

**CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA
AUGUST 18, 2020 8:30 A.M.
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

The invocation was given by Pastor Chris Kollmann of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor Moss led the City Council and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Tony Young, present; Vice Mayor Laura Moss, present; Councilmember Robbie Brackett, present; Councilmember Joe Graves, present and Councilmember Rey Neville, present (via GoToMeeting) **Also Present:** Monte Falls, City Manager; John Turner, City Attorney and Tammy Bursick, City Clerk

2. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular City Council Minutes – July 21, 2020

Mr. Brackett made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Mayor Moss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Special Call City Council Minutes – July 31, 2020

Vice Mayor Moss made a motion to adopt the July 31, 2020 Special Call minutes. Mr. Brackett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A. Agenda Additions, Deletions, and Adoption.

Mr. Monte Falls, City Manager, requested adding on an agenda item under City Manager's Matters, item 9-D) "Consider a St. John's Water Management District Grant Application."

Vice Mayor Moss made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Mr. Graves seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Proclamations and recognitions by Council.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA (include amount of expense)**
 - A) **Grant of Electrical Utility Easement to FP&L #2020-EG-21-Portion of Airport West Subdivision**
 - B) **Memorandum of Lease Renewal Agreement between the City of Vero Beach and Ferrellgas, L.P.**
 - C) **New Lease Agreement between the City of Vero Beach and David Langfitt, Sr. – Trust**
 - D) **Award of Contract to Kearns Construction and Property Management – Humiston Beach Park Restroom Remodel – Bid #290-20/JO – VBPW Project #2019-26- (\$104,900)**

Vice Mayor Moss made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. Graves seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A) ORDINANCES

- 1) **An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Amending Chapter 73, Tobacco Products, Amending Chapter 73, Tobacco Products, of the Code of the City of Vero Beach, related to the use of Electronic Cigarettes; to Prohibit the Sale and Distribution of Tobacco Products to persons under 21 years of age; Providing for Penalties; Providing for Conflict and Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the City Council**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. John Turner, City Attorney, stated that this matter relating to amending Chapter 73 on tobacco products was requested by City Council and he is now bringing it back for a public hearing. He said they are amending Chapter 73 on the controls over distribution of electronic cigarettes that are contained in the State Statute and also to implement prohibition of the sale of tobacco products in the City limits to those under 21 years of age. This is more restrictive than the State Statute at this time. The State Statute preempts the smoking of tobacco products, but it does not preempt the sale of tobacco products to anyone under 21 years of age. In preparing this Ordinance he reviewed several other Ordinances that had been adopted by other municipalities. It is common knowledge as to the health hazards created by smoking tobacco products. It has now been disclosed through research and medical analysis that the use of e-cigarettes is probably even more hazardous than the use of tobacco products particularly now that the young people have adopted e-cigarettes as a cool thing to do. He has included in the Ordinance what the other municipalities have done and as far as his research indicated for the main issues which would lead to amending Chapter 73. What he tried to address was no business in the City limits shall sell or offer to sell to persons under 21 years of age e-cigarettes. He said that the definition of e-cigarettes is broad enough to include all current and popular usages. He said under the

State Statute there are limitations on businesses that are enclosed and prohibiting the use of e-cigarettes in the enclosed establishments. It doesn't go quite far enough as to the recommendation of the medical community to include not only the smoking or use of or any types of activity which would lead to smoking or use of the e-cigarette. Additionally, the businesses may post signs stating that usage of e-cigarettes at a business establishment is banned. He wanted to address the sale of tobacco products to persons under 21 years of age, which is addressed in Section 73-24. The sanction that they wanted to impose was on a code enforcement basis and the general application would be a warning for the first violation and then after that code enforcement actions against the violators would be pursued to the Code Enforcement Board and not through any criminal penalty. The amount of the fines have already been set by the Code in Section 2-300. In summary what they are trying to do is tighten the restriction on the sale and distribution of e-cigarettes to people under 21 years of age, tighten the restrictions on e-cigarettes in an enclosed place and also restrict the sale of tobacco products to people under 21 years of age.

Miss Kylie Savoi (spelling may not be correct), from QuitDoc Foundation, thanked the City Council for their diligence and efforts made in addressing this matter. She said that one (1) in four (4) high schools students have tried an e-cigarette. This Ordinance provides a message to other municipalities who hopefully will adopt a similar Ordinance. She talked about the State licenses needed for e-cigarettes and the different license needed for regular cigarettes. She again thanked the City Council for bringing forth this Ordinance.

Vice Mayor Moss thanked the City Attorney for his work on this Ordinance. She said that it was very well prepared. She also thanked Miss Savoi for testifying at today's meeting. She supported the Ordinance.

Mayor Young asked if the signage is a requirement.

Mr. Turner stated that it is a discretion for the business on whether or not they use the signage.

Mayor Young opened and closed the public hearing at 8:43 a.m., with no one else requesting to speak.

Vice Mayor Moss made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Mr. Brackett seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Neville voting yes, Mr. Graves yes, Mr. Brackett yes, Vice Mayor Moss yes, and Mayor Young yes.

- 2) **A Resolution of the City Council of Vero Beach, Florida, Adopting the “Three Corners, Vero Beach Report” and Directing the City Staff to prepare a Charter Amendment Ordinance and take steps to implement the Plan; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the City Council**
 - a) **Three Corners, Vero Beach Report - Dated July 17, 2020**
 - b) **Post Pandemic Design A**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. Falls commented that before them today they have a Resolution and an Ordinance concerning the Three Corners project that they have been working on for quite a long time. Today they will be looking at several master concept plans and the City engaged DPZ CoDesign to take them through a planning public input process to provide these conceptual plans. On January 31, 2020, Mr. Duany presented the plans to the public at the First Presbyterian Church. The first plan included a hotel, restaurants, retail shops and public riverfront space along the north side of the bridge. This plan received a standing ovation from those in attendance and was later endorsed by the Steering Committee and the Planning and Zoning Board. Then staff started working on placing a question on the November ballot seeking approval to move forward from the City of Vero Beach voters. Since then they all have been dealing with the global pandemic and Mr. Duany is of the public opinion that things will be ever changed as a result. On July 31, 2020, Mr. Duany presented his post pandemic plan to the City. This plan features old style units instead of a traditional hotel and outdoor restaurants in lieu of the traditional restaurant setting. This plan was endorsed by the Steering Committee, then on August 7, 2020, he and Mr. Jeffries spoke with Mr. Duany and voiced their concerns that the post pandemic plan did not appear to have the same amount of revenue generating uses as the standing ovation plan. He advised them that the City's commitment to the project was in the \$7 to \$10 million range. Hearing this number for the first time, he advised Mr. Duany that there may be little appetite from the City Council to spend half of the City's million dollar capital reserves on this project. So, Mr Duany then went back and prepared another post pandemic plan, which included somemore revenue generating uses, such as apartments and a boat storage facility. This plan was presented during a Town Hall meeting hosted by TCPalm on August 11, 2020. The public's participation with the standing ovation plan was exceptional. Then the post pandemic plans have all been prepared by DMZ at no cost to the City. However, these plans have not had the opportunity for public input as the other plans have. His recommendation would be to not move forward with the referendum until they can get the public's input on all the plans they are to consider and information regarding the feasibility of the different plans that are proposed.

Mr. Jason Jeffries, Planning and Development Director, said that he would turn the meeting over to Mr. Andres Duany, Consultant hired from DPZ who designed the plans. He noted that yesterday he emailed the Council the latest Plan, which is Plan "D".

Mr. Andres Duany was at today meeting via GoToMeeing. He said that he would try to clarify what the issues are, the situation, and what he recommends. He said that the explanation just given by Mr. Falls is accurate except that he received an ovation at the January presentation meeting because of the process that was taken in coming up with the five (5) different plans and not so much on the plan that was chosen. The plan that they will be seeing today will be the 5th plan, which is his recommendation. He doesn't believe anything particular that rejects the other plans. Plan five (5) is the new plan, which is Plan "D". He expressed that over February and March the world changed substantially. The Coronavirus created a situation where social distancing is important. The mothballing of the site was his idea. It was not a positive proposition, but they did it because of lack of a

program. He said all these plans are positive because they have excess land and beautiful weather, sunlight, air, and space. These are things that are in response to the virus. He said that Florida weather is a privilege for this kind of thing. The plan responds to the virus, however this plan is better and more useable than the prior one. He said because so many businesses have closed in Vero Beach means there is a great loss of income. He heard from the Finance Director that there was \$21 million that could be spent on this project if that was Council's wishes. This money was from the sale of the Electric Utility. Now, he is hearing from the City Manager that this money has not been allocated for this project and must remain in the lock box and that the plan has to pay for itself. He agrees with that comment otherwise the project will never be built. He said that with Plan "D" the City gets everything that they want very early and it pays for itself. He then went through the previous plans, as well as Plan "D" (Power Point presentation attached to the original minutes). He is happy to have gone through this process because he sees no downside to it.

Mrs. Irina Woelfle commented that they have been hearing that the public has not had a chance to weigh in on the post pandemic plan, which is why they had a facebook live presentation to go over it. On Friday she put out a survey to see what people wanted. She called it the "Three Corners Post-Pandemic Plan Online Survey Comments." She said that 30% of the people said stay with the original plan and 32% was in favor of the post pandemic plan. She said that 60% said it was smart to include the post pandemic plan and 22% said that they liked both plans. She said once they determine the next steps in the process, she would be happy to let the public know. She said through the process she has been using they are able to reach the public within 72 hours.

Vice Mayor Moss asked if this was through social media.

Mrs. Woelfle answered no and said that social media was the worst thing to use. She is using a program devised for SpeakupVeroBeach. She said they soon will be closing SpeakUpVeroBeach, and the information will go on the City's website. About 2000 people engaged in the process and those are the people that she reaches out to.

Vice Mayor Moss told Mrs. Woelfe what a great job she does and she appreciates her efforts on communication. She said there are a number of people who are not electronic savvy, which is why they rely on the newspaper.

Mrs. Woelfe said she would find it hard to believe that no one in this community has heard about this project. She hoped that TCPalm will do something again when it is the final moment do something.

Vice Mayor Moss appreciated her devotion to the City. Her concern is that they are down to the wire on this and they don't have to push this through. There is not an emergency and they are not on fire. The City Council has an election every year so if they don't do it this year it can get on next year's ballot. The people own 26 pieces of land. It is their land and they get to decide what to do with it. She said think about what they witnessed in Sebastian and a lot of that had to do with the Sebastian annexation. It is fair to say there

was a communication gap that caused all kinds of situations to occur that they would never want to happen here. She mentioned a recall election, state violations, etc. That is a road they never want to go down. The other thing is that this has not been vetted. Before it even gets to the community it would go before the Steering Committee and the Planning and Zoning Board. They are not there yet. They are looking at it a little too narrow in regards to funding. Does the City pay for it or is it a developer that pays for it. One thing they have not looked at is partnering with nonprofits to help with the cost. What they have before them today is a Resolution and an Ordinance. The Resolution reads that the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the City, the public health, safety and welfare, and will be of great public benefit to approve in principle the master concept plan and to direct City staff to take steps to begin implementing the planning concepts set forth in the master concept plan. The other document is the Ordinance that states that the public land listed in subsection (a)(12) known as the former Power Plant property, north of the 17th Street Bridge, west of the Indian River, and east of Indian River Boulevard, shall be developed consistent with the master concept plan presented in the Three Corners Vero Beach Report adopted August 18, 2020, and the property may be leased as described in the master plan. She said these are legal documents that they vote on and they all refer to the master concept plan. This is all on the City's website. If they look at the Ordinance the question on the referendum is shall Section 5.05 of the City Charter be amended to clarify subsection (a)(12) and add subsection (c) allowing the former Power Plant site be leased for financially feasible development with restaurants, retail, hotel, and similar commercial uses while maintaining public access to the waterfront with recreational spaces consistent with the master concept plan approved by City Council on August 18, 2020. The master concept plan is referred to many times in these documents. She is concerned that they do not have a single master concept plan and that they have not vetted the new post pandemic plans and had interaction with the community. This is their last piece of huge property left in the City and they don't want to make a mistake with it. She doesn't think that they should sell any of it.

Mayor Young understood that what their focus was at this point of time was to examine adopting the report and looking at staff to prepare a Charter amendment. They have heard the presentation by Mr. Duany. All of them appreciate what Mr. Duany has done. The Steering Committee is well represented and a lot of work has gone into it. They have a process that has changed and a lot of points to take into account.

Mr. Brackett said that he was not sure where they are right now. He doesn't agree with Mr. Duany concerning the hotel. He said right now they are in a pandemic, but who knows what will happen a year from now. To change the plan this drastically is not necessary. They started this process eight (8) months ago and there were reservations as to what would happen. There were people that were afraid of the process and they eventually all agreed to hire DPZ. Staff has done a wonderful job to make this transparent. They went through the whole process and now that are down to the last five (5) minutes and they have a new plan in front of them that has not been vetted. They started with one (1) plan and now they have three (3) plans. He is very disappointed and that is exactly what the stakeholders felt would happen. The plan is not financially feasible. Since the last Steering Committee meeting he and his wife took a trip and they noted that people are traveling. He said people

are staying at hotels and eating out. They found a number of locations where they couldn't even get a room. People were wearing masks and social distancing. He believed if the Steering Committee continued driving the ball and not Mr. Duany, they would have another plan. He received a lot of phone calls from people who expressed that they had concerns about the road they were going down. He asked staff if putting two (2) plans on the ballot would be feasible and he was told they did not think that would work. A lot of people (Steering Committee) put their time and input in the plan and he agrees that they need to have the public's input.

Mr. Graves agreed that there was a radical change from the plan that was approved until where they are now. He likes the post pandemic plan, but they need to have a plan that everyone agrees with as much as they can. This is a project that they can come together on and be united. This was probably the number one (1) reason he ran for City Council. Ms. Alma Lee Loy said this plan is to be a legacy and with her saying that they need to get it right. He was disappointed that they won't have anything going on the ballot, but they have to appreciate the process. They must not make a decision without first having public comment on the plan. He said even with the response as reported by Mrs. Woelfe shows that the public is still divided on this, which means the plan has not been properly vetted. They need to go back to the Steering Committee for further review.

Mr. Neville stated that they needed to fully assess funds for the future development, which is vital in moving forward. They need to know if they are going to keep Big Blue and pull out the equipment east of it and secure the building when it is gone. If they intend to keep the two (2) tanks on the south portion of the property they need to find out if they can use them. There is a lot of technical issues that remain unclear to have a plan that they can follow through on. He would not recommend putting this on the November ballot, but start wrestling on these issues. They made a commitment to the public to come up with a plan that will be voted on and if it is inexcusable then everything changes and puts them in a quarry. He has always understood that the site has to be revenue neutral. Before selecting a design concept they need to determine the level of contribution from the City, which is something they have not talked about at all. They should ask the City Manager to develop these costs relative to these alternatives and present them to Council. Also realize for every public space dedicated in these properties there must be a revenue cost in keeping those sites up (maintenance). Their General Fund is now supplemented by the sale of the power system. They should contact perspective developers to see if there is any skin in the game and to see if they like any of these designs. Their circumstances do not allow them to proceed in November.

Mayor Young felt that it was important to hear from the Steering Committee.

Ms. Vicky Gould, Chairwoman of the Steering Committee, said that she is also disappointed. She still thinks Mr. Duany is a genius and has come up with some amazing plans. She said that Mrs. Woelfe set the ball so high with public involvement and they can't change that level of involvement. She does see the errors in her ways with voting the plan and not having it vetted by the public. Although, she is disappointed to have to put this on hold, she agrees it is the right thing to do. She said lets not drop the ball. Lets keep

the momentum going and move this forward in way of engaging the public more. There is no rush for them to put this on the November ballot.

Mrs. Linda Moore commented that the last time she voted at the Steering Committee on the post pandemic plan she regretted doing it almost immediately. She said with the first plan everyone was on board with it. She doesn't believe that people don't like hotels or air conditioning. Then two (2) days later another new plan appeared with a hotel on it so why did they change the plan in the first place. They should have just stayed with the original plan. She was disappointed that they were going to have to go to referendum in an off election year. She reiterated that she wished they would have stayed with the standing ovation plan.

Mr. Stu Keiller, Executive Director of the Youth Sailing Foundation, commented that COVIC-19 has affected them, but it also has benefited them because they are outside. Their bookings have increased by 20%. They have already booked their fall registers at 170 people so far and last year they only had 150 people that booked totally. He said that 45% of those registered are from the underserved community. He said that the Youth Sailing Foundation agrees that they need to be on the south side of the property and are working with staff to give them enough space. He wanted to get on the next Council agenda to present their plan. He said the funds for the project are there and they are serious about constructing this building. Mr. Brackett told Mr. Keiller he would sponsor him to be on the agenda.

Mayor Young expressed that it was imperative that they utilize the process that they have incorporated to move forward. It is also important for the Steering Committee to meet again and to take into consideration the proposed plans the Youth Sailing has, among other things that have been brought up.

Mr. Graves agreed that they did have a great plan, however they hired an expert and he has given them a pandemic plan, which is being reflected here. Taking the original plan to referendum would be a mistake because they can't ignore what the expert says. As months go by they will know better what is going to happen. They as a Council never considered before having this be revenue neutral or what contributions are going to be made by the City. He thinks that they need to get the best plan that they can whether or not it will cost the City. This needs to be further vetted. He did like the additional green space with the post pandemic plan.

Mr. Paul Recortory, Pilot for American Airlines, commented that if they are looking at history then the virus will come and go. It is prudent to take a pause. At this point the City has spent a lot of money on a consultant and it is not prudent for them to make a rash decision. With respect to travel when he flies his aircraft it is 80% full and carries about 300 people. People need to travel and that will continue. They have taken a medical issue and turned it into an economic tragedy. He thought that the original plan was very well embraced by the public.

Dr. Richard Baker appreciated Council's voting on postponing this. He mentioned that downtown has very little green space left so they need to be careful to offer green space on the Three Corners property. He said that green space has a healing nature. He said that the private enterprise could be put close by, but not on this site. The water storage tanks could be used for concerts. For visitors they could have a small home demonstration on how to live with solar and having an example there is a great idea. Have the design for technology in the future. He said that the Pelican Audubon Society is willing to help them with the landscaping there, but he was not sure about the maintenance. They could put in butterfly gardens and picnic areas for families. There would be open space for all levels of ages to go there. Moving in the right dirt and removing some sod could get some nature back. They need to think about this a little more. He said that locally they could come up with some great ideas that don't cost a lot of money.

Mr. Mike Springle, resident of Fairlane Harbor, said that in the very beginning of the project they should have discussed what the spending was going to be. Mr. Duany has struggled to quickly respond to the changing budget level. They have all seen the level of enthusiasm the plans presented by DPZ have brought. He suggested relooking at the contract at what DPZ was asked to do and fulfill that. He said that the Council needs to make sure that they don't lose Mr. Duany because he is an amazing architect.

Miss Sydney O'Haire commented that this is very disappointing. She didn't want to see this happen and wanted to see the plan go to referendum in November, however she understands why the push back until next year. She hopes from the bottom of her heart that they don't fail the community. The community wanted to see the vote in November because they all had the momentum. Mr. Duany is a genius and she understands why he went over the pandemic plan. She hopes that Mr. Duany will stay with them throughout the process. She hopes that all the energy they had in the beginning of the year will be carried into the next year. She doesn't want to see this fall through the cracks.

Mayor Young said from the City Council's perspective this plan will be carried through fruition.

Mr. Ken Daige agreed it would be a good thing to hold off on this and not put it on the ballot in November. Some good points were brought up like the feasibility study. He announced that in December 2020, there will be some new rules that will need to be followed as far as the Florida Building Code goes and some revisions to the plan may have to be made. He just attended some classes on this. The cost of building commercially will go up. He brought up Edgewood Park and said some things will be happening in the art community, which is in the works now and he doesn't want to see any conflicts to what is being proposed at the Three Corners property. He wanted everyone to keep in mind how many small businesses have closed downtown. Dr. Baker talked about green things, which will pull people to the City and it is a good idea to do some type of economic study to see what will work and not hurt them financially.

Ms. Maryann Springle, resident of Fairland Harbor, said that she looked at all the plans and is confused about them. She likes the pandemic plan, but not having apartments there.

She is concerned there will be higher density with having apartments on the south side of the property. She worries about the traffic and said that it is almost impossible sometimes getting out of Fairlane Harbor. She doesn't mind a hotel because people come and go.

Mrs. Irina Wolfe said that she was pleased to see that they were holding off on putting this on the November ballot. She agreed that they needed to visit the financial situation. She suggested when considering the Steering Committee that it be headed by Miss O'Haire.

At this time Council took a ten-minute break and the meeting reconvened at 10:52 a.m.

Mr. Duany wanted to respond to what he has heard. The first thing is that he very much welcomes them putting off the vote and not involving it in a presidential election. He did not want this involved in a contentious election in the first place. This would have been a side show. A project of this importance deserves its own referendum vote. He is delighted about this. He addressed the changes that have occurred in this plan. He said yes there is a pandemic, but it reminded him that they live in Florida and the sun light and outdoors are virtues and once he started working on the pandemic plan he found that to be fabulous. He said lets just forget about the pandemic. What this did was wake him up to what a plan they have. The plan presented originally did not have a hotel on it, it only had cottages. Then Mr. Graves disagreed with it and felt there needed to be a hotel. He listened and added a hotel. Then Council wanted to see air conditioning for the restaurants, which he has provided. The restaurants now have air conditioning and food trucks. The fact that there are changes is because he is responding to the input of the City Council and the Steering Committee. He suggested having another meeting at the Church and let him get another standing ovation. It is not the plan, but the process that is taken. He does not think that he is being treated fairly. In the beginning of the process the Finance Director said that there was \$21 million from the sale of the Electric Utility that has not been assigned. He assumed that the conference center would be paid for by the hotel developer. However, somebody has to pay for the landscaping and infrastructure. He assumed because of what the Finance Director told him there would be \$21 million to cover that expense. Then after recently speaking to the City Manager he was asked to present a plan which is revenue generated, which he has done. That is why the plan looks the way that it does. The last plan is a marvelous plan and it pays for itself. However, how they get there they might not like. The implication is that developers have to look at this. He is a private consultant and he gave them the numbers after consulting with developers. They told him about the boat barn to raise money, which is why he included it. They also told him about the apartments needed to generate revenue. He knows what developers do. Again, he reiterated that this was a wonderful idea to put this off, but he hoped they would not wait until the next election. They should have a separate election for this. They need to look at the plan again. They should forget about the pandemic. Everyone needs to review what the project will cost. He hopes that the apartments will remain in the plan because they will help pay for the project. He asked that they not simplify the plan or they will kill it. He mentioned the time and energy that he and Mrs. Woelfe have spent on this project. He apologized for being angry, but what he is doing is for the good of the City.

Mayor Young told Mr. Duany that everyone appreciates what he is doing. He didn't want Mr. Duany to misconstrue their reservations about this project. They are fortunate to have the opportunity to look at the scenarios that he has given them.

Mr. Duany recalled when he was interviewed to be the consultant for this project, he promised them that he would be the least popular person in the City. He is not interested in being appreciated. He wants to hear how much are they willing to spend on this project, then he can do something. He has asked the City Manager every month about this and was just recently told that the City will not provide one (1) penny.

Vice Mayor Moss commented that Mr. Duany has the right to ask that and she respects his knowledge of the situation with regard to potential developers. She remembers Mr. Duany saying in the beginning of the process that this should be put on a referendum at a stand-alone election. She told Mr. Duany that they will get him the information that he needs and she thanked him for everything that he has done.

Mr. Graves agreed with having more meetings on this, but having a schedule to keep the process moving forward. He would like to see on an upcoming agenda that they (City Council) discuss how much money will be spent on this project. He apologized to Mr. Duany if he was misled or not treated properly. He asked the City Manager to keep Mr. Duany engaged in this process. The City needs to continue to have his expertise to guide them. They really want to create something here in Vero unlike anything else.

Mr. Neville questioned about the cottages being built on the project as opposed to a hotel.

Mr. Duany explained that he talked to a developer who did a similar project and the entire project that drives it is a boat barn. This developer said that he will write a check for \$6 million, but Mr. Duany thinks that they can get more. He said no to the hotel because people are terrified of the long hallways. The cottages are air conditioned, but have no walkways. The minute City Council tells him how much money he has he will give them another plan. The developer was skeptical of a conference center. This conference center is a long thin one that is open and cross ventilated. The other ones don't work. He is trying to maneuver things in this project that will be the only game in town. That is why he didn't remove food trucks just in case the restaurants don't work. He will continuously design both.

Mayor Young stated that there is a consensus that a motion is not needed to move forward at this point with the adoption of the plan. He asked what the City Council can do to facilitate moving this forward.

Mr. Turner explained that this Resolution and the referendum Ordinance will be delayed giving the Steering Committee time to go through the process. He will be bringing a Resolution to the Council to not sunset the Steering Committee in November as it presently stands.

Mr. Duany asked that a standing ovation meeting should be set as soon as they can have one.

Mr. Falls said it has been an honor to work with DPZ and Mr. Duany. He said that he and Mr. Jeffries have put a lot of time into this project and will make sure that they are fair with them. He also wanted to point out that they have said all along that they wanted this project to operate revenue neutral. Mr. Duany has given them a plan where it can happen and now that they have the information they can sit around the table and discuss it. This is a project for all of Vero Beach, but when it comes down to paying for it, it rests on the shoulder of 18,000 people in the City of Vero Beach. He said that one (1) thing he has heard is lets not let this last piece of property get away from us. People want to go to a restaurant and enjoy their meal at a waterfront setting. The City is committed to working with Mr. Duany and his team.

Mayor Young said at this point it is the consensus of the Council that the City Attorney bring back to the Council a Resolution engaging the services of the Steering Committee longer than November and to maintain Mr. Duany's assistance.

Mr. Turner hoped to bring the Resolution to Council at their September 1st meeting.

Mr. Graves wanted to talk about the decision on how much money they will spend on the project and have that put on a future agenda. He agreed that they need to hold the standing ovation meeting in January or February.

Mr. Jeffries commented that he is working on a timeline for them to work off of.

Mr. Falls said that they will continue to work on setting up the standing ovation meeting once the CDC guidelines allow more people to attend meetings. He will put on the second meeting in September to discuss how much money that the City will spend on the project.

Mr. Neville asked if the restaurants could be built before the rest of the planned project was complete. Mr. Duany answered yes. Mr. Neville said then the appropriate landscaping could be put in. He asked Mr. Duany if that would be a feasible concept. Mr. Duany said that it is doable, but would be entirely on the City's nickel. Mr. Neville thought that maybe the restaurant would pay for some of the landscaping.

Mr. Graves told Mr. Duany that one thing he would like to see is what his recommendation would be for say zero amount of dollars allocated for the project or \$5 to \$7 million allocated for the project.

Mr. Duany explained that in order for him to do that the City would need to pay for an Estimator to help him out with the request. He is not capable of knowing what the infrastructure cost will be. He would not use a developer because they would be self-interested in the project.

Mayor Young explained that at this point the City would like to retain Mr. Duany and move this project forward. Mr. Duany will need to work with the City Manager on this.

Mr. Duany said they would probably be looking at an hourly salary.

Mr. Jeffries said that he will bring back some information at the second meeting in September on the Three Corners property and find out what parameters they need to be working with for Mr. Duany's contract.

Mr. Duany commented that he would like to recommend some developers who understand the plan.

Mr. Neville mentioned some things that could be done right now. He said like building a fishing pier, putting in a smaller part of the docks and having some food trucks there. He said these would be fun things that could be done so that they can start using the property.

3) An Ordinance Calling and Providing for the holding of a Referendum in the City of Vero Beach, Florida on November 3, 2020 at the General Election to Submit to the Electors a Proposed Amendment to the Charter of the City of Vero Beach (former Power Plant site) – Requested by the City Council

This Ordinance was not passed by City Council (please refer to earlier discussion).

B) RESOLUTIONS

1) A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Authorizing the Execution and Acceptance of a Federally-funded Subaward and Grant Agreement between the City of Vero Beach and the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management for COVID-19 (FEMA-4486-DR-FL); Delegating to the City Manager the authority to execute the agreement and act as the City's Authorized Agent for Performance of the Agreement; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Finance Director

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. Falls reported that beginning in March 2020, COVID-19 impacted the City of Vero Beach. Then on March 13, 2020, there was a Federal national emergency declaration that makes the City eligible for Federal and State public assistance funding to reimburse a share of the costs for emergency protective actions associated with this emergency declaration. The Federal cost share is 75% and the State cost share is 12.5%, leaving the City with a 12.5% match. He recommended that the City Council adopt the Resolution approving execution and acceptance of the Federally-Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement for COVID-19 and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and act as the City's authorized agent for performance of the agreement.

Mayor Young opened and closed the public hearing at 11:28 a.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Vice Mayor Moss made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Brackett seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Neville voting yes, Mr. Graves yes, Mr. Brackett yes, Vice Mayor Moss yes, and Mayor Young yes.

- 2) **A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Authorizing the City to enter into a Federal Grant Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration for a Project entitled Rehabilitate GA Apron (Construct) at Vero Beach Regional Airport; Delegating to the City Manager the authority to execute the agreement and act as the City's authorized agent for performance of the agreement; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Airport**

The City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. Falls reported that this project is included in the Airport's Capital Program in order to rehabilitate the GA Apron. The design for this project has been completed by Amherst Consulting Services. The same company will be providing construction oversight services during the construction phase of this project. Due to the new process of electronic signatures to execute a Federal Grant Agreement they have to tentatively approve the grant prior to the issuance, which should occur in late August to early September. When the grant is sent by the FAA it will be sent to the City Manager and once the City Manager executes the document it will be sent to the City Attorney for final execution. He recommended that Council approve this Resolution.

Mayor Young opened and closed the public hearing at 11:29 a.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mr. Brackett made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Vice Mayor Moss seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Mr. Neville voting yes, Mr. Graves yes, Mr. Brackett yes, Vice Mayor Moss yes, and Mayor Young yes.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute time limit)

The City Clerk read public comments made by Mr. Brian Heady and Mr. Stan Parham (on file in the City Clerk's office).

Mr. Ken Daige commented that he spoke a few minutes ago about the Florida Building Code making some changes. He said that everyone will need to abide by these new codes. He said just about everything, no matter how simple the project is, requires an engineering stamp.

6. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS

A) NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Tuesday, August 18, 2020 is Primary Election Day. Vote from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at your usual precinct. For election information, visit voteindianriver.com. Most local elections will be decided that day. Please exercise your right to vote. – Requested by Laura Moss, Vice Mayor**

Vice Mayor Moss encouraged everyone to get out and vote today if they have not already. She said if they need additional election information it can be found on the Supervisor of Election's website at voteindianriver.com

The City Clerk reminded the public that the Qualifying Period for the City of Vero Beach election starts on Thursday, August 8, 2020, and ends on Friday, September 4, 2020, at 12:00 noon.

B) OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **2020 US Census**
 - a) **PSA video (2020census.gov): Now is the Time Every Response Matters. (30 seconds)**

Please see the City website (covb.org) or [2020 census.gov](http://2020census.gov) for additional information.

Vice Mayor Moss noted that the 2020 US Census will be completed on September 30, 2020. She encouraged everyone to fill out their census form if they have not already. She then showed a new PSA video on the census.

7. PUBLIC NOTICE ITEMS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on this Ordinance to be held on September 1, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

- A) **An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Amending Chapter 60 (Appendix, Definitions) of the Land Development Regulations to Add a Definition of Room or Room Unit for Purpose of Calculating Room Density for Hotels or Congregate Living Facilities; Providing for Codification; Providing for Conflict and Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Planning and Development Director**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only and reported that the public hearing for this Ordinance will be held on September 1, 2020.

Public Hearing on this Ordinance to be held on September 1, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

- B) **An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, Abandoning all of the City's Interest in the Westerly portion of Paloma Drive as shown in Exhibit "A," lying adjacent to Block 24, Royal Park, Plat No. 7, as recorded in Plat**

**Book 1, Page 36 of the Public Records of in Indian River County, Florida;
Providing for Conflict and Severability; and Providing for an Effective
Date. – Requested by the Public Works Department**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only and reported that the public hearing for this Ordinance will be held on September 1, 2020.

**Public Hearing on this Ordinance to be held on September 15, 2020 at 8:30
a.m.**

- C) An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida; Requested by Schwerin Asset Advisors, LLC to annex property located at the southeast corner of Indian River Boulevard and 41st Street, containing 23.65 acres more or less, pursuant to the Voluntary Annexation provisions of Section 171.044 Florida Statutes; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Planning and Zoning Department

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only and reported that the public hearing for this Ordinance will be held on September 15, 2020.

**Public Hearing on this Ordinance to be held on September 15, 2020 at 8:30
a.m.**

- D) **An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida amending the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map by Changing the Future Land Use Designation of Annexed Property from Indian River County Designation M-1, Medium High Density Residential-1 to City of Vero Beach Designation RM, Residential Medium, for the property located at the southeast corner of Indian River Boulevard and 41st Street, containing 23.65 acres more or less; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Planning and Development Director**

The City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only and reported that the public hearing for this Ordinance will be held on September 15, 2020.

8. CITY CLERK MATTERS

**9. CITY MANAGER MATTERS (include amount of expense)
(Staff/Consultant special reports and information items)**

A) Indian River County CARES Act Funding Agreement (\$610,736)

Mr. Falls reported that in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”). The CARES Act established a Coronavirus Relief Fund to assist State and local governments with expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19. The City’s total allocation under this funding agreement is \$610,736. He requested that the

City Council approve the Indian River County CARES Act Funding Agreement and City of Vero Beach Spending Plan.

The request was unanimously approved.

B) Declaration No. 2020-1 Declaring Local Emergency by the City Manager of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, in Response to Tropical Storm/Hurricane Isaias on August 1, 2020 and the Termination of said Local Emergency on August 3, 2020

Mr. Falls reported that he declared a local emergency when Tropical Storm/Hurricane Isaias threatened the State in order to do some emergency items. He provided the City Council with a copy of the Executive Order.

C) Budget Updates – Fiscal Year 20-21 Proposed Budget

Ms. Cindy Lawson, Finance Director, reported that at the budget workshops the City Council agreed with staff's recommendation to appropriate funds from the City's budget stabilization reserves to stabilize the City's budget for the coming fiscal year in the wake of the COVID-19 revenue downturn. The reserve is currently at \$2.5 million and per the adopted Fund Balance Policy that they have in place it is intended as a buffer for unexpected budgetary impacts to ensure budget stability and provide service continuity. At the time of the budget workshop, State revenue sharing estimates provided by the State's Office of Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) were not yet available. The EDR released its official revenue estimates for various General Fund state revenue sharing and sales tax sources for FY 20-21. Of the total of \$3.6 million in General Fund State revenue sharing/sales tax sources, the overall decrease is \$312K or 8.7%. When offset by an additional \$83K in unappropriated surplus remaining from the workshop, the total use of budget stabilization reserves necessary to balance the FY 20-21 budget is \$229K (or less than 10% of the available amount). The EDR has released an estimate for one-cent sales tax revenue for FY 20-21 and the estimated amount of \$2,111,152 is a decrease of \$371,054 or 14.9% from the prior fiscal year. There is sufficient unappropriated fund balance in the proposed FY 20-21 Fund 304/311 budgets to absorb this reduction in the first year of the Five Year CIP. If this revenue source does not recover to its previous levels by FY 21-22, additional cuts to the Five year capital plan will become necessary to balance the budget in subsequent years.

D) Consider a Grant Application from St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD)

Mr. Falls requested to add this item on to the agenda. He said that Mr. Rob Bolton, Water and Sewer Director, has been working on a project to provide additional irrigation water to the barrier island and those properties that normally use potable or well water for irrigation the SJRWMD has a grant application that is due Friday by 5:00 p.m. Due to the nature of this project it does not need a lot of permitting and can be designed fairly quickly. The estimated cost for the project is \$2 million and Mr. Bolton will be requesting 75% funding

from SJRWMD. They will fund 100%, but recommend a match to score higher in the ranking. Therefore the request from SJRWMD is \$1.5 million. Mr. Falls requested that the City approve this request and authorize the Mayor to sign the application. If awarded the City Council will have to vote to accept or deny the grant.

Council approved the request.

Mr. Falls reported that he will be out of the office next week.

Mr. Graves wanted to have an update on the COVID-19 and PSA's. He said that they are starting to see the numbers come down and hospitalization down to 18 patients. He mentioned that quick turnaround COVID-19 tests are important. They want to make sure that they are doing everything that they can in the City to provide testing. He is particularly concerned with the schools opening up and that they could see an upsurge. He asked what, as a City, can they do with regards to being able to have a more comprehensive plan. He felt that the data that they are provided needs to be kept up to date because they can't make decisions on old data. He said it was evident that government was not ready for a pandemic and some of the data they have been getting has been two (2) weeks old. He would have hoped to be better informed by the School Board on what their plan is for testing and taking temperatures and all that stuff that is occurring within the City limits of Vero Beach.

Mr. Falls said that he would reach out to the Health Department, Emergency Services, and the School Board, to get this information and then send it out.

Mr. Graves felt that all the agencies should be working together and have a comprehensive plan and be prepared.

Mr. Falls mentioned that there is a quick turnaround test being offered to law enforcement.

Mr Graves wondered if they would be able to offer that also instead of having to wait two (2) weeks for the tests to come back. He knows the problems that have occurred in nursing homes. He said by the time someone tests it is too late. He expressed the need to work with other governments to handle what is going on.

Mayor Young questioned what the disease surveillance in place is. He said that as they look at schools reopening what is the surveillance that they have and from Dr. David Moore from the School District what is his contingency plan and do they have quick tests available. He knows that Dr. Moore probably has an oversight plan for public schools, but not and oversight plan for the private schools. He is interested in seeing what is available.

Mr. Graves said by having these turnaround testings they are being proactive rather than reactive. He agreed with looking into these things. He said when there is a void of information and other people fill it in then there is a great deal of misinformation out there.

Mayor Young was supportive of City Council asking staff to engage with Emergency Management Services (EMS) in the County on responding to incidents in the schools or in nursing homes so the public can utilize these services.

Mr. Graves agreed with seeing where EMS could help them. He reiterated that having testing available is important.

10. CITY ATTORNEY MATTERS

A) Request from Dr. Tony Abbassi to reduce a Code Enforcement Board Fine

Mr. Turner gave the history of Dr. Tony and Lorangel Abbassi, Code Enforcement Case #17-CE-7330 and Code Enforcement Case #18-CE-8775 for 3766 Ocean Drive, Vero Beach, Florida and what their request to Council was at this time. He said that the amount owed to the City is \$440,562.26. These reduction requests come under the Code in the Ordinance Section for the Code Enforcement Board and any action or request for forgiveness is at their discretion. He asked Council to keep that in mind as they are going through the background information that is on record in this case. The facts shown on the record are that this property has been given numerous citations for operating a guest house and transient quarters in a residential zone. He pointed out in the attached backup material all the work that has been done by Ms. Melody Sanderson, Code Enforcement Board Officer. She worked on this case from 2015 until today. There was a written warrant in 2015 for short term rentals rented for less than 30 days, which is prohibited unless the property is in an appropriate location. Ms. Sanderson told them in 2015 that the property could not be used for short term rentals. She told this to the property managers because the Abbassis' lived in Miami. They had someone managing the property for them. Ms. Sanderson monitored the internet where there was advertising for short term rental of this property and she also went by the property. In 2017, she cited the property for not having the right lighting in turtle season and the tenant came to the door and said she was renting the property for three (3) days. There was another time in 2018, that evidence was clear that the property was still being used for short term rentals. The fine could have stopped if they would have stopped advertising for short term rentals, but that did not happen and they continued to rent the property out as a short term rental. This property did not come into compliance until the home was sold in May of last year. At the sale the amount of lien accrued at that time was escrowed with the title company. Ms. Sanderson was at today's meeting and could tell Council about her experiences regarding this piece of property. The record prepared shows that Ms. Sanderson testified on the traffic that was at the site. She did testify under oath that she reviewed advertising on this property being used as a short term rental. She did testify having a conversation with Mrs. Abbassi and the Property Manager telling them that this house cannot be used as a short term rental. On June 12, 2019, the cases came before the Code Enforcement Board to find the property in compliance and stop continuing penalties. On June 25, 2019, the property sold for over \$2 million. In Case #17-CE-7330 the Code Enforcement Board found that the violation was corrected as of May 9, 2019, and issued an order to pay \$407,500 and costs. The case was appealed to Circuit Court and the Court affirmed the case in favor of the City of Vero

Beach. Then with Case #18-CE-8775 the Code Enforcement Board found that the violation was corrected as of May 9, 2019, and reduced the civil penalties of \$135,000 by 75% and issued that the Abbassis' pay the reduced fine of \$34,250, which they did. Payment was received for Case #18-CE-8775 on August 12, 2019. The Abbassis' did not appeal the case to the City Council, but chose to take it directly to the Circuit Court. At that time they determined to waive any complaints. When they went to the Code Enforcement Board and they went to Court they claimed they never received notice of violation. This was refuted by Ms. Sanderson and the Court finds it was true that the notices were sent to the same address that the annual property taxes are sent to and the taxes were always paid. Ms. Sanderson posted the violation and mailed the citation to the address that was on file in the Property Appraiser's office. Circuit Court upheld the decision of the Code Enforcement Board that proper notification was given. Mr. Turner made it clear to Council that the only thing being asked today is a reduction of the fine. This is not an appeal process and not a review of what happened in the Circuit Court. He said those things have been resolved. He said that staff is asking that the City Council upholds the Code Enforcement Board's decision and impose all legal cost and interest due at this time.

Mr. Brackett asked if the property taxes were paid. Mr. Turner said that he did not know.

Dr. Tony Abbassi introduced himself and said that his address is 7171 Old Cutler Road, Miami, Florida and that is the only address that he uses. He said that Ms. Rachel Fresco would be representing him at today's meeting.

Ms. Rachel Fresco read a prepared statement. She asked the City Council to reconsider the more than \$400,000 imposed on the Abbassi family because they put all their trust in their Property Manager. She was astonished when she heard that Dr. Abbassi was being considered a middle Asian doctor from Miami. She said that yes he is a doctor in Miami, but wanted his family to enjoy their home here. Dr. Abbassi was approached by a Property Management Company to rent the property out when he was not in town. She said that Mr. Abbassi never received any of the citations and if he had he would have taken care of the problem. The return receipts show they never received the notices. What they are asking here is that the fine be reduced to \$150,000. Mr. Abbassi will donate the remainder of the fine via donation of his time to the Treasure Coast Community Health Center in Vero Beach, Florida. He is willing to work and provide 50 hours of medical consultations each year for the next two (2) years at the Community Health Center to people who lack financial resources to receive this assistance. Dr. Abassi is presently helping COVID-19 patients in the hospital. They asked the City to do the right thing and please accept the settlement offer.

Mr. Turner acknowledged that the City Council received a letter from Mrs. Linda Hillman, Vice Chairman of the Code Enforcement Board, who supports the Code Enforcement Board's decision and wants the City Council to uphold it in its fullest. She also indicated that she is concerned about attorney fees and why they were not accessed. Mr. Turner said under their system attorney fees are not recoverable in every case just because you win. It has to be by contract or Florida Statue provisions.

Ms. Fresco commented that when this case was heard by the Code Enforcement Board that because of the pandemic and the way the meeting was being conducted that Mr. Abbassi's attorney only had five (5) minutes to present his case.

Mr. Turner noted that there was extensive cross investigation given at that meeting. That decision was upheld and it is water under the bridge. They are here today on the basis to determine if there should be a fine reduction.

Ms. Fresco reiterated that Dr. Abbassi never received the notices that were being sent. The fact is not to hear admission of guilt and that is not the case. They are not hear to appeal the case. What they ask for is empathy and everyone should agree that this property is not causing any harm. She is a real estate broker and once something is put on the internet (referring to the short term rental advertising) it is hard to get it off. They are just here to ask Council to consider them humans and have some empathy during these times with the pandemic and that the Doctor was very stressed. She said having this second piece of property with so many expenses they had to get loans to pay the mortgage off and the closing costs before they could sell the property. They ask for mercy.

Mr. Turner stated that the property sold in May for \$2.5 million.

Ms. Fresco said yes, but that included expenses.

Dr. Abbassi added that his mortgage was \$1.8 million, which had to be paid, plus the realtor's commission.

Mr. Brackett had some problems with the Abbassis' being told that short term rentals were not allowed, but they continued to rent out their home.

Mr. Turner agreed that the evidence presented shows very clearly that the property was continuing to be used as a short term rental and did not end until it was sold.

Mayor Young commented that in this case the appeal did not come to the City Council, but went straight to the Circuit Court and they ruled in favor of the City. They do not like or permit short term rentals in the City of Vero Beach and there has been blatant disregard to remedy this. This case has been going on for an extended period of time.

Ms. Fresco questioned that if this property was rented for as long as they say it was then why doesn't the revenue compare to that. When you advertise for say 30 days some sights don't let you do it for 30 days. They had to put 3 or 4 days on the website in order to get the property out there. It is the Property Manager's fault and they acknowledge that.

Mr. Turner said that those issues have been resolved and Dr. Abbassi has lost. They are here today on his reduction request. His objection with his agent is something separate. The Abbassis' still have to abide by the Ordinance in place and his failure to know that is not a defense.

Vice Mayor Moss commented that it is their responsibility to protect the community and protect the City's assets.

Mr. Graves told Ms. Sanderson that she did a good job in documenting this case. If there is a remedy it is against Mr. Abbassis's property agent. A lot of time was invested from the City on this case.

Ms. Fresco said that she was trying to prove to Council that Dr. Abbassis is a human being and you will impose a great impact in the money that Dr. Abbassis has left.

Mr. Turner stated that the Council is here today regarding the request to reduce the fine.

Ms. Fresco continued by saying she was not hearing any type of empathy.

Mr. Turner told her that she was out of order.

Mr. Brackett asked Mr. Turner if the Council takes no action then does the amount owed for the fine remain. Mr. Turner said yes.

Mr. Neville agreed that the fine owed should be paid.

Mayor Young stated that a lack of a motion means there will be no reduction in the penalty that is owed.

11. COUNCILMEMBER MATTERS

A. Mayor Young's Matters

Sponsored presentation items by the public (10-minute time limit)

1) Ms. Louise Young, Laura Riding Jackson Foundation, will give an update on the community building activity during COVID-19

Ms. Louise Young, Executive Director of the Laura Riding Jackson Foundation, commented that there are a lot of people in this community who do not know who Laura Jackson was. She dedicated 60 years of her life to this community. She said a lot of people outside of this community are familiar with her and her history. They have moved her home from the Environmental Learning Center to the Mueller Campus. She said at the Foundation they run poetry festivals and writing workshops. They recently hosted a couple of competitions during COVID-19 and reached out to the public and were able to put it in a book. She handed out a copy of the book to each Councilmember. The books are available for sale at the office for \$10.00 per book. Anyone wanting to know more about the Foundation can contact her and all the information is on their website.

Mayor Young reported on the recent Florida League of Cities delegate meeting that he attended. He said that there is new leadership forming with the League and he encouraged

the Council to be a part of that since he will not be able to. He mentioned when Florida Government Week will be held and hoped that they would participate.

Mayor Young reported that Leisure Square will be having their annual gymnastic fall session and anyone that wishes can take advantage of that. He reminded Council that in September they will be holding a total of four (4) meetings. There will be two (2) regular City Council meetings and then there will be two (2) Special Call meetings to approve the budget.

B. Vice Mayor Moss's Matters

Sponsored presentation items by the public (10-minute time limit)

- 1) Free Live Oak Trees Available at Audubon House! Press Release with details attached.**

Vice Mayor Moss thanked Dr. Baker for attending the meeting and offering the Audubon Society's help with the Three Corners project. She said at that point in the meeting that there may be some other nonprofit organizations that would want to help with the project and then Dr. Baker offered the Audubon Society's services.

C. Councilmember Brackett's Matters

Sponsored presentation items by the public (10-minute time limit)

D. Councilmember Joe Graves's Matters

Sponsored presentation items by the public (10-minute time limit)

Mr. Graves appreciated staff and said that they are always very responsive to his requests. He is closing in on his first year on Council and he appreciates how the City works. There are a lot of positive things occurring with their City and staff.

Mr. Graves talked about COVID-19 and mentioned the article that he sent to the City Clerk to send to them. Some people are wearing masks and some or not wearing masks. This City Council agrees that everyone should wear a mask. The reason for wearing a mask is because they care about others and it is the right thing to do. The question is how they get the citizens to buy in to wearing masks. As time goes on he sees more and more voluntary compliance. Citizens are exercising social distancing and doing all the things they need to do to stay safe. The interesting thing about this TCPalm article is that it is a behavioral article. It talks about how they get citizens to buy in to wearing masks. He appreciates a facebook group that have been working together to get an outcome that they all desire. They have been very deliberate about being respectable and not name calling and had an impact from people in the public to wear masks. As a society, whether in Vero Beach or in another State, he is seeing compliance of their citizenry and it is showing in the infection rates. He said kudos to their citizens in stepping up and being leaders. Government can't

solve every problem. He is pleased to see the infectious rates where they are. They need to keep their eye on it when schools open and do whatever they can to keep their children safe. He was happy to see their citizens coming together.

E. Councilmember Rey Neville's Matters

Sponsored presentation items by the public (10-minute time limit)

Mr. Neville said it was a darn shame that not everyone would cooperate a few months ago when this virus situation started. He said that masks are for people that are near you when there cannot be social distancing. He said it is unfortunate that there are some people who will not wear masks and they don't know that they could be spreading the disease. He hopes that they continue along this path in having fewer and fewer cases.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

/tb