judicial Hearing - Review and approval of an application for Site Plan (Development and Design Review) approval to develop 1.25 million square feet of warehouse use on six (6) lots that total approximately 108.78-acres generally located on Energy Lane, southeast of Glades Cut Off Road and west of Selvitz Road, more specifically located at Parcel Control Numbers:
2431-800-0002-000-0, 2431-800-0003-000-7, 2431-800-0004-000-4,
2431-800-0005-000-1, 2431-800-0007-000-5, 2431-800-0006-000-8.

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the application for Site Plan approval.
Mayor Linda Hudson called the proceeding to order.

City Clerk Linda Cox confirmed the City complied with the advertisement and notice requirements.

Mayor Linda Hudson inquired with the Commission regarding ex-parte communications and asked City Clerk to call the roll:

Commissioner Arnold Gaines-No
Commissioner Curtis Johnson Jr.- No
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson-Yes
Commissioner Thomas Perona - No
Mayor Hudson-No

City Clerk Linda Cox swore in those wanting to speak during this Quasi-Judicial hearing.

Staff Presentation:

Senior Planner, Vennis Gilmore presented the Site Plan for approval on Energy Lane, southeast of Glades Cut Off Road and west of Selvitz Road. Staff recommends approval with three conditions.

1. Pursuant to City Code Section 123-66. (d)- Tree protection and mitigation, a final Tree Mitigation Plan shall be approved by staff prior to issuance of a Building Permit.
2. A certified letter of completion by a landscape architect and landscape bond pursuant to City Code 123-6 shall be required before the Final Certificate of Occupancy is approved for the site.
3. A Unity of Title with the St. Lucie County Clerk of Courts and a Parcel Combination with the St. Lucie County Property Appraiser shall be conducted before the issuance of a Building Permit.

Questions of Staff:

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson inquired if there was discussion on the proposed truck routing. Mr. Gilmore explained that there were not.

Questions of the Applicant :

Alexander Chu and Mike Miles, Dynamic Engineering and Consultants, were available for questions.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson inquired if conversations occurred with county staff regarding transportation for connectivity and trip generation, what jurisdiction have heard about the project, and how many responses have been received. Mr. Miles explained that conversations have been had and the traffic analysis is under review with St. Lucie County with an anticipated p.m. traffic peak of 235 with no improvements required at this time, ongoing discussions with the County about the project they have planned, and one round of comments with approval anticipated on the next submission.

Commissioner Perona inquired if the Site Plan is for speculative tenants. Mr. Miles explained that the developer plans on developing the infrastructure while acquiring tenants.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson inquired what a speculative opportunity looks like as far as the footprint, and they type of traffic seen. Mr. Miles explained that they have done many sites based on demand and that there is varied traffic but heavy on tractor trailers.

Mayor Hudson opened the public hearing.

Seeing no one, she closed the public hearing.

Comments of the Commission:

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson commented that the TPO has had conversation about the traffic interchanges on Midway Road which includes obtaining funding for the necessary improvements and that he is hesitant about the transportation element and voiced the elements of concern to the applicant.

Mayor Hudson commented that when she was on the TPO she pushed for the turnpike authority to approve an interchange at Midway Road. Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson commented that there is no funding for an interchange at Midway Road.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson commented that the Turnpike Authority explained the funding but seemed unaware or unphased by the anticipated impact of the increased traffic.

Commissioner Gaines inquired if this application is for the applicant to add the interchange for Midway or for any applicant moving forward to include the turnpike.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson explained that he would like complete inclusion of all jurisdictions on the development application.

Commissioner Perona commented that this conversation must be had to identify situations and problems that must be solved and believes they may be outside what this hearing is for and inquired of City Attorney Tanya Earley for guidance.

City Attorney Tanya Earley commented that the evidence placed before the Commission is what should be considered in this hearing and that it is up to the applicant if they wish to continue to a date certain to address the issues, and that a denial must be based on competent substantial evidence.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson wanted to emphasize the requirement for competent substantial evidence and the need to talk to the County partners.

Mayor Hudson commented on the inability to control the communication issues within the jurisdictions.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson commented that he understands the process and feels there is evidence that he is not seeing as this project has regional impacts, and that he does not have enough information to cast a vote either way.

Commissioner Gaines clarified his understanding of the Quasi-Judicial Hearing and that requesting additional information from the applicant at this time is not warranted.

Mrs. Earley explained the Quasi-Judicial guidelines as previously stated.

Motion was made by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Thomas Perona to approve the application for Site Plan with three (3) conditions.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

NAY: Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson

Passed

- c. Legislative Hearing - Correction of a scrivener's error on the Conditional Use approval from March 1, 2021 for the operation of a 33-machine arcade amusement center at 2051 South US Highway 1 in Fort Pierce, FL. The floor plan presented and approved by the City Commission actually showed 45 machine slots rather than the 33 machines included in the narrative. The property is zoned General Commercial (C-3). Parcel ID: 2415-313-0005-010-9.

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the item which is a correction of a scrivener's error on the Conditional Use approval from March 1, 2021 for the operation of a 33-machine arcade amusement center at 2051 South US Highway 1 in Fort Pierce, FL.

City Clerk Cox indicated that subsequent to the Commission approval and upon application for Business Tax Receipt and Arcade Permit and Registration, we discovered that the number of machines shown on the floor plan included 31 single player machines, a table of 4 players and a table of 10 players. The multi-player tables were inadvertently counted as single machines rather than the 45 total machines as we actually permit them. The City Clerk's office charges and issues a permit sticker for each coin slot, as that more accurately represents the number of players accommodated within the arcade.

It is the City Clerk's position that the floor plan clearly indicated that 45 players would be accommodated on site, therefore the total is 45 machines rather than 33 as approved, and that it was simply a scrivener's error when classifying the total number of machines. Accordingly, we respectfully request that the City Commission reconsider and increase their original approval of 33 machines to 45 machines as originally illustrated in their floor plan and more accurately accounting for the total number of players accommodated within the arcade as presented.

Mayor Hudson opened the public hearing.

Seeing no one, she closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Thomas Perona to approve the correction of a scrivener's error on the Conditional Use at 2051 South US Highway 1 for a total of 45 arcade machines.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

- d. Legislative Hearing - Ordinance 22-013 amending the Community Development District boundary of the Preserve at Savannah Lakes. SECOND READING

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Ordinance, read by title only, into the record.

ORDINANCE NO. 22-013

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 21-035, ESTABLISHING THE PRESERVE AT SAVANNAH LAKES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 190, FLORIDA STATUTES; AMENDING THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Hudson opened the public hearing.
Seeing no one, she closed the public hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Perona, seconded by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr. to approve Ordinance No 22-013.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

13. CITY COMMISSION

- a. Resolution 22-R19 reappointing Fran Ross as a Special Magistrate for the City of Fort Pierce.

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Resolution, read by title only, into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-R19

A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING FRAN O. ROSS AS SPECIAL MAGISTRATE TO PRESIDE OVER CERTAIN CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS; MAKING SUCH APPOINTMENT SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE ORDINANCES AND STATUTES; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATES.

Motion was made by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr., seconded by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson to approve RESOLUTION NO. 22-R19.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

- b. Resolution 22-R21 directing an election to be held to provide for the placement of a proposition calling for Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions for the City of Fort Pierce, Florida on August 23, 2022 Primary Election Ballot.

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Resolution, read by title only, into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-R21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, DIRECTING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD TO PROVIDE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF A PROPOSITION CALLING FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA ON THE AUGUST 23, 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT.

City Manager Nick Mimms explained that every ten years the initiative is placed on the ballot for the voters to determine if tax the exemption is to continue as a tool for economic incentives.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Arnold Gaines to approve RESOLUTION NO. 22-R21.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.,
Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor
Linda Hudson

Passed

- c. Approval of Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Rate Increase Resolutions; each Resolution shall be approved as a separate agenda item.

Javier Cisneros, Rachel Tennant, Barbara Mika, and Bo Hutchinson, FPUA presented the Rate Sufficiency Recommendations.

Commissioner Perona inquired if the impact fees reflected the rate payor efforts. Mrs. Mika commented that a portion of the wastewater CIC's accumulated have been set aside for the last two years for the relocation of plant. Mr. Hutchinson explained that the capital improvement charges are reviewed periodically, and recommendation come back before the board.

Commissioner Gaines inquired if the grants are based on need, how does it translate to customer, and could the rates be reduced, as he is concerned with the increases. Ms. Tennant explained that the need is environmental and developmental community based, not just for funds. If grant funds are received in addition to rate revenues, they will be reinvested to generate expansion. Mr. Cisneros committed to providing the public on grant activities.

Mayor Hudson commented that the practical effects of grants should also be provided to the public and emphasized this must be done.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson inquired on the resilience grant amount and to

define AMI expenses. Ms. Tennant explained that it is 500 million has been set aside by the state but 50 million is requested the FPUA. Mr. Cisneros explained that 6 million will go into the upgrade of boxes for electric, water and gas will help reduce cost and produce real time consumption.

Commissioner Perona commented on the importance of the path taken to get to this point and the need to proceed, FPUA has been able to forecast the utilities with new requirements, and it required \$16 million dollars to bring the existing plant to standard.

Mayor Hudson inquired of cost over runs. Mr. Hutchinson commented that the contracts can be structured to account for risk.

Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson inquired on the rate adjustments, what projects will be considered, is the goal for stabilization, the amount of money going to the water treatment plant, thoughts on future projects, his encouragement about the grant process, and if gas reduces the electric load. Mr. Cisneros explained that the rate adjustments must be sustainable, AMI with electric, gas expansion north, water and wastewater require expansion and the new plant, the increases requested are to pay off the loan to do the work; with gas, the customer base can be expanded which will cause a reduction in electric bills, and no funds are allocated for the water plant.

Mayor Hudson commented that this project is one of the largest undertakings, and expressed the City's commitment, and inquired what the future looks like after the rate increases. Mr. Cisneros commented that cost of living, materials and yearly index account for the next fifty years.

Commissioner Gaines inquired as to why the grants were not considered last year and when was the first notification received. Mr. Cisneros explained that the June joint meeting was the catalyst for this requirement, the thirty percent design plans provide a better overall picture. Mr. Hutchinson explained that notification was received last year.

Mayor Hudson commented that there was a plan, just not this one. Mr. Hutchinson explained that this is the perfect opportunity to move forward.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson commented that he is uneasy with making this decision before sixty percent and that there are a lot of inefficiencies in the community. Mr.

Cisneros commented the weatherization program will be revamped to address the needs of the community including reducing the homestead requirement for the program.

1. Approval of Resolution No. UA 2022-06 for Electric Rates

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Resolution, read by title only, into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-06

A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR ELECTRIC SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2014-03, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR A 5.0% AND A 4.53% INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMER AND USAGE CHARGES, BASED ON THE RATE SUFFICIENCY, DEMONSTRATED IN THE FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY REPORT, AND THE 2022 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATES HEREOF.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Perona, seconded by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson to approve Resolution UA-2202-06 and waive the 30-day period.

AYE: Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

NAY: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.

Passed

2. Approval of Resolution No. UA 2022-07 for Natural Gas Rates

City Clerk Linda Cox introduced the Resolution, read by title only, into the record.

RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-07

A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR NATURAL GAS SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2021-07, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR A 5.0% AND A 4.53% INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMER AND USAGE CHARGES, BASED ON THE RATE SUFFICIENCY, DEMONSTRATED IN THE FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY REPORT, AND THE 2022 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATES HEREOF.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr. to approve Resolution UA-2202-07 and waive the 30-day period.

AYE: Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

NAY: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.

Passed

3. Approval of Resolution No. UA 2022-08 for Water Rates

RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-08

A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR WATER SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2021-06, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR TWO SEPARATE 10% INCREASES IN THE CUSTOMER AND USAGE CHARGES, BASED ON THE RATE SUFFICIENCY, DEMONSTRATED IN THE FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY REPORT, AND THE 2022 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATES HEREOF.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thomas Perona, seconded by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson to approve Resolution UA-2202-08 and waive the 30-day period.

AYE: Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

NAY: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.

Passed

4. Approval of Resolution No. UA 2022-09 for Wastewater Rates

RESOLUTION NO. UA 2022-09

A RESOLUTION AMENDING, SUPERSEDING, AND RESCINDING THE SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR WASTEWATER SERVICES FURNISHED BY FORT PIERCE UTILITIES AUTHORITY, FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, IN RESOLUTION NO. UA 2021-08, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, ARTICLE XII; PROVIDING FOR TWO SEPARATE 10.0% INCREASES IN THE CUSTOMER AND USAGE CHARGES, BASED ON THE RATE SUFFICIENCY, DEMONSTRATED IN THE FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY REPORT, AND THE 2022 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ANNUAL PRICE INDEX; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATES HEREOF.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Thomas Perona to approve Resolution UA-2202-09 and waive the 30-day period.

AYE: Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

NAY: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr.

Passed

- d. ADDED ON ITEM: Approval of Letter of Support for St. Lucie Cultural Alliance in their request for 2023-24 grant funding.

City Clerk Linda Cox explained that this has been done in the past.

Motion was made by Commissioner Arnold Gaines, seconded by Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr. to approve the letter of support for the Cultural Alliance.

AYE: Commissioner Arnold Gaines, Commissioner Curtis Johnson, Jr., Commissioner Jeremiah Johnson, Commissioner Thomas Perona, Mayor Linda Hudson

Passed

14. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Any person who wishes to comment on any subject may be heard at this time. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less, as directed by the Mayor, as this section of the Agenda is limited to thirty minutes. The City Commission will not be able to take any official actions under Comments from the Public. Speakers will address the Mayor, Commissioners, and the Public with respect. Inappropriate language will not be tolerated.

No comments

15. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Nick Mimms commented that a parking consulting firm has completed a draft review of the current parking situation that will be presented to the committee in June and the Commission in July for consideration, site development reviews have been forwarded to FDOT, St Lucie County Engineering and Planning, FPUA and St Lucie County Fire District and believes every development plan should be sent to the TPO, labor unit contracts previously approved will appear with FY 2023 plans, and meetings with the department heads will take place in June for Growth Management.

City Clerk Linda Cox-no comments

City Attorney Tanya Earley- no comments

16. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Gaines attended three events for law enforcement appreciation day at St Paul AME, opening of the new St Lucie County PAL Center, and the Blue Angels motorcycle ride where he met lots of great individuals, hopes that tonight's vote does not change what the Commission does and offered words of encouragement to the Country.

Commissioner Perona commented that he heard the district one Commissioner and applauded their efforts, there are things that can be done to assist the community with utilities and highlighted minutes from 2000, expressed that had the vote been delayed they opportunity may have been missed, and the economic cycle may not have been supported. Commissioner Gaines commented that much of the community was unaware of the weatherization program and encouraged getting the word out.

Commissioner Curtis Johnson commented that they will continue to make investments into the City collectively, One Fort Pierce is for everyone, the importance of getting the word out on the available utilities program and applauded the FPUA on the Citizens Advisory Board.

Commissioner Gaines inquired about the decision-making process.

Mayor Hudson commented that conversation can take place during a conference agenda meeting or during strategic planning.

Mr. Mimms commented that moving into FY23 the City must be seen in various perspectives as the City sees growth management, and a stronger hold must be taken on how the TPO and St. Lucie County handles the City.

Mayor Hudson commented that One Fort Pierce is inclusive of the FPUA, thanked the FPUA board and staff, reminded the Commission that the growth seen in Port St. Lucie came with challenges, rate payers are the most important, and the Sunrise Humane Society is sponsoring Coffee with the Mayor Friday at 8 a.m. at the Fort Pierce Yacht Club.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Immediately following adjournment, please move toward the doors and exit the chambers. This allows for the safe and courteous exit of all persons, and those on the dais. Conversations after the meeting should be held outside of chambers, in the foyer or elsewhere, but not in the commission chambers where lights will be out as soon as the chambers are empty.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR COMMISSIONER