

**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Wood called the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. With the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

James T. Wood, Jr.
Tom Weidenhamer
Sam Perman
John Stephens
Mark Brown

Members Absent

Marcie Bell
John Green

Staff

Kim Montgomery Deputy City Clerk
Michael Burgess PW Director
JT Hart PW Deputy Director

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 14, 2021

Committee member Weidenhamer moved to approve the December 14, 2021 minutes as written, with Committee member Stephens providing the second. A roll call vote of 5-0 was taken and the motion passed.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A) OCSO Crime Status – Community Recourse Deputy Tim Trowbridge

Deputy Trowbridge provided the members with the latest statistics for crime in the city. Explaining that traffic and alcohol issues are the main two they have been addressing. The alcohol related fatalities are up 50% so, Sheriff Aden has his deputies focusing their patrols at the late night bar scenes. He then provided the following statistics to the members:

- Crashes with fatalities is up 50% with one more than the previous two years from 2 to 3
- Crashes, without injuries was 651 with the previous year being 512
- Crashes with injuries 168 as compared to last year was 133

He explained the burglaries which include vehicles have gone up in the past 2 years from 112 to 174. Adding that if people would remember to lock their cars and take their valuables out with them, the numbers would go down. And they mostly occur around hotels and condos, but occasionally in neighborhoods where kids will come from local cities and go in neighborhoods checking door handles and take items from unlocked cars.

He spoke of the community resource officers that Sheriff Aden has placed in the city and how he feels it's going to have a great impact on the businesses and citizens alike. Getting out into the community and meeting people outside of when they're on a call.

5. CONTINUING BUSINESS:

➤ Stormwater Concerns

The Chairman explained this will be on the agenda from this point forward for the public to come and voice any stormwater concerns in the city. However, with no one being present at this meeting, he closed this public portion for this item.

➤ Public Works/Emergency Management Update

Departmental Update:

- Currently, the vacancy, Maintenance Technician/Mechanic is still open with no qualified applicants to date with the base salary being at \$15.50/hr.

Operational Update:

- January 3 – Three-Way Stop – Dolphin at John, approved by Council and will officially be in effect on January 17, 2022
- January 3 – 2022 Local Mitigation Strategy, approved by Council – this is requirements for FEMA reimbursement under the Robert T. Stafford Act
- January 18 – New Vehicle purchased for Code Compliance, Ford F-150
- January 18 – Re-striping Benning Drive, roundabout to north end
- January 18 – Resurfacing of Zerbe Street and a section of Scenic 98 (discussed the options to improve the pedestrian safety at this intersection location)

Project Update:

- Facilities Condition and Needs Assessment RFP, Bid Committee met last week to review the four bids submitted
- 2021 Storm Sewer Outfall Inspections Conducted 30+ and meeting with FDEP to discuss results
- Harbor Pump Update – Is back in operation, waiting on Variable Frequency Drive to be repaired to slow rotation to help with cavitation issues
- Sidewalk Repairs Underway which is ongoing throughout the year
- LED Conversion Project, Phase 1 – Underway, 150 lights to be converted thus far
 - Airport Rd existing HPS + 1 new light (lights are in, awaiting installation)
 - Crystal Beach area
 - Azalea & Mountain
 - Palms St & 98 Palms
 - 3 new lights on Gulf Shore Drive close to Norriego Point Park have been installed and will improve the area which was very dark

LED Conversion Project, Phase 2 – The following candidate streets being compiled:

- Airport Rd Sinkholes (x2) – completed
- Legion Sinkholes (waiting on contractor)

- Emergency Management Update

Operational Update:

- One new 4” trash pump received last Thursday with about \$10k left in the grant balance for possibly a few more pumps
- Highway 98 Median Beautification Project should be starting soon. A brief update was provided on what all it entails

7. **MEMBER COMMENTS:**

- **Committee member Stephens –**

Asked for mini map of their individual areas they are in charge of. He also reported concerns for speeding on Kelly Street and asked if there was anything that could be done, such as those sound bumps. Mr. Burgess informed him that they tend to make a lot of noise and disturb the surrounding neighbors. However, Council is considering passing an Ordinance to lower all speed limits. Additionally, Kelly Street is a collector street and speed humps typically are not installed on them however, it can be done since Calhoun is also a collector street and one was installed last year. And Beach Drive has four. He then explained the process and where to find information on the website for speed humps request policy. Committee member Stephens also reported some light that are out on Commons Drive just after turning off Airport Road.

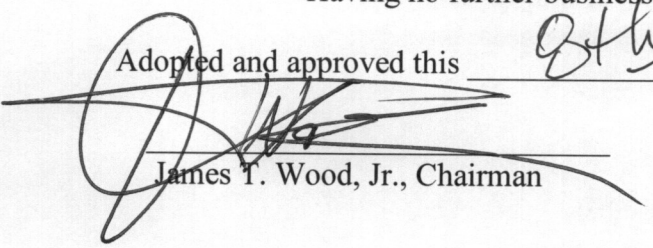
- **Committee member Brown –** thanked everyone for getting the 3-way stop signs installed and how quickly they went in.

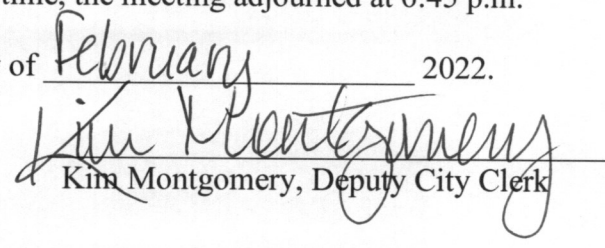
- **Committee member Perman –** Spoke of her concern of all the electric carts and scooters that are being operated on Scenic Hwy 98 and other areas of the city.

- **Chairman Wood –** Informed the members how they can report streetlights that are out in their areas or any other areas where they may notice one out. Mr. Burgess added how they can report them through the website as well. The Chairman also named a couple areas that have had broken or missing stop signs for quite a while. Mr. Burgess reminded the members that the city does not replace them if they are located on private property.

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 8th day of February 2022.


James T. Wood, Jr., Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk