

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS
REGULAR SESSION – SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE CITY HALL AUDITORIUM/COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 324 E. PINE STREET, ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING PRESENT:

CHRIS ALAHOUZOS	MAYOR
DAVID BANTHER	VICE MAYOR
SUSAN MICCIO-KIKTA	COMMISSIONER
JACOB KARR	COMMISSIONER

ABSENT/EXCUSED: REA SIEBER COMMISSIONER

ALSO PRESENT:	MARK G. LeCOURIS	CITY MANAGER
	JAY DAIGNEAULT	CITY ATTORNEY
	IRENE S. JACOBS	CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Alahouzos called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Jacobs called the roll.

INVOCATION:

Reverend Bob Murphy, Unitarian Universalist Church, gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Alahouzos led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Peter Dalacos, 514 Ashland Avenue, former Commissioner, spoke on the following:

- Inquired as to what was going on with Safford Avenue and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and suggested that a traffic issue link update be added to the City's website
- He stated last week was an emotional week with the funerals of John McCain and Aretha Franklin and that someone made a statement that there were more people who paid their respects to Ms. Franklin then voted in the election. He mentioned that voter turnout was always low.
- Made a shout out "Go Bolts!"

Anita Protos, 901 Bayshore Drive, former Mayor, advised that in the 80's and 90's there was a monthly report on the bridges in Tarpon Springs. She had not seen this in some time and felt that a structural study was need on bridges for the safety of Tarpon Springs Residents.

PROCLAMATIONS:

1. LIBRARY CARD SIGN UP MONTH – MAYOR ALAHOUZOS

Mayor Alahouzos read and proclaimed the month of September 2018, as Library card sign-up month. Cari Rupkalvis, Library Director, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board. In addition she spoke on new things happening at the library. Mayor Alahouzos thanked Mrs. Rupkalvis, staff, volunteers, Library Board, and Friends at the Library for all they do.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for public comments and there were none.

2. NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE – VICE MAYOR BANTHER

Vice Mayor Banther read and recognized September 11, 2018 as National Day of Service and Remembrance. There was no one present to accept the proclamation so it would be mailed.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for Board and public comments and there were none.

PRESENTATION:

3. UPDATE ON HOMELESS ISSUES: CHIEF KOCHEN

Chief Kochen gave a power point presentation updating the Board on the homeless outreach program. He said that since this program started, over three hundred and fifty placements had been made, and that issues were not with homeless in need but the chronic homeless.

The Board thanked the City Manager and Chief Kochen for the update. Commissioner Miccio-Kikta felt it was important to have open communication and more patrol in problem areas. Vice Mayor Banther said that all working together would reduce issues and asked providers to embrace suggestions of the police department to reduce issues. He thanked our partners in the community that provide assistance to those in need. Commissioner Karr also felt increased patrol was important and spoke on discussions with some homeless that approached him. He asked where they were from and the majority replied from other areas. Mayor Alahouzos said that the homeless problem was all over and that community effort needed to be made.

Public Comments:

Kathleen Molsen, Grosse Avenue, had concerns that people visiting the Library feared as homeless congregate there on a daily basis and felt that cameras needed to be installed for people to feel safe.

Ada DelGais, Shephard Center Director, advised the Board that they are working with people and providing them with other organizations who provide services to deal with the chronic homeless. They have been meeting internally and would then get in touch and invite others, such as the City Manager and Chief Kochen to pass on their suggestions on how to resolve this. Ms. DelGais questioned how all can work together when there was a horrible website that puts the community down and made allegations. She felt that people involved with this website were the people destroying the City and not the homeless.

Peter Dalacos, 514 Ashland Avenue, put it out in the open announcing the website address, but said that the homelessness issue was not a new problem. If meetings had been held and ideas brought up asked what are solutions, and what "teeth for accountability" had anyone come up with?

Margo Lizer, 514 Ashland Avenue, said she was new to the community; however, said the community cannot thrive if it continues to live focused on the beauty and harmony only and not centered in love. Not a vision of love and separateness but a community of oneness who are in charge of watching over the less fortunate.

Additional Board Comments:

Vice Mayor Banther took offence to Ms. DelGais allegations made and was not aware of any Board member or city staff having any hand in the disgusting website. He advised if Ms. DelGais was upset about the website, the best thing for her to do was to ignore it and find solutions. Mayor Alahouzos was not going to bring this up but since this website was mentioned, agreed with the Vice Mayor that the website was a piece of trash and has negative promotion of the city, hurts the local businesses, and the image of Tarpon Springs. He felt that it was a coward act to hide behind a website, and that it was not worth discussing until individual(s) identify themselves.

City Manager LeCouris said that staff was moving forward and are positive. He said no matter what was done there was always going to be haters out there no matter what the issues. How you work together was to ignore, move forward and work through all, as this was the best thing the Board could do for the community and a lot of people in the community that do good. Additionally, he said that cameras in public areas were in the works citywide, and felt that in two months great process was made and dialogue would continue.

CONSENT AGENDA:

4. MINUTES:

- A. JULY 24, 2018 REGULAR SESSION
- B. JULY 25, 2018 BUDGET WORK SESSION
- C. AUGUST 7, 2018 REGULAR SESSION
- D. AUGUST 7, 2018 BUDGET WORK SESSION**

5. SPECIAL EVENTS:

- A. SALSA ON THE SPONGE DOCKS: OCTOBER 13, 2018
- B. OKTOBERFEST MUSIC FESTIVAL: OCTOBER 19-21, 2018
- C. SPONGE DOCKS ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW: OCTOBER 27-28, 2018
- D. ST. NICHOLAS VESPERS PROCESSION: DECEMBER 5, 2018**

6. APPROVE CHANGES TO COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

Commissioner Karr asked that the scheduling of meetings after holidays be looked at as it was difficult to ask questions when staff was not available the day before the meeting.

7. AWARD FILE NO. 180171-N-RS: SINGLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF A CHEMICAL METERING SKID FOR SULFURIC ACID

8. AWARD FILE NO 180172-N-RS: SINGLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF MAINTENANCE AND GPS SERVICE FOR GPS ROUTERS

Mayor Alahouzos asked for Board or public comments and there were none.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER KIKTA
SECOND: VICE MAYOR BANTHER

To approve agenda items 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 6, 7, and 8.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

SPECIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

9. HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Jane Kniffen, Human Resources Director, presented this item to the Board noting major health insurance cost drivers. Additionally, she said that despite the plan having a high-dollar claim year, our renewal rate was 6%, which was comparable to other jurisdictions of our size and composition. It was recommended that the City continue to pay 100% of the Employee only premiums and that the City and the employees are the increase in dependent care premiums on a 50/50 basis.

The Board announced that health insurance and the clinic were an important benefit to the employees, but would like this to go out to bid next year.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for public comments and there were none.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER KARR
SECOND: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA

To approve health insurance plan (Plan 15) provided by the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT), effective October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, with cost sharing for dependents as outlined in the backup.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

(Continued)

SPECIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

10. DENTAL INSURANCE RENEWAL

Mrs. Kniffen, presented this item advising that this was standard plan and there was no rate increases to either coverages or premiums for FY 2019 since changing to Delta in 2016. It was recommended that the City continue to pay the full premium cost for eligible employees and maintain its current level of contribution to all dependent tiers.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for Board and public comments and there were none.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER KARR
SECOND: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA

To approve renewal of employee dental insurance with the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) using a Delta Dental plan, for a period of twelve (12) months Commencing October 1, 2018.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

(Continued)

SPECIAL CONSENT AGENDA:

11. PROPERTY, CASUALTY AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE RENEWAL

Mrs. Kniffen, presented this item. She said that in past years, reasonable re-insurance rates and good claims experience contributed to substantial reductions in premiums. Mrs. Kniffen advised that there would be an overall increase in the risk management program of 9.15% for FY 2019.

Commissioner Karr inquired to how valuable art was insured, and Mrs. Kniffen explained.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for public comments and there were none.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA
SECOND: VICE MAYOR BANTHER

To approve renewal of the City's Property & Casualty and Workers' Compensation insurances with the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust (FMIT) administered by the Florida League of Cities, for a one-year period commencing October 1, 2018.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

12. ORDINANCE 2018-22: POLICE PENSION LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFITS (2nd Reading)

City Attorney Daigneault read the following Ordinance by title only:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE IH, PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT, DIVISION 1, GENERALLY, PARAGRAPH 2-35, ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR POLICE OFFICERS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS; AMENDING SUBSECTION (G), PRE-RETIREMENT DEATH; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City Attorney announced that if this Ordinance is approved on its 1st Reading, the 2nd Reading would be held on September 4, 2018 and was published in the "Tampa Bay Times" by title only on August 24, 2018.

City Manager LeCouris said there was no new information since the last meeting and that this was supported by the Board from the beginning 100%. The Board was glad that this benefit was being provided and felt it was the right thing to do. They said that this would also set a standard for all who protect the City and put their life on the line.

Public Comments:

John Rivera, President of the Florida Police Benevolent Association and area Vice President of the National Association of Police Organizations out of Washington, DC, 300 Brevard Street, Tallahassee, thanked all involved and thanked the Board for having an open mind and a compassionate heart. This was truly a collaborative effort and kind words heard this evening go a long way. He said the City of Tarpon Springs by adopting this Ordinance is a beacon of light for other cities to follow.

George Lofton, President of Suncoast Police Benevolent Association, expressed his gratitude for work that was put in to this and coming up with a solution. Chapter closed providing and securing benefits for Police Officers protecting the family of the officer lost in the line of duty and protection of families of officers in the future.

Theresa Kondek, thanked all making this happened not for her family but for all other officers. She said that what the City of Tarpon did tonight sets an example for other cities.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for Board or public comments and there were none.

MOTION: VICE MAYOR BANTHER
SECOND: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA

That Ordinance 2018-22 be adopted on its second and final reading.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

(Continued)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

13. ORDINANCE 2018-18: APPLICATION 18-69; REZONING/LUA - PROTOS (1ST Reading) (Quasi-Judicial)

City Attorney Daigneault read the following Ordinance by title only:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, FOR APPROXIMATELY 0.68 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT LUCILLE DRIVE (APP-18-69) INCLUDING LOTS 4, 5 AND 6, FERGUSON'S CEDAR BLUFFS ADDITION, FROM ZONING DESIGNATION "R-100" (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) TO ZONING DESIGNATION "R-100A (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT) PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City Attorney announced that if this Ordinance is approved on its 1st Rdg., the 2nd Rdg. will be held on September 18, 2018 and was published in the "Tampa Bay Times" by title only with a map on July 27, 2018 and September 7, 2018.

City Attorney Daigneault announced this was a quasi-judicial hearing and explained the process. He then called upon those who would be testifying in this matter and swore in all witnesses. Additionally, the City Attorney asked the Board to disclose any ex parte' communication and there was none, except Commissioner Karr said that someone had reached out to him today that they were in favor of this. He also ran in to Mrs. Protos last night at Publix but did not discuss this.

Mayor Alahouzos advised that Vice Mayor Banther had recused himself on this application (Exhibit 1).

Heather Urwiller, Planning and Zoning Director, said this application was to amend the official zoning map of the City of Tarpon Springs from R-100 single family residential district to R-100A single family residential district. Ms. Urwiller said that this application was reviewed and approved by the Technical Review Committee and the Planning and Zoning Board, and that staff was recommending approval of this application as it met the criteria and was consistent with the Land Development Code.

Applicant: Cyndi Tarapani, representative of the applicant, 22 N. Spring Boulevard, said plat was approved in 1958, and Mr. and Mrs. Protos purchased six lots in 1985, in which her home was built on two of those lots. The lots discussing tonight are 4, 5, and 6. Mrs. Tarapani said that Bayshore Heights was one lot south of this location and has some of this type of zoning and requesting the same. She then noted the differences between R-100 and R-100A, which was primarily lot size.

Opponents:

City Attorney Daigneault asked for opponents and there was none.

Proponents:

Harry Andropoulos, 905 and 907 Bayshore Drive, person that was most affected. He said that he was not opposed to this rezoning, but reason in attendance was due to drainage issues. When Bayshore Heights was constructed they put a culvert across from Mrs. Protos' property to his property being the lowest. His concern was when property sells and houses are built that the culvert will be closed or that they require those houses to drain on the street like all other houses.

(Continued)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

13. ORDINANCE 2018-18: APPLICATION 18-69; REZONING/LUA - PROTOS (1ST Reading) (Quasi-Judicial)

Proponents:

Rhonda Weiner, new property owner next to Mrs. Protos, just introduced herself to Mrs. Protos and had no objections to this application.

Board Comments:

Mayor Alahouzos asked if the drainage concern would be addressed during site plan review, and Ms. Urwiller said yes for each individual house.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA
SECOND: COMMISSIONER KARR

That Ordinance 2018-18 be approved on its first reading.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Did not vote (Exhibit 1)
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

14. RESOLUTION 2018-17: APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CREATING THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL RESILIENCY COALITION (MAYOR ALAHOUZOS)

City Attorney Daigneault read the following Resolution by title only:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CREATING THE TAMPA BAY REGIONAL RESILIENCY COALITION AND ENDORSING PARTICIPATION IN THE COALITION; PROVIDING FOF FINDINGS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Alahouzos stated that he asked for this resolution as he serves on the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, and one of the issues they were working on was the rise of seal levels in the bay area. This was also a follow up to other agenda items brought forth by Tarpon Springs. The City has been proactive on the stormwater issue due to the City Manager and Staff. This memorandum of understanding was to endorse participation in the coalition and the resiliency coalition.

Mayor Alahouzos asked for public comments and there were none.

MOTION: VICE MAYOR BANTHER
SECOND: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA/COMMISSIONER KARR

That Resolution 2018-17 be adopted as presented.

Vote on Motion – Upon roll call vote the motion carried unanimously as follows:

Commissioner Karr	Yes
Commissioner Miccio-Kikta	Yes
Commissioner Sieber	Absent
Vice Mayor Banther	Yes
Mayor Alahouzos	Yes

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Budget Meeting: City Manager LeCouris reminded all that tomorrow evening was the first public budget hearing.

Spongers/Restaurants: Commissioner Karr was excited that Sponger Football had started and asked all to support the team and local restaurants and businesses.

Mayor's Announcements:

- Wednesday, September 5th - 1st Public Hearing on the Budget - 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium/Commission Chambers
- Thursday, September 6th - Sunset Beach Concert – starts at 7:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 7th - First Friday from 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. West Tarpon Avenue
- Saturday, September 8th - Rotary Triathlon at Fred Howard Park from 7:30 a.m.-Noon and back to School Splash at the Splash Park from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 8th – Fundraiser for city employee Mike Swan's son, John, who has been recently diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. The fundraiser will be at Fairway Pizza & Sports Pub, 2901 US Alt. 19 in Palm Harbor from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Swan family during this difficult time. I am asking everyone to please attend the fundraiser.
- Welcome to New Business: Hype Boulevard Clothing Store

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CHRIS ALAHOZOS
MAYOR

ATTEST:

IRENE S.JACOBS, CMC
DEPUTY CLERK & COLLECTOR

CITY CLERK'S NOTE: *This meeting has been recorded in its entirety and the recordings are kept on file in the City Clerk's Office for the required retention period.*