

**CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA  
MAY 20, 2014 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

The invocation was given by Dr. Timothy Womack of the First Presbyterian Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Roll Call**

Mayor Richard Winger, present; Vice Mayor Jay Kramer, present; Councilmember Pilar Turner, present; Councilmember Amelia Graves, present and Councilmember Craig Fletcher, present **Also Present:** James O'Connor, City Manager; Wayne Coment, City Attorney and Tammy Vock, City Clerk

**2. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**A. Agenda Additions, Deletions, and Adoption**

Mrs. Tammy Vock, City Clerk, requested that Council add item 6-B) under City Manager's items – Change Order for demolition of a building at 2625 Airport Drive.

Mr. Kramer made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Mr. Fletcher seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**B. Proclamations**

**1. 50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary – May 26, 2014**

Mr. Fletcher read and presented the proclamation.

Mr. Tony Young invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary beginning at 8:50 a.m.

**2. Memorial Day – May 26, 2014**

Mr. Kramer read and presented the proclamation.

**C. Public Comment**

Mr. Timothy Macame, who sits on the Board of Directors for the Lifeguard Association, commented that this year tourism is up in Vero Beach and when tourism rises there are more people going to their beaches. He felt that there needed to be lifeguards stationed at

Humiston Park from 9-5 and asked Council to look at this when reviewing the budget this year. He expressed the need to maintain the safety of their beaches.

Mr. Dave Farrow, 410 46<sup>th</sup> Court, stated that he was a member of the Lifeguard Association and a former lifeguard from another State. He expressed the need to increase the areas being guarded by lifeguards at their beaches to protect the families that are using them beginning with Sexton Plaza.

Mr. Eric Toomso, President of the Vero Beach Lifeguard Association, commented that so far this year there have been 16 rescues at their beaches and there were a total of 70 rescues last year. He said that the job of a lifeguard is to be proactive and he asked that Council take this into consideration when going over the budget this year. He said that he sends Council a copy of their monthly beach report to keep them updated on what is going on.

Mrs. Turner commented that when looking at their report it seems to have been a record year for people coming to their beaches.

Mr. Scott Caviness, Vero Beach Lifeguard Association Board member, commented that in his job he deals with a lot of the local resorts and expressed the need to have lifeguards at Sexton Plaza.

Mr. Jeff Zachary is working with the Vero Beach Chamber of Commerce in becoming proactive in bringing the film industry business into Vero Beach. He said that he is not waiting for people from the film industry to call him, but is starting to call them. They are looking at having productions done that people never see. When these film industries come to town they sometimes rent 25 motel rooms, they rent cars while they are here, and visit area restaurants. He said that Vero Beach has great things to offer for this industry. They like coming here because there is not a lot of traffic to have to drive through when on location and Dodgertown is a good place to promote a film. In mid-June there will be a company coming here from New York and they will be shooting a documentary. He would like to get with the City Manager to speed up the permitting process. He said if someone calls and wants to do a shoot in a week then they need to get the permits quick.

Mr. Jim O'Connor, City Manager, said that he would work with Mr. Zachary on the permitting process.

Mr. Charlie Wilson, 2134 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, commented that for many years the City has been wrestling with some important issues and he was so impressed with the Air Show last weekend and how it brought this community together. He said things like the fabulous Air Show remind the citizens who live here what a wonderful community they have.

#### **D. Adoption of Consent Agenda**

##### **1. Regular City Council Minutes – May 6, 2014**

**2. Renewal of Contract 1605-C for COVB Bid #130-13 – Cooling Tower Emergency Services Contract with Midwest Cooling Towers and Florida Mechanical, LLC**

Mayor Winger opened and closed the public comment period at 6:39 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mr. Fletcher made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Mrs. Turner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A) ORDINANCES**

**1. An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Amending Section 6-4 of the Code of the City of Vero Beach to allow the Sale, Service, and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages until 2:00 A.M.; Providing for Conflict and Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by Local Businesses**

Mayor Winger read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. O'Connor reported that staff has reviewed the proposal to change the hours that alcohol can be served in Vero Beach by extending the hours from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and he has no problem doing that.

Mr. Michael Jones commented that over 25 businesses in this community signed a letter in favor of doing this. He tried to figure out what the revenue would be for this additional hour the establishments would remain open and came up with a \$2,000 per week increase or an increase of 20 – 25% annual revenue for the year. He expressed Vero is Vero and that is the way they want to keep it. He commented that many of these establishments struggle to keep their doors open in the off season.

Mrs. Turner said that she heard from some of the bar owners who said that it is not just an additional hour of revenue that they would receive, but it could possibly be a couple of additional hours considering the time that some of their patrons would leave to drive down to Ft. Pierce.

Mr. Jones agreed. He said that the establishments in this area would like to keep the patrons in Vero and help increase their revenue.

Mayor Winger closed the public hearing at 6:43 p.m., with no one else wishing to be heard.

Mayor Winger commented that this is an item that he just assume not have to vote on, but knows in the State of Florida the laws says that an elected official must vote.

Mrs. Turner wanted clarification that the establishments in Indian River County would still close at 1:00 a.m., and this Ordinance change was just for the City of Vero Beach.

Mr. O'Connor told her that was correct. This will give the local businesses a boost.

Mrs. Turner commented on the record tourism that they had this season and they would like to continue that throughout the summer. She asked to hear from Chief Curry on this matter.

Police Chief David Curry stated that his department does not object to the extended drinking hours. He said to them it is about being responsible when you leave in your vehicle, whether you drink until 12 o'clock, 1 or 2 o'clock.

Mr. Fletcher was opposed to the passage of the Ordinance. He said that it would enable someone to get drunker than they already may be.

Ms. Graves commented that if this is what the businesses want and it will create additional revenue for them then she would be in favor of passing the Ordinance and allowing their establishments to stay open for one additional hour.

Mr. Kramer proposed sunseting the Ordinance for a year and then asking the Police Chief to come back and report to Council on June 15, 2015, on whether the extended hour resulted in an uptick in drunken driving arrests or any other alcohol related problems. He said that he wanted to give the restaurant and bar owners a chance to make this work.

Mayor Winger agreed that there were some negatives in passing this Ordinance and he has always been a component of keeping Vero/Vero. He doesn't like having laws in place where they are not needed. He could live with Mr. Kramer's suggestion.

Mrs. Turner noted that the 12-month extension of drinking hours comes with a day of reckoning. She expressed that this will certainly put an additional responsibility on bar and restaurant owners to make sure people are not leaving excessively inebriated.

Mr. Kramer made a motion to approve the Ordinance with the amendment that the Ordinance will sunset on June 15, 2015 and the Police Chief will come back and report to Council. Ms. Graves seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Fletcher voting yes, Ms. Graves yes, Mrs. Turner yes, Mr. Kramer yes, and Mayor Winger yes.

## **B) RESOLUTIONS**

- 1. A Resolution of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Establishing an Audit Committee pursuant to Section 218.391 Florida Statutes; Providing for Committee Membership; Providing for the Duties of the Audit Committee; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Finance Director**

Mayor Winger read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor reported that the Florida Statutes requires the governing body of every municipality to establish an Audit Committee for the purpose of selecting an auditor to conduct the City's annual financial audit. On May 15, 2014 the City Council directed the Finance Commission to select a minimum of three of its members to serve as the City's Audit Committee. At the Finance Commission meeting on May 8, 2014, the following three Finance Commission members were selected: Kathryn Barton, Randolph Old, and Noah Powers.

Mr. Fletcher asked what was the time frame that the Committee would be in existence.

Mr. Wayne Coment, City Attorney, stated that the Committee could stay in existence, but their only duty would be to meet when an auditor is needed.

Mrs. Turner felt that it was helpful to establish an outside Committee instead of using the Finance Commission as the Auditing Committee.

Ms. Cindy Lawson, Finance Director, commented that per the Florida Statutes they can assign other duties to the Audit Committee. She would suggest having them sunset in November, unless there are other duties that Council would like them to meet on.

Mayor Winger opened and closed the public hearing at 6:54 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mr. Coment noticed in the Resolution that it names three (3) specific individuals who will be serving on the Audit Committee. He said in case one of these members is unable to serve on the Committee, he suggested adding a sentence that Council would appoint someone to serve on the Committee if that was to happen.

Mr. Kramer made a motion to approve the Resolution with the change that the Audit Committee will sunset on November 1, 2014 and if one of the Committee members is unable to serve on the Committee that Council will appoint someone to serve. Mr. Fletcher seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Fletcher voting yes, Ms. Graves yes, Mrs. Turner yes, Mr. Kramer yes, and Mayor Winger yes.

#### **4. FIRST READINGS BY TITLE FOR ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THAT REQUIRE A FUTURE PUBLIC HEARING**

- A) A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Adopting a Revised Schedule Providing Fees and Charges for Use of Recreation Department Facilities and Equipment and for Participation in Recreation Programs; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Recreation Director**

Mayor Winger read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor reported that this Resolution is the recommended adjustments being made to offset some costs in the Recreation Department. These new rates have been approved by the Recreation Commission.

Mrs. Turner had a question on the County Performing Arts. She said it looks like those were the only County rates that were being reduced.

Mr. Rob Slezak, Recreation Director, explained that one of the things he did in speaking with his staff was to address all of the programs and if staff felt that with some of the programs they could increase fees and with some of the programs they needed to decrease fees in order to get the participation level to its max that is what they did.

Mr. Fletcher made a motion to hold the public hearing on this Resolution on June 3, 2014. Mrs. Turner seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Fletcher voting yes, Ms. Graves yes, Mrs. Turner yes, Mr. Kramer yes, and Mayor Winger yes.

## **5. CITY CLERK'S MATTERS**

### **A) Request from Federal National Mortgage Association for a Code Enforcement Lien Reduction**

Mr. Tim McGarry, Planning and Development Director, explained to Council that the City has been asked to reduce a Code Enforcement lien for 1905 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He said there are multiple violations on this property and there have been many attempts made to bring the property into compliance. Staff would recommend a total payment of \$8,051.97 to release all liens on the property. He realizes that this is a policy call from Council, but felt that this would be fair.

Mayor Winger asked if this was the gross amount.

Mr. McGarry reported that staff determined that the actual lien amount owed is \$14,575.17.

Mrs. Christina Ripple was at tonight's meeting representing Fannie Mae, who acquired the property in December 2012. She explained that when Fannie Mae first took over the property it was tenant owned and they were not allowed to go on the property, so they have not had the property very long. She didn't think it was fair to ask Fannie Mae to have to pay the total costs of the fines imposed since they have not had the property very long and felt those fees should be paid by the previous owner. She is requesting the total lien amount be reduced to \$1,500 or 10% of what is owed.

Mr. Fletcher asked how long has this been going on.

Mr. McGarry said since 2005. He said in the Fannie Mae case when they were doing the abatement an invoice was mailed out and they have not paid for anything. He told Council, if they start washing away all these fines no one will do anything. However, on the other side some owners do need some reduction of liens that have been imposed and the City doesn't want the property to remain in the shape that it is in.

Mr. Kramer asked if the \$8,051.97 was the City's out of pocket expense.

Mr. McGarry answered no. He said the out of pocket expense was around \$1,200.00.

Mr. O'Connor expressed that one of the things the City has been doing for the last couple of years is going in and cleaning up some of these properties. He said in order to do that they need to have the funds available.

Mr. McGarry stated that he plans on having a new line item in his budget for abatement.

Mrs. Ripple reported that this house just went up for auction and should be changing ownership next month.

Mr. Kramer asked her what the expected value of the property is.

Mrs. Ripple would not know that. She said that once the house goes to auction, she steps back as being the Broker.

Mr. Joseph Guffanti resented the fact that the City was using someone else's misfortune to make a profit. They have been told by the Planning and Development Director that the amount of out of pocket expense in this case is \$1,200 and she (Mrs. Ripple representative from Fannie Mae) is willing to pay \$1,500.

Mr. Fletcher made a motion to adopt staff's recommendations. Mayor Winger seconded the motion.

Mayor Winger commented that they are being asked to sit and judge and shouldn't be micro managing.

Mr. Coment explained that this is a debt owed to the City and it is purely at Council's discretion on how much relief they want to grant.

Mr. Fletcher felt that this was a generous reduction.

Mr. Kramer would like to see the City recoup more than \$1,500, but less than \$8,000.

The motion passed 4-1 with Mr. Fletcher voting yes, Ms. Graves yes, Mrs. Turner yes, Mr. Kramer no and Mayor Winger yes.

Mrs. Vock asked Council if they would allow the High Speed Rail Commission to present their report to them at their June 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting instead of at their June 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting. Council had no problems with hearing the report at their June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Council received an email requesting a letter be sent out honoring a Veteran who has been chosen to take the honor flight to Washington. It was the consensus of Council to have Mayor Winger send a letter.

Mayor Winger read a thank you card that they received from Mrs. Charlotte Winchester thanking the City for the flowers that they sent on behalf of former Mayor Warren Winchester.

## **6. CITY MANAGER'S MATTERS**

### **A) Second Quarter Fiscal Year 13-14 Electric Utility Rate Sufficiency**

Mr. O'Connor presented the second quarter analysis of the Electric Utility Rate Sufficiency for FY 13-14, including actual through March 2014. He said staff is recommending that the Bulk Power Cost charge be decreased from \$75.00 per 1,000 kWh to \$69.50 per 1,000 kWh effective with billing read dates beginning June 1, 2014. This represents a 4.2% decrease on a typical 1,000 kWh residential bill. The reserves would be around 86 days.

Mayor Winger opened public comments at 7:10 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mr. Fletcher thought that the reserves seemed high.

Mr. O'Connor explained that they try to shoot for 90 days and should be there by the end of the year.

Mrs. Turner referred to the agenda item that Mayor Winger put on under Old Business. She asked the Mayor if he was not satisfied with the utility rate sufficiency and wanted to hire someone from the outside to do a study.

Mayor Winger explained that this item and his item are two (2) different topics. He put his item on the agenda to initiate a rate structure and sufficiency study because the last one done was in 2009. The Finance Commission and the City Manager agree that it might be time to look at having another study done just to look at things such as are the hook up charges proper, is the rate structure the way it should be, etc. He said that he wants to invest in anything that will bring rates down. He complimented both Ms. Lawson and Mr. O'Connor on doing a great job, but felt that it was time for an outside review. He had no problems with this request (item 6-A).

Mr. Fletcher made a motion that the Bulk Power Cost charge be decreased from \$75.00 per 1,000 kWh to \$69.50 per 1,000 kWh effective with billing read dates beginning June

1, 2014. This represents a decrease of 4.2%. Ms. Graves seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Fletcher voting yes, Ms. Graves yes, Mrs. Turner yes, Mr. Kramer yes, and Mayor Winger yes.

**B) P&C Demolition and Construction, LLC – Change Order No. 1**

Mr. O'Connor reported that approval of this Change Order is to remove 27,500 square feet of the concrete parking lot and two (2) discovered grease traps plus an additional parking slab that was discovered under the original parking lot and large amounts of previously unknown concrete that was underneath the ground as the building was being removed that was apparently left by the Navy after World War II.

Mr. Eric Menger, Airport Director, explained that the project is being funded 50% by FDOT with a grant that was accepted by the City Council on May 7, 2013. The FDOT has already given Airport staff approval for this Change Order so the Airport's contribution to the project is \$67,515 (50% of the total cost of \$135,030).

Ms. Graves told Mr. Menger that the County may want to use this concrete for a reef project they are doing. Mr. Menger said that he would contact the County.

Mrs. Turner made a motion to approve the Change Order to P&C Demolition and Construction, LLC, for a total demolition cost not to exceed \$135,030. Mr. Kramer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. O'Connor commented that he sent a letter to the Federal Railroad Association (FRA) requesting that the City of Vero Beach be designated as a Cooperating Agency in order to receive the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) when it is first released (please see attached letter). He said that the County plans to also send a letter.

**7. CITY ATTORNEY'S MATTERS**

**A) Amendment to Concession License Agreement – Shark Bait International**

Mr. Coment recalled that the Council granted to Shark Bait International a concession license for the rental of beach umbrellas and chairs at South Beach Park. As part of the agreement the vendor was to allow the use of the vendor's ATV by the City's lifeguards. However, insurance coverage issues have come up that make it impractical to implement this provision in the agreement. Therefore, it is recommended that the license agreement be amended to eliminate the use of the vendor's ATV by the City in order to address the insurance coverage issues and enable the vendor to obtain the required insurance endorsements. The City Manager has executed the amendment in order to expedite the implementation of the license agreement.

Mr. O'Connor added that the owner of Shark Bait has been involved in some rescues that have occurred at the beach and if something comes up where the ATV is needed in an emergency situation he felt the ATV would be available for use.

Mr. Fletcher made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. Ms. Graves seconded the motion.

Mr. Scott Caviness, owner of Shark Bait International, reported to Council that he has already started to schedule additional activities at their beaches. He hoped that the lifeguards would have been able to use his ATV. He said he went back to his insurance carrier and it just could not be worked out.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **8. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS**

### **A. Old Business**

#### **1. Initiate a Rate Structure and Sufficiency Study – Requested by Mayor Richard Winger**

Mayor Winger brought up the proposal to initiate a rate structure and sufficiency study. He said the last study done was in 2009. The Finance Commission discussed this at their last meeting and there seemed to be the view, which was shared by staff, that it was time to move forward with the study. He felt it was possible that lower rates could be justified with an in-depth study done. He said possibly rates should take into account the peak loads that require their Utility to access power that may be more expensive.

Mr. O'Connor commented that he felt the rate sufficiency study would be a very small element and they feel good about their numbers. However, a rate structure study is another issue. The way their rate structure has been in place for so long they don't know if in their contract does it actually place cost with the type of structure that a person has. Another part of the study that he would like to see looked at is optimization to make sure they are able to achieve the things they are being directed to do by Council. He would endorse this two (2) part study.

Mr. Charlie Wilson thanked Council for voting to reduce the utility rates. However, they are still suffering from some poor choices made by previous Councils' and legal staff. He found an article from 1976 that addressed promising the ratepayers that they were working towards getting rates lower than FPL customers. He reiterated the only way to get lower rates is to sell their utilities. He brought up a recent letter mailed out by FPL to the ratepayers saying that they (FPL) believed the sale was possible if the motivated parties would work in good faith to make it happen. He said that means the Council and FMPA need to be working in good faith. Mr. Wilson brought up that the Mayor recently spoke at a Taxpayer's Association meeting and indicated that he would oppose any legal challenge to the FMPA contract by the City Council. Mayor Winger told Mr. Wilson that was not accurate. Mr. Wilson said is it more accurate that the Mayor opposed going along with Indian River County and Indian River Shores in their efforts. He asked will this Council address either in this rate study or by a vote challenging the FMPA contract.

He asked will this Council take up the measure of whether or not to join Indian River County and Indian River Shores in their efforts to challenge this matter. He asked with the rate structure will it address the OUC charges. He said there are a lot of questions as to whether or not the OUC charges are correctly calculated. He asked again are they willing to legally challenge FMPA.

Mr. Kramer asked the City Attorney to explain what a validated contract is.

Mr. Coment explained that all of these projects are financed through the sale of public bonds and part of that process is the validation process where you go to the Circuit Court and they validate what you are doing. He said part of this process with FMPA, he has been told, included validation of the contracts and in fact it was taken a step further to the Supreme Court and they also validated the project contracts. If this has happened then the contracts cannot be challenged or if they are challenged the person doing the challenging probably will not prevail.

Mr. Wilson commented that everyone is saying that these contracts are iron clad and we are “slaves” forever. He was not sure that he believed that. The question he asked is the City just going to sit and take it or are they ever going to attempt to challenge the contract or are they going to challenge the idea of a two (2) step sale, which is when 2/3rds of their customers leave and they will have to do something with the rest of their customers. He asked if these rate considerations will take into account what these long term considerations are.

Mayor Winger stated this Council is moving forward to complete the sale if possible. In the meantime the City Council has the responsibility to make sure the rates are as low as they can be. He did not think the action that the City will take to reduce rates will get them down to FPL rates. He has repeatedly said that selling the electric utility would free up some working cash and they could fund their deficit. What they are dealing with here is to find out if their rates are proper.

Mr. Wilson noted that he attended the County Commission meeting and one of the discussions there was a report from Commissioner Zorc about what happened at the FMPA Finance meeting. He talked about the reaction of FMPA when they found out about the \$200,000 audit and what that meant to them. He suggested Council review that part of the County Commission meeting. Mr. Wilson said he has no problem with a rate structure review. He asked again if there was any intention of this City Council to take up legal challenges to the FMPA in the future.

Mayor Winger told Mr. Wilson that was not the topic open for discussion at this point and time. He said what they are dealing with now is this particular issue.

Mr. Wilson asked the Mayor when he would like him to bring up this question.

Mayor Winger told him at a City Council meeting under Public Comment.

Mr. Wilson said at the next Council meeting he will ask when and if this Council is going to consider legal action.

Mayor Winger commented he has said that he will never penalize one group of ratepayers in the City at the expense of another. He said whether it be the City people at the expense of the County or the County at the expense of the City. His concern was that all ratepayers be treated the same.

Mr. Wilson felt that they should be concerned about the rights of the ratepayers and taxpayers and he does not care about FMPA.

Mr. O'Connor commented that when the City does the rate structure analysis it is his opinion that the vendor will need to look at their power supply contracts with OUC and FMPA to figure out how the power is itemized and quantified by the supplier.

Mrs. Turner stated that as far as a rate sufficiency study goes she feels that they are addressing their electric rates in a prudent manner. However, she would be interested in doing a rate structure study and possibly an optimization. She wanted to see a clear design scope of work with strategic goals and estimated costs for the work. She made this in the form of a motion and requested that the City Manager prepare the documents. Mr. Kramer seconded the motion.

Mr. Joseph Guffanti asked to see in writing how much this was going to cost. He then asked what has changed since 2009, which causes them to need a study.

Mr. O'Connor said that he will bring back a scope of work. He said what has changed since 2009 is the profile of consumption, especially with their larger users.

The motion passed unanimously.

**B. New Business**

**9. INDIVIDUAL COUNCILMEMBERS' MATTERS**

**A. Mayor Richard Winger's Matters**

- 1. Correspondence**
- 2. Committee Reports**
- 3. Comments**

Mayor Winger thanked everyone involved in making the Air Show such a success. He recently toured the Old Vero Man site and found it very interesting.

**B. Vice Mayor Jay Kramer's Matters**

- 1. Correspondence**
- 2. Committee Reports**
- 3. Comments**

Mr. Kramer reported that he attended the Air Show, Downtown Mainstreet's monthly meeting and thanked Representative Mayfield for getting the Bill passed that would allow Mainstreet to have more events where they can sell alcohol. He reminded everyone about the Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 26th.

**C. Councilmember Pilar Turner's Matters**

- 1. Correspondence**
- 2. Committee Reports**
- 3. Comments**

Mrs. Turner attended an FMPA meeting last week that started out with the Audit Committee. She said there will be another meeting held on August 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Taylor Swaps. The issue of the FMPA State audit came up at the meeting and FMPA said they would comply. She has been told that she will receive additional information in June concerning the public records request that she submitted to FMPA. She then briefly went over the FMPA Board meeting that took place.

Mrs. Turner reported on the Tourist Development Council meeting that she attended and said that tourism this year in Indian River County was up 11%. She also talked about the Lagoon and the work that the Vero Beach Power Squadron has been doing to help. She said that she would try to give an update on the Lagoon at each of their meetings. She reminded everyone that Downtown Friday would be on May 30<sup>th</sup> and the Youth Guidance Annual Luau was scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**D. Councilmember Amelia Graves' Matters**

- 1. Correspondence**
- 2. Committee Reports**
- 3. Comments**

Ms. Graves reported on the Beach & Shores Preservation Commission meeting that she attended and also thanked everyone for their hard work in making the Air Show such a success.

**D. Councilmember Craig Fletcher's Matters**

- 1. Correspondence**
- 2. Committee Reports**
- 3. Comments**

Mr. Fletcher reported that he attended a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting and a Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC) meeting. He recalled that he heard that City Marinas will now be taxed and asked staff if they were aware of this.

Mr. Coment commented that the City is exempt from ad valorem taxes.

Ms. Lawson added that the City collects sales tax from their consumers and passes that on to the State of Florida.

Mr. Fletcher will provide staff with additional information on this matter.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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