

**CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA
JANUARY 16, 2018 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

The invocation was given by Pastor Buddy Tipton of Central Assembly of God followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Councilwoman Moss.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

Mayor Harry Howle, Vice Mayor Lange Sykes, excused absence, Councilwoman Laura Moss, Colonel Tony Young and Dr. Val Zudans **Also Present:** James O'Connor, City Manager; Wayne Coment, City Attorney and Tammy Bursick, City Clerk

2. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular City Council Minutes – January 2, 2018

Mr. Young made a motion to approve the January 2, 2018 minutes. Councilwoman Moss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Agenda Additions, Deletions, and Adoption.

Mr. Young made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Dr. Zudans seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Proclamations and recognitions by Council.

1. Proclamation to be presented to Andrew Thorry

Mr. Young read and presented a Proclamation to Andrew Thorry. He briefly gave his background (attached to the original minutes).

D. Staff/Consultant special reports and information items.

E. Presentation items by the public (10 minute time limit).

1. Mr. Richard Lewis and Mr. Joe Crowley to speak on Wreaths Across America – Sponsored by Councilmember Tony Young

Mr. Richard Lewis introduced himself and said that he recently retired from the City of Vero Beach after 30 years. He and Mr. Joe Crowley were at tonight's meeting to introduce Council to Wreaths Across America.

Mr. Joe Crowley stated that he was new to Vero Beach. He said that Wreaths Across America started in the early 1990's. There are wreaths placed on the graves at Arlington Cemetery. He said that he will work with Mr. Lewis and his wife who will do the fundraising for this project. They want to make sure that live wreaths are placed on every veteran's grave marker at Crestlawn Cemetery and Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. This year the wreaths will be placed on the veteran's graves on December 15, 2018. The hard part is raising money and the easy part is getting permission to do this. Their goal is to have every marker be given a wreath. He has talked to the Public Work's Director who is behind them, as well as the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Advisory Committee and the Veterans Council. The cleanup of the wreaths will consist of himself, Mr. Lewis, and his wife, along with other organizations in the City. They will work with anyone that wants to raise funds in support of this project. He is looking forward to the backing and blessing of this Council. He said without that this will not happen.

Mayor Howle commented that this was a very positive project so they have the backing of this Council to proceed.

Mr. Young added that the Veterans Council also supports this project. He has been to Arlington Cemetery and there are many National cemeteries that have this program in place. It is so nice to have Mr. Crowley and Mr. Lewis come forward and want to do this project locally.

Councilwoman Moss agreed that this was a wonderful tribute and she thanked them for coming forward.

Mr. Crowley explained that the wreaths cost \$15.00 each. He said that local fundraising groups will be involved in the purchasing of the wreaths.

Mayor Howle agreed that this was a great cause. He asked how many wreaths will they need to purchase.

Mr. Crowley said for Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary they would need 78 wreaths. He said he will be going out next week to count how many wreaths will be needed for Crestlawn Cemetery.

Dr. Zudans made a motion that this is an excellent idea. Mayor Howle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Public Comment (3 minute time limit).

Mr. Brian Heady recalled at the last City Council meeting, Dr. Zudans said that he insinuated that the Council was not doing their jobs and asked that he not be allowed to

use such speech any more. He said this is not the first time that he has not been allowed to say things at this public podium because Council doesn't want to hear what he has to say. He did not insinuate anything. He just asked what the Elected Officials are doing with taxpayer's money. The public has to wonder why they have not received any answers. He said at tonight's meeting there is basically no one in attendance. The meetings were moved to night time meetings and there are a lot of older people in this community who cannot make the meetings because they don't drive at night. He mentioned that he has not received any answers to the questions on the electric issues that he has asked. He said at the last meeting, Dr. Zudans objected to his questions about a five-year lease for leasing vehicles. The answer to the lease was that there were police vehicles breaking down on the side of the road. He has not seen any records of them breaking down and he asked how many police vehicles have broken down on the side of the road. He said the only way to get answers is to file a lawsuit.

Dr. Zudans commented that he did not object in any way to Mr. Heady saying anything at the last Council meeting. He said what he objected to was his insinuation that by not answering the question that they (Council) don't know the answer. He said he clearly knew the answers to his questions. What Mr. Heady was talking about was a \$700,000 vehicle purchase and instead of taking the 2% interest rate he wanted to use taxpayer's money, which basically would have saved the community about \$6,000 a year. But, it was not something that was a good idea for their financial situation. He said in his opinion public comment is supposed to be for the public to make comments about things. He said if he chooses not to answer Mr. Heady's questions, he is insinuating his lack of knowledge. This was his only objection. He said as to the 6:00 p.m. meetings, Mr. Heady was referring to a meeting that was at 6:00 p.m. on January 2nd and there were still a lot of people away for the holidays. Also, Mr. Heady did not count himself as being present that night for the meeting. He said tonight at one (1) point there were 17 people in attendance, which is pretty normal for a non-controversial 6:00 p.m. meeting. He does object to Mr. Heady coming back up and trying to talk again when he has already had his three (3) minutes.

Mr. Heady was given the chance to respond to Dr. Zudan's comments. He said it would be nice if the questions that he asked would be answered. It is interesting how Dr. Zudans decides to rewrite history with respect to the questions at the last meeting. He said there were reasons given for this expenditure being brought before them in January. He said the City Council meets in July to discuss the budget and votes on the final budget in September. Now, six (6) months down the road, Council is being told that there is a five-year lease for vehicles that they need \$780,000 for and the reason that they need that money is because police vehicles are breaking down on the side of the road. He asked that some evidence be shown. He said if they have police vehicles breaking down on the side of the road then they have more problems than just the consideration of a new lease. They have to ask management why they are allowing vehicles on the street that are being poorly maintained. Also, with this new lease they are making it sound like former Councils' have not done anything to keep up with the maintenance of vehicles, which is not true. The questions on the electric issue that he has asked the former Mayor had him wrongly removed from the podium and the current Mayor did exactly the same thing at a

January meeting. He said he thinks that public officials should be held responsible to the public on how they spend public money.

Dr. Zudans stated that Mr. Heady was misrepresenting what he just said. He said that \$700,000 financed over a period of six (6) years there is a difference of \$6,000 and there are issues with taking \$600,000 out of the reserves and to spend that money right now on something that can be financed at a low interest rate. He does not appreciate people misrepresenting what he has said.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A) United Against Poverty of Indian River County request permission to serve alcohol on Friday, March 2, 2018 for the “Burgers & Brews Kick Off Party” at Riverside Park and on Saturday, June 30, 2018 for the “Burgers & Brews Event.”**
- B) Municipal Elections Agreement**
- C) Conn Beach and Humiston Park Dune Restoration Hurricane Irma 2017-32 – Bid 380-16/JO – Contract C-2-2017 – Construction Contract – Recommendation of Change Order – Division II – (Cost - \$272,220)**
- D) Emergency Expenditures – Hurricane Irma (DR-4337) – (\$299,496.70)**

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public comment at 6:27 p.m., with on one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans made a motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Mayor Howle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS

A. New Business

None

B. Old Business

1) Update on the Centennial – Councilmember Tony Young

Councilwoman Moss mentioned that there is a huge interest in the local history of this community. She said there was a presentation made last Thursday at the Emerson Center where more than 800 people attended. She said this was in regard to Waldo Sexton’s family. Mark Tripson, Sean Sexton and other members of the Sexton family were there to tell some colorful tales and there was huge interest. Also, on Saturday in Ft. Pierce a similar local-history gathering that had to do with the Adams family was held at the Sunrise Theater, which holds 200 people and the room was packed. She said there were very interesting anecdotes about the Adam’s family. She said that it was gratifying to see the interest in this and she thinks the Centennial will certainly help bring that forth.

Mr. Young gave an update on the Centennial (attached to the original minutes).

Dr. Zudans mentioned that Mrs. Ruth Stanbridge, County Historian, did a chronological history of Vero Electric, which should be included in the centennial planning.

Mr. Young announced that the next Centennial meeting will be held on February 7th at 10:00 a.m. at Dodgertown and photos will be taken by a photographer who is volunteering his time in taking these pictures.

Mayor Howle thanked Mr. Young for all of his hard work in spearheading this project.

Mr. Young stated that this was not work. He said it is a pleasure and he could not do it without the support of the Council.

Councilwoman Moss thanked Mr. Young for the update.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ORDINANCES

1) An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, amending provisions of Chapter 69, Telecommunication Tower and Antenna Siting; Providing for Conflict and Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Planning and Development Director

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. Tim McGarry, Planning and Development Director, reported that this is the second and final public hearing for this Ordinance. He said that the firm of Crown Castle, Inc. has submitted an application to amend Chapter 69 of the Code. The proposed amendment would allow non-stealth antenna-supporting structures to be located in the POI zoning districts to be up to 199 feet with conditional use approval. He said with the removal of the City's Power Plant, Crown Castle will lose its 208-foot telecommunications facility and antennas located at the Power Plant. Staff is recommending that conditional use approval be required for any non-stealth antenna-supporting structure in the POI district and for any structure higher than 100 feet in height. He said that the proposed text meets the purpose and intent statements of Chapter 69 based on all of the facts and the proposed text amendment is consistent with the Land Development Regulations. He recommends approval of the Ordinance.

Mayor Howle mentioned that landlines were being used less and less these days and the public expects to have cellular phone service, so this Ordinance needs to pass. This would in no way make for an agreement that they could have small cell towers.

Mr. McGarry answered no. He said that there is a moratorium in place and he is working on the language to include in an Ordinance for small cell towers.

Mayor Howle said he wanted everyone to understand that one is not the same as the other.

Councilwoman Moss asked how close to a residential area would the cell tower be located.

Mr. McGarry stated that restrictions would have to be met in order for a tower in a residential zoning district.

Councilwoman Moss asked if there were any health and safety concerns with regards to the proximity of a residential area. Mr. McGarry answered no.

Ms. Katie Cole, with the Lawfirm of Hillard and Henderson, representing Crown Castle, explained that the proposal they worked on with staff keeps the setback on residential sites as the setback zoning district. She said that the setback for residential would be either the height of the tower or with breakpoint technology. She said with respect to the health and safety of these towers and their location Federal law regulates that and preempts local governments from controlling that. She said generally there is not an issue and there is ample evidence that there is not a health issue associated with the cell tower location. She said having taller towers better insulates the residences.

Dr. Zudans commented that they already have a cell tower of the exact same height and this new cell tower will probably be across the street at the same height. He said that cell tower has to come down from the Power Plant (because it will be dismantled), which is why this item came up.

Mr. Young was looking at the map and pointed out the areas where cell towers could be located. He didn't see where there would be any conflicts or impacts to residents.

Mayor Howle cautioned putting up a permanent structure until someone knows what is going to happen with the Water Plant.

Mr. Wayne Coment, City Attorney, stated that the City still has control of that parcel where the Water and Sewer Plant sits, as well as where the Power Plant is located.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 6:51 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans made a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Colonel Young seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

- 2) **An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, amending the Code of the City of Vero Beach, Chapter 58, Article II, Division 4, Police Officer’s Retirement Fund, by creating a New Section 58-110 entitled “Share Plan”; Providing for Disposition of Insurance Premium Tax Revenue; Providing for Defined Contribution Plan Component; Providing for Compliance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement; providing for Conflict and Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Police Pension Board**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. Coment reported that the passage of this Ordinance will codify what was agreed to in the Police Department’s Union Contract.

Lieutenant Harrelson added that this was just a housekeeping measure that will make it easier for the Police Department and the Police Pension Board.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 6:53 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Councilwoman Moss seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes and Mayor Howle yes.

B. RESOLUTIONS

- 1) **A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Establishing a Special Assessment Lien in the amount of \$7,050.00, for a Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) System to serve the real property located at 3825 Indian River Drive E, Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Water & Sewer Director**

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O’Connor reported that passage of this Resolution provides the owner of paying the City STEP System charges and fees by special assessment payments secured by a special assessment lien levied against the property by the Resolution, which lien will only be assessed and collected by non-ad valorem assessment on the owner’s property tax bill.

Mr. Young asked what happens if the owner defaults in paying the charges and fees.

Mr. Coment explained that the City would foreclose on the property. He said they have an annual due date and if the fees are not paid by that date then all the fees must be paid at once. He said that this happened once and the property owner came in and paid the full amount owed.

Dr. Zudans asked how the amount owed is calculated.

Mr. O'Connor explained that the plumber calculates the amount.

Dr. Zudans asked how much is the City paying on these conversions. Mr. O'Connor said that the City is not paying anything. He said there have been grants received that have offset the cost of the conversion.

Mr. Coment added that these liens owed are for the amount that the City is out of pocket for the services that they provide.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 6:56 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Colonel Young made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mayor Howle seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

- 2) A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Establishing a Special Assessment Lien in the amount of \$3,325,00, for a Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) System to serve the Real Property located at 2546 Fairway Drive, Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Water & Sewer Director**

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor said that the comments he made concerning the previous Resolution are the same for this Resolution.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 6:57 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Young seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

- 3) A Resolution of the City Council, of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, relating to Proclamations; Repealing Resolution 2013-31 and Adopting an Updated Policy Governing Requests for and Issuance of City Council Proclamations; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the City Council**

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Councilwoman Moss thanked Mr. Coment for all of his hard work in making these changes to the way that Proclamations are handled. A lot of loose ends were tied up and she appreciated that.

Mr. Coment briefly went over the changes made in updating their Proclamation procedures.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 6:59 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans asked what if someone comes forward with a Proclamation that does not reflect the City's interest. He asked do they have to vote on presenting the Proclamation.

Mr. Coment explained that Council could always override the City Clerk's decision in approving or denying that a Proclamation be heard.

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to approve the Resolution. Dr. Zudans seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

- 4) A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Abandoning all of the City's interest in the Drainage and Utility Easements encumbering the Real Property located at 2106 Nevarra Avenue in the McAnsh Park Subdivision, Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida; Providing for an Effective Date – Requested by the Public Work's Director**

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor reported that this is a request for an abandonment in all of the City's interest in the drainage and utility easements at 2106 Nevarra Avenue. He said that Comcast has signed off on the request and that there are no needs for this easement.

Councilwoman Moss noted that this Resolution has to do with both the drainage and utility easements, whereas the next Resolution that they will be discussing (item 5B-5) only has to do with the utility easement.

Mr. O'Connor explained that it depends on the way that these things were titled when they were put in the subdivision, but basically they are the same thing. He said that the City does not own these easements, but they have a right to use them if they need to.

Mr. Young asked what prompts something like this to come up.

Mr. O'Connor explained that the owners of the property will come in and make the request.

Mr. Coment said in this particular case the property is being sold and the easements came up during the transaction process.

Mr. O'Connor recalled that they also get a lot of requests from property owners wanting to put up a fence and then find out that the easement was dedicated many years ago and the property owners usually are not aware that it was even there.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mayor Howle made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Young seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

5) A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Abandoning all City of Vero Beach interests in a portion of a certain utility easement located on and encumbering the real property located at 2400 South Highway A1A in the Kansas City Colony Subdivision, in Indian River County, Florida; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Public Work's Director

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor noted that the remarks he made about the Resolution just passed by the City Council also applies to this Resolution.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mr. Young made a motion to approve the Resolution. Dr. Zudans seconded the motion and it passed 4-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

6. PUBLIC NOTICE ITEMS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC HEARING

None

7. CITY CLERK MATTERS

Dr. Zudans noted that on the website that there was no Chairman listed for the Finance Commission.

Mrs. Bursick explained that the Finance Commission would be meeting on Wednesday afternoon and would be electing a Chairman and Vice Chairman. She went over the openings that they have on the different City Commission and Boards and explained that applications are kept on file for anyone applying to be on one of their Commissions.

Mr. Young said that he liked having the opportunity to talk to the different applicants applying to serve on one of the City's Commissions.

Councilwoman Moss added that she has encouraged people to fill out an application and leave it with the Clerk's office even if they are interested in a position that has already been filled. She said that the application will be on file.

8. CITY MANAGER MATTERS

Dr. Zudans brought up the massive \$3 million sewage spill at Bethel Creek that was so awful. At the last Council meeting, he was asking questions about the age of their system and if this was something that was preventable. Then this week there is a five (5) foot geyser because of a pipe break. He asked the City Manager to talk about the aeration project that they are looking at to try to mitigate some of these problems at Bethel Creek. He also asked the City Manager if those pipes are part of the same pipes that broke earlier. He knew the break was located a mile south, but it is the same pressure pipe. He asked if this pipe was always under pressure.

Mr. O'Connor said that it was not always under pressure, but it has been since the City has operated it. He said at one time it was used for some other purpose. Dr. Zudans asked if it was designed to be under pressure. Mr. O'Connor answered yes. He said the two (2) instances that they had was because it was built into a storm drainage box that no one knew was there. He said that led to the erosion around the base and allowed for the seepage to go right into the Lagoon. He said with the recent incident that happened staff believes that there was a gas pocket that got caught in there and the break was relatively small. He said testing has been done and the metal in that pipe are conducive to using it under pressure.

Dr. Zudans asked if there was an age to a pipe like that one where it would lose its ability and have issues with being under pressure after a certain amount of time.

Mr. O'Connor explained that have been told by the experts that it has a 70 to 100 year span of life on it with that type of pressure. He said this pipe is about 40 years old. He said with any type of mechanical devise there will be failures somewhere along the line. He said if you look at the longevity and life of this pipe there have been no leaks up until recently. They are now monitoring it and will take samples to make sure that what they are assuming is correct. They are also getting pricing on doing aeration. He said now the concern from people in the area is that the materials settled to the bottom and became pollutants at that level. The City is looking at a system that will consist of four (4) or five (5) aerations in that general area that they could run for six (6) months to a year and test the mulch to see if it takes out those organic materials that could have been related to the sewage leak. He said that he wants people to understand that the City is doing the best that they can, as well as seeing if this new technology in these confined areas is something that they want to do in the future. They are looking at getting the type of design that they need and use an aeration system similar to what they have at the Sewer Plant. He said the negative to this is within a few days after it is being done there probably will be a gas type aroma in that area. He said they are looking at doing this project and they want to make sure that they do it right the first time.

Dr. Zudans commented that after they buy this equipment there may be a possibility that it could be used in other parts of the City for the Lagoon.

Mayor Howle asked how much will the equipment cost.

Mr. O'Connor said between \$25,000 - \$40,000.

Mr. O'Connor reported that the City petitioned the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) asking them to reduce the speed limit on the Alma Lee Loy bridge down to 35 mph. He said in August the FDOT declined their request and the City made another request today.

Dr. Zudans explained that the request from the City was for the entire bridge. He said with the Barber Bridge it is 45 mph when you get on the bridge, but when you come closer to Beachland Elementary the speed limit slows down. He said at one time there were some complaints from residents on the east side of the Alma Lee Loy bridge. He said these homeowners are coming out of their driveways on to a 45 mph road, which doesn't seem very safe.

Mayor Howle commented that if FDOT does a study there is a possibility they could raise the speed limit.

Dr. Zudans hoped that FDOT would not do that especially after being asked to lower the speed limit to 35 mph.

Mr. O'Connor commented that the Mayor is correct. He said that FDOT has their own formula in setting speed limits.

Dr. Zudans said that would be very unfortunate if that was to happen.

Mayor Howle added that was one of the risks that they had to take into account when this was being discussed. He said that there was a resident who appeared before them that was concerned about the speed limit. It was the general consensus of Council that it was worth the risk in putting in a request.

9. CITY ATTORNEY MATTERS

None

10. COUNCILMEMBER MATTERS

A. Mayor Harry Howles's Matters

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

Mayor Howle reported that he had the privilege to attend a new Church in Gifford on Sunday. The Church is called the Living Hope Fellowship. He publically thanked the wonderful group of people who invited him to attend.

B. Vice Mayor's Lange Sykes's Matters

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

None

C. Councilmember Laura Moss's Matters

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

Councilwoman Moss mentioned that this weekend "Transforming Landscapes for a Sustainable Future" will be held at the Emerson Center. The event will be held January 19th & 20th. She said that anyone can register on line at PIAUDUBON@YAHOO.COM. She also mentioned that the Gifford Youth Achievement Center is having their 20th Anniversary Gala and that will be on January 27th. She said tickets are available on Gifford Youth Achievement Center's website. She recalled that Mr. Freddie Woolfork appeared before the Council a couple of months ago to accept a Proclamation. She said it was probably the longest Proclamation that they have ever had because it showed the many accomplishments that Mr. Woolfork has made in his life. She said there are two (2) important art events that are coming up. Next week the Vero Beach Museum of Art will be presenting what they have come up with called "Art Zone" for the children. She is on the Steering Committee of the Circle at Vero Beach Museum of Art and she was there the other day for a meeting and after the meeting she was fortunate enough to be able to preview this room. She said that Ms. Pam Sommers works with the children at the Museum and says that this room is for children zero to 12. The room is open all day long and is always supervised. She said as exhibits change in the Museum so will things in this room change to be in sync with what is going on in the Museum. Then there will be Art by the Sea held this weekend. It starts Friday night and runs through the weekend and is being put on by the Vero Beach Art Club. She said this is a huge event and the public can learn more about this event on the Art Club's website. Also, the American Association of University Women is having an event this Saturday at 11:00 a.m. at Bent Pine Country Club.

Mayor Moss mentioned that she attended the Nutcraker performance held in December and it was fabulous. She said the production was adapted for Vero Beach. She felt that Councilmember Young's grandchildren would have loved it.

D. Councilmember Anthony W. Young's Matters

- 1. Correspondence**

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

Mr. Young reported that he participated in the Martin Luther King Parade on Saturday and hoped that next year more of the Council would join him. He said that next Thursday at the County Commission Chambers, Senator Posey will be presenting a Proclamation to Andrew Thorry. This Saturday at the Seal Museum they will be having the annual Wooden Cane presentation to all Purple Hearts recipients. He then asked the City Attorney in the future to give them a Legislative update on what is going on in Tallahassee.

Mr. Coment commented that Ms. Honse is doing her best in tracking down the pending Bills. She is also asking City staff to give feedback on what Bills will impact their department.

Dr. Zudans recalled that there was a proposed Bill that was related to the City having to do with excessive reserves and limitations on what we can do with taxation if we have what the State says is too high of a reserve. It could be a situation that they could be in when the Electric Utility is sold.

E. Councilmember Val Zudan's Matters

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

Dr. Zudans mentioned the Pelican Audubon Society's event at the Emerson Center and how it relates to the health of their Lagoon. He said there are these heat maps that were done of nitrogen levels by Ms. Edith Widder through ORCA that showed in that area of the Lagoon where the main nitrogen sources were coming from. He said one (1) of the hot spots in there was in the Moorings. He said when the Moorings found out they were embarrassed and really wanted to do something so they helped sponsor this event. He said the interesting thing about the Moorings is that the whole subdivision is on sewer and in the STEP System already so it is not because of septic tanks leaking into the Lagoon. Also, in the Moorings in the area around their golf course it is much cleaner. The theory is that on the golf course they are using just the right amount of fertilizer. He said so what is left is people's yards. This conference explains native landscaping versus their traditional lawn, which is probably the source of new nitrogen going in the Lagoon. The difference is when native plants are planted along the edge of the grass they are not going to allow the same level of nitrogen runoff into the Lagoon. He said this is not a costly solution where the City has to spend all kinds of money. What they have to do is change people's behavior. He expressed how important it was that they attend this event and get a better understanding so that they can try and change the behaviors in their community to approve the health of their Lagoon and not necessarily always throwing money at the problem.

Dr. Zudans mentioned that there has only been one (1) vote on the City Council since he has been a member that was not a unanimous vote so he was happy how they were all getting along.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Tonight's meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

/tb