

**PUBLIC WORKS/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Ramswell called the Public Works/Public Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. With the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Anthony Ramswell
~~Kevin Schmidt~~
Jim Wood, Jr.
Richard Hickey
Tom Weidenhamer
Mike Parker
Marcie Bell

Members Absent

Sam Perman

Staff

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

3. CHAIRMAN/VICE CHAIRMAN:

Nomination of Chairman:

Motion to nominate Tony Ramswell as Chairman was made by Committee member Weidenhamer with committee member Hickey providing the second. A roll call vote of 6-0 was taken and the motion passed.

Nomination of Vice Chairman:

Motion to nominate Jim Wood as Vice Chairman was made by Chairman Ramswell with committee member Bell providing the second. A roll call vote of 6-0 was taken and the motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *October 13, 2020*

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting was made by Committee member Wood with Committee member Hickey providing the second. A roll call vote of 6-0 was taken and the motion passed.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

• **Sunshine Law/Public Records Presentation – Kyle Bauman**

The City Attorney presented the members with Resolution 19-27 adopted by Council as well as a short Power Point Presentation and a Sunshine Law Handout. Noting they all should be using their City of Destin email addresses for all city business. He further explained if they get an email to their personal email account, to just forward it to their city email address so that it can be captured and searchable, if necessary. He also covered social media comments and likes and how now that they are a public official, they are responsible to keep those that refer to city business Under the Sunshine. He also explained the

perimeters of voting conflicts and that their forms get filed with the set of minutes for the meeting where the conflict was broached. He also explained the Standards of Conduct, now that they are considered public officials, any gifts could be portrayed as bribes and it is best to just not accept any at all.

- **Work Plans**

Mr. Burgess explained to the members that the last work plan that staff was able to find was from 2018 and how their work plan has been forwarded to 2021. There was a discussion how they are also now appointed by Council to make recommendations on how to spend the ½ cent tax dollars. Mr. Burgess did point out that most of the funds appropriated at this point were spent on the acquisition of the beach properties and undergrounding of electrical utilities on Highway 98.

- **Public Works Projects**

Mr. Burgess provided the members with the following project updates:

- **Pedestrian Safety Survey** - Baskerville Donovan found that there was a lack of detectable warning devices such as, truncated domes along with slope and ramp issues found.
- **Street Light Survey** - With this project wrapping up, 146 lights have been found to not be working.
- **Coleman Lake** - The water level at Coleman Lake has been raised by a foot and has made a significant change in the water clarity and health in just a short time.
- **Street Name Blade Replacement** - Staff has been working on replacing street name blades throughout the city that are faded where the letters are beginning to wear off from the elements and the sun.
- **Tree Trimming** - is being performed by staff throughout the city.
- **Operating Instructions** - Staff is working on updating all the Operating Instructions (OI's) for vehicle use and monitoring as well as the Building Security policies for all City Buildings.
- **LSV Map/Ordinance Proposed Changes** – Mr. Burgess informed the members that Council directed staff to remove Main Street, Indian Bayou Trail, and the section of Gulf Shore Drive from La Paz to the intersection of Highway 98 from the approved street map. And how the ordinance scheduled to go back to the LPA since there are substantial changes that need to be made to the document.

- **Project Updates**

- **Demolition of Three Beach Structures and Appurtenances** - The bid opening for this project is Thursday, January 14, 2021.
- **Community Center Roof Repair** -
With the roof still leaking, City Council has approved staff to work with the roof contractor to install new flashing and other mitigation practices to try to stop the ongoing leaking issues.
- **Zerbe Street/Calhoun Avenue Pedestrian Improvements** –

Mr. Burgess briefly explained the location and details of the project and how it will improve pedestrian safety to and from the Harbor District.

6. DISCUSSION:

- **Committee member Bell** – spoke of witnessing LSVs being operated numerous times on the sidewalk on Gulf Shore Drive. She also informed staff that Waste Management is not picking up yard waste consistently on her street or dock debris. And about 75% of the residents on her street are not paying for their services.
- **Committee member Hickey** – Asked the City Attorney if he could clarify the progress of the Capri property. According to Mr. Bauman, the Land Use Attorney and staff members are working this, and he is not aware of the current progress.
He spoke of how there is never going to be enough beach parking. Mr. Burgess informed him that staff and Council are aware of the deficit and are addressing solutions.
And finally, he informed Mr. Burgess how he has numerous times witnessed people riding motor or battery operated bicycles on the sidewalks in Crystal Beach. Mr. Burgess advised that he contact Code Compliance when he sees this happening.
- **Committee member Weidenhamer** – Nothing to report.
- **Committee member Parker** – Thanked staff on Coleman Lake and how good the water quality is now with the water level now higher.
- **Vice Chairman Wood** – Spoke of problems he experienced trying to upload information on location of streetlights that are not working on Gulf Power's website

➤ **Public Comment:**

None

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 21st day of February 2021.

Anthony Ramswell, Chairman

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk