

CITY OF VERO BEACH, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 5:30 P.M. (following 5:15 p.m. Budget Hearing meeting)
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA

Tonight's meeting convened at 6:03 p.m.

Mayor Howle explained that this is the point in time where they have the invocation. However, one (1) year ago yesterday our community lost a bright shiny star of the community, Mr. John Michael Kim. He asked that they give him a moment of silence, followed by the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

At this time, the City Council and the audience present for tonight's meeting stood in a moment of silence for Mr. Kim.

The invocation was given by Pastor Randy Bryant of Ryanwood Fellowship followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Dr. Zudans.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Harry Howle, present; Vice Mayor Lange Sykes, present; Councilwoman Laura Moss, present; Colonel Tony Young, present and Dr. Val Zudans, present **Also Present:** James O'Connor, City Manager; Kira Honse, Assistant City Attorney and Sherri Philo, Deputy City Clerk

2. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular City Council Minutes – September 4, 2018

Dr. Zudans made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2018 regular City Council meeting. Vice Mayor Sykes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Special Call City Council Minutes – September 4, 2018

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2018 Special Call meeting. Vice Mayor Sykes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Agenda Additions, Deletions, and Adoption.

The Deputy City Clerk pulled item 2D-1) from the agenda noting that it would be heard under item 4B-1). She then pulled item 3-A) off the consent agenda and added under the City Manager's Matters, item 8-A) – Asplundh Contract Price Change – October 7, 2018.

Dr. Zudans made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Vice Mayor Sykes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Proclamations and recognitions by Council.

1) POW/MIA – September 21, 2018

Colonel Young read and presented the Proclamation.

2) Mr. Rob Bolton, Water & Sewer Director, being recognized at Florida Professional Engineer

Mayor Howle presented Mr. Rob Bolton, Water and Sewer Director, with a plaque recognizing him as the Florida Professional Engineer of the Year.

Councilwoman Moss welcomed the Charter High School students who were in attendance. She explained to them that Mr. Bolton manages one of the City's Enterprise Funds. The City has different Enterprise Funds and each one is a business. So, Mr. Bolton runs a business. He runs the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund. That is how it works. So, in addition to saving the environment, he also runs what is a profitable department for the City. She thanked Mr. Bolton.

Mr. Young noted that this recognition is for the entire State of Florida. So, the City of Vero Beach has the top Engineer.

D. Staff/Consultant special reports and information items.

1) Mr. Ryan Bass, Finance Commission Chairman, to discuss going out for an RFP for the parking Kiosks.

This item was pulled from today's agenda and will be heard with item 4-A).

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

1) Presentation by Julie Eisdorfer on the installation and dedication of a Blue Star Marker at City Hall. – Sponsored by Councilmember Tony Young

Mrs. Julie Eisdorfer reported that as the City celebrates its Centennial, the Garden Club of Indian River County is celebrating its 90th Anniversary of service to the community. She is present for tonight's meeting to seek the support of the City Council for their latest project, the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker, which they would like to place

at the northeast corner of City Hall on Route 60 West, as well as enhancing the landscaping around the marker. She then read a prepared statement (attached to the original minutes). She asked the City Council for their support and approval of their request and permission to install a Blue Star Memorial Marker at City Hall to honor our Armed Forces.

Mayor Howle said they have his blessing.

Mr. O'Connor said that they have been working with Mr. Falls on the location, which he is totally satisfied with, so they will proceed unless there are any objections from the City Council. There were no objections.

F. Public Comment (3 minute time limit).

Mr. Brian Heady thanked the City Councilmembers who were in favor of giving the employees a 3% salary increase. He said that he had intended to speak on an issue involving a disabled veteran, but prior to this meeting being called to order he spoke with Mr. Young in the lobby and he was informed that the situation is being taken care of. He said that he is going to take Mr. Young on his word that this veteran is being taken care of and he is sure that he will be at their next meeting if he is not.

Mr. Young explained to the audience that the Veterans Council has a mission to provide support to veterans who are in need to go to the Veterans Hospital in West Palm Beach so every morning they have a transportation service that picks up veterans from Sebastian throughout Vero Beach and transports them to the Hospital and then brings them back home. He noted that they are the only County in the Treasure Coast area that has a Veterans Council given that responsibility and the Veterans Council takes great pleasure in doing that.

Mr. Arthur Economy said that he began attending City Council meetings a few years ago in an effort to keep the Dog Park at McWilliam Park green space and a Dog Park. At that time many groups were trying to petition the use of that property for other uses. The City Councilmembers debated with groups of City residents, with each other, and consulted with different City Government Committees. After several meetings, the City Council made a decision based on constituent's desires, recommendations of City Committees, and City Charter Law. In short, the City Council did their job. They governed based on City Charter Law and listened to the City residents' input. With the present City Council, he has observed a governing process based on three (3) votes of Council. A series of decisions to monetize City property and Charter protected property has occurred. He said these decisions were made without consideration of taxpayers and voter's requests, input, petitions, and recommendations of City Committees. His understanding of City Charter Law does not support this form of governing and decision making process. He asked why are they trying to sell Dodgertown. Their vote alone does not justify selling. He asked where is their Committee input. He asked what research or appraisals have they done to show future value and use of this land in respect to Dodgertown, Airport growth, City infrastructure, and green space. He asked why are they trying to lease the Marina.

He asked where is their input from the Marine Commission and the Finance Commission. He asked why do they assume that their vote gives them absolute power to interpret Section 5.05 of the City Charter Law. He said their decision making process and actions lack any use of logical methods. City Councilmembers need to stop casting aside the use of appropriate committees, voters input, opinion of fellow Councilmembers, and Oath of Office. He asked that they please stop governing the City with their vote and start listening.

Mayor Howle closed public comment at 6:31 p.m., with no one else wishing to be heard.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A) Agreement between the City of Vero Beach and Teamsters Local Union No. 769/Clerical & Technical Unit

This item was pulled from today's agenda.

B) Agreement between the City of Vero Beach and Teamsters Local Union No. 769

Mr. O'Connor reported that this item is the agreement between the City of Vero Beach and the Teamsters Local Union, for the Blue Collar Workers.

C) Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) System Pumps, Panels and Components – Bid 220-18/PJW – Orenco Systems, Inc. – (Expected Expenditure for FY2018/2019 is \$500,000)

Mr. O'Connor reported that item is a sole source supplier for the STEP system. He said the cost is approximately \$500,000, but the City will only spend what they need.

Mayor Howle opened and closed public comment on the consent agenda at 6:32 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Dr. Zudans pulled item B) from the consent agenda stating that he does not need to discuss it, but would be voting against it.

Councilwoman Moss made a motion to approve the agreement between the City of Vero Beach and Teamsters Union #769. Vice Mayor Sykes seconded the motion and it passed 4-1 with Dr. Zudans voting no.

Vice Mayor Sykes made a motion to approve the Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) System Bid 220-18-PJW. Councilwoman Moss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS

- A. New Business**
- B. Old Business**

1) Parking Options – Requested by the City Council

Mayor Howle said that Mr. Bass would speak on this matter first.

Dr. Zudans said that he has asked Mrs. Karen Diegel to speak as she has some useful information to provide them with.

Mr. Ryan Bass, Chairman of the Finance Commission, said that he appreciated the Mayor recognizing Mr. John Kim. He said that it reminds him when breaking it down to the basics people come to the dais and attack the City Councilmembers and he wanted to thank them for what they do. He said there were a lot of people who were out looking for Mr. Kim so when people come up and attack them, they need to remember that these are the same people who are out, as a Vero Beach family, to love each other when times are needed.

Mr. Bass said the City Council has to talk about hard issues with parking being one (1) of them. He said at their last meeting there were some suggestions that it was a possibility of business owners paying for the kiosks. He wanted to throw out a couple hiccups in that concept. He explained that there is no way to regulate it and there is no way to enforce it. He said if someone was to overstay their welcome, would the City foot the bill to enforce the violation. He questioned how that would work. He felt there would be a lot of issues with that, as well as questioned if it was the responsibility of the businesses to foot the cost of the infrastructure. He said that he doesn't recommend going to RFP at this point in that there has been a lot of expression of the City getting a bad reputation for that. He felt that the City Council could direct staff to go back in the minutes, to speak with other cities to find out what systems they are using, to see if there is any interest of kiosk providers, and to have a committee or the kiosk providers do a calculation to see if there is a way to end up net neutral or net positive on the implementation of a kiosk. He also suggested that the City residents getting some form of a parking sticker and perhaps they could have a one (1) hour time slot on the kiosk. He believes that trying to put the burden on the individual business owners, as well as implementing this, would be a real struggle. He felt that this could be something they could direct staff to begin to explore.

Mr. O'Connor reported that staff has set up some meetings to speak with some vendors. He said they have had several of these types of meetings with vendors so they have a list of six (6) vendors.

Mr. Monte Falls, Public Works Director, said that he contacted six (6) vendors and has heard back from three (3) of them.

Mr. O'Connor said if they are going to do a RFP they need to be prepared to do what it is that they are going to do because these people spend a lot of time, effort, and money in order to respond to the City's proposals.

Mr. Young suggested that they have the Finance Commission look into this.

Mr. Ryan Bass thought the Finance Commission looked at this two (2) years ago. He felt this was another one (1) of those hard decisions where people don't like to hear that they are bringing meters back. But, sometimes the bite is not as bad as it sounds. He felt that this would start to solve a bit of the parking problem.

Mayor Howle said that Mr. Bass has done a fantastic job leading the Finance Commission and in bringing before the City Council some great pertinent information. He felt they all appreciate Mr. Bass's efforts.

Councilwoman Moss said yes, they absolutely do. She asked Mr. Bass if they know that he is a "shoe guy." She explained to the community that Wine, Women, and Shoes is a fundraising event for the Humane Society and will be held on Thursday, November 8th. She asked Mr. Bass to tell the community what a "shoe guy" is. Mr. Bass explained.

Dr. Zudans reported that his homework assignment from their last meeting was to get information about a potential shuttle with the idea being that a big part of the parking problem on Ocean Drive is that a lot of employees prefer to park in front of where they are working. He said if they didn't have free parking spaces nearby for the employees it would be costly or inconvenient for them by having the kiosks. He said that he drove his car and timed it, which it took four (4) and a half minutes to get from the parking lot at Jaycee Beach and along the boardwalk. He said there are about 250 parking spaces in that area and the idea would be that they would have free parking in that area so that anyone who didn't want to pay for parking along Ocean Drive they could park there. He said they would have to get a golf cart, which they have done in Stuart, which is almost like a bus. At this time, he asked Ms. Karen Diegel to speak.

Ms. Karen Diegel, CEO of the Senior Resource Association, reported that they run the Go-Line and the Community Coach. She said a few years ago they worked on the same sort of issue and they did have a shuttle running, which was a little different in that they ran from Riverside Park to Ocean Drive. She said they did this for about 18 months, but they found that it wasn't the answer to the parking situation for a number of different reasons. She said the application now would be a little different in that this would be a shorter distance. Part of the problems previously was that the distance was too far for employees if they were to have to leave for an emergency, among other things. She noted that it is expensive. When they did this the last time, they had match dollars from the Vero Beach Resort and a grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). She does not know at this time if there would be a grant. She did ask her staff to price it out to do this six (6) days a week, 12-hours a day, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or whatever the time might be and the cost came to about \$200,000 a year. She explained that the way they determine the cost is by using the National Transit Date Base, which has a formula that determines their hourly rate. She said Dr. Zudans did mention having a different vehicle than what they currently have in their fleet. If that is the case the City would have to pay for the vehicle. They do have a smaller vehicle in their fleet currently

that could be used, but it is not what they have in Stuart. She submitted a photograph of the cart that is used in Stuart (attached to the original minutes). She reported that the cost for this is about \$40,000.

Mayor Howle said this would probably be more economical to operate than a bus.

Ms. Diegel said that she would assume it would be cheaper economically as far as gas and maintenance. She said there would be a difference in the price if they were purchasing it and maintaining it through the City of Vero Beach rather than the Senior Resource Association.

Dr. Zudans questioned then the City would have the option to do that.

Ms. Diegel said yes, if the City is purchasing it they have the option to maintain it.

Ms. Diegel said if the Senior Resource Association is operating it there is still a cost, which would be reduced by a small amount because the insurance, operators, etc., costs are still there. She said that she has contacted FDOT, but what normally happens with grants like this comes with a match requirement, which could be anywhere from 20% to 50% of the funding.

Dr. Zudans asked what is the match typically.

Ms. Diegel answered 50%.

Dr. Zudans asked how long is the process if they apply for a grant.

Ms. Diegel said it could be anywhere from a week to a few months. She noted that with grants there is a lifespan, which is normally three (3) years and then FDOT expects sustainability after that. Therefore, they may be footing the bill completely.

Mr. O'Connor noted that before this would work they would almost have to have the parking kiosks throughout the central beach area.

Dr. Zudans said that he and Ms. Diegel spoke about this individually, but he would like her to say it publically. He questioned you don't think the shuttle would work if they don't have some type of kiosk system in place at the same time.

Ms. Diegel said that is correct. She said there has to be some type of incentive for people to park in a free parking area. There is no reason why they would change their habit of wanting to park in a free parking space if it is closer.

Mayor Howle asked would the free parking still have a time limit.

Ms. Diegel said that would be completely up to the City as to how they want to run the program.

Mayor Howle said the only reason he said that is if someone wanted to just park there and go to the beach or to walk the boardwalk how that would affect it.

Dr. Zudans said that is a good point, but currently it is all day parking. He has seen some of the hotel workers park along the boardwalk and walking because they don't have to go back and check their car. He felt that in order to make this work, there is some all day parking at Humiston Park that they would have to eliminate and have a kiosk there.

Mayor Howle said they are going to have to make a change and make some important and hard decisions to make this work.

Mayor Howle asked if the kiosks were to end up being net positive, would that money be used towards funding the shuttle.

Mr. O'Connor answered yes, the City Council would have jurisdiction over that.

Mr. Sykes thanked Ms. Diegel for her due diligence on this. He appreciated hearing some hard numbers on it. He said with the cost aside, the only thing he would add is that in his conversations with the hotels, one (1) of the reasons the shuttle didn't work previously was because it didn't run for a longer time period. He is concerned that the 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. time period would not be sufficient. He felt to actually make this work it should be more like 6:00 a.m. to midnight or 1:00 a.m. He understands that they would be doubling their costs.

Dr. Zudans said the first question that Ms. Diegel asked him was how many hours and the City Manager contacted the hotels.

Mr. O'Connor said the common thread seemed to be 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. He noted that they don't seem to have a parking problem in the evening except towards Bobby's Restaurant because most of the shops close around the 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. timeframe.

Ms. Diegel said the problem with the p.m. shift for the hotels is the employees come to work in the afternoon and their shift ends later so they would have to park in a parking area where the shuttle would not be providing transportation back to their vehicle.

Councilwoman Moss said the last time they did this was when Vero Beach Hotel and Spa sponsored \$40,000, how did they go about finding a sponsor. She asked did they approach different businesses.

Ms. Diegel said they had conversations with the Oceanside Business Association (OBA) and she thought that she put it out to them that they were willing to have a private/public partnership that they would wrap the bus for advertising and that is when Vero Beach Hotel and Spa jumped on it because they wanted to have their name up and down Ocean Drive.

Mr. Young said there is no reason why they can't explore that now. He asked is the price comparison roughly the same.

Ms. Diegel said it is probably about \$6.00 more now than it was so it has increased.

Dr. Zudans asked what is the rate per hour.

Ms. Diegel said it is \$53.76 per hour.

Dr. Zudans thanked Ms. Diegel for putting this information together for them.

Mr. O'Connor reported that two (2) valet companies came here and he and Mr. Falls drove them around and discussed options and alternatives, which it was the opinion of the valet companies that this would not work. He said with regard to building a parking garage, the average cost is \$198,700 per space. So an example would be if they were to build a garage where the Farmer's Market is located, a three (3) levels with 150 parking spaces it would cost in the neighborhood of \$3 million.

Mr. Sykes felt that it might be worthwhile to implement paid parking and to reengage with the valet company because there would be more incentive to use a valet at that point.

Mr. Ryan Bass asked if it is the role of government to commute people to work, has the City approached the County. He asked would it be an appropriate use of tourist tax dollars to implement something similar to what is being suggested. He asked could there be some collaboration between the City and the County in terms of funding sources and/or the employers.

Mr. O'Connor said his understanding of tourist tax is that they could not use it on this reoccurring type of cost. He said they could purchase the vehicles. But, the actual cost of operation he did not think they could use it as reoccurring costs.

Councilwoman Moss thought if it is debt service that they can.

Mr. O'Connor said they allocate the money on an annual basis. He said they do do it on debt service.

Mayor Howle asked could they do it through the Chamber if the Chamber were to agree to participate.

Mr. O'Connor felt that before they get too far that someone would need to go and speak with the County.

Councilwoman Moss said now is a good time to ask. She thanked Mr. Bass for mentioning that. She noted that she did not know that he was going to mention tourist tax and thanked him.

Mayor Howle said normally unless they were going to take a vote they wouldn't open this up for public comment, but this is an important matter and they are going to have to make some serious decisions and some hard choices moving forward so at this time he asked the public for their input or thoughts on this matter.

Mr. Sykes said that he sees a lot of business owners present tonight. He said this is a great opportunity to have their voice heard.

Mrs. Melinda Cooper said that her business is in the block where the Vero Beach Hotel is located and they see their employees move their vehicles all day long. She said they cannot keep waiting for something to be implemented for the growth that is occurring. She said the City has approved restaurants and hotels, but they are not doing anything with the parking. She said they will lose their businesses. She said they bring tourists here because of their businesses, but they will not be able to if they cannot have customers coming to their stores. She said they don't have 20-year old customers. They have 70 and 80-year old customers and they can't walk five (5) blocks, they can hardly walk a block. If they don't move this forward now it is not going to happen. Her suggestion is that they implement kiosk parking immediately. Not next year, but this year before season starts.

Dr. Zudans said that he knows if they go down this path they are going to have several people in front of them stating that they don't want paid parking. He asked what are her customers saying to her.

Mrs. Cooper said they are very upset. She said when they have special events she receives telephone calls from people stating that there is no parking. She said their customers are going to pay the price for parking. She said they pay it in Palm Beach, Coral Gables, etc. She said it is crazy that they are not moving forward.

Dr. Zudans explained that he is on her side, but just wanted to hear that because he hears people that do not want paid parking. He just wanted to know what the sentiment of the community is. He questioned is it one side or the other or is it split down the middle.

Mrs. Cooper said the people that don't want it are the people who are not shopping.

Mayor Howle said if they can't keep the stores open then that will be the end of Vero Beach beachside as they know it. He feels the bark is worse than the bite. He explained that people don't like change and sometimes after a change it is found that it actually was not a bad idea. He hopes that they can take this over the goal line and make it happen. He said that she is right. Something has to be done.

Dr. Zudans said one (1) thing that he likes about having it combined with the idea of a shuttle is that when there is someone who doesn't want to use paid parking they have an alternative where they can park for free and take the shuttle. He didn't think it would work without having them combined.

Mayor Howle said a lot of people don't realize that there were parking meters in Vero Beach so it is almost reverting to the past.

Councilwoman Moss asked do they know the history of the parking meters when and where they did have them and why they were taken out.

Mr. O'Connor answered no.

Councilwoman Moss said that she was curious because it is expensive to get into if it turns out that the public sentiment is against it. She felt it was an expensive experiment.

Mayor Howle agreed. He said that he was in North Carolina and they had kiosk systems, which for him it was not painful at all. He thought it was \$1.00 an hour and it could be paid with Apple Pay or with a card. He said that he didn't have a problem with it because it was easy to find a parking space, which he hoped that would be the case here.

Mr. Sykes said there are many different systems. He said in West Palm Beach you would insert your credit card. There is no paper and you don't have to walk back to your vehicle. He said there are several different ways to do this.

Dr. Zudans felt that Councilwoman Moss brought up a very good point. He said what they don't want to do is spend a lot of money on a system and then a year later receive a lot of complaints and tear it out. He felt if they were doing it, it would have to be in a way that they are committed to it for at least as long as it takes to pay for the system, which is probably somewhere between three (3) and five (5) years.

Mr. Young said that he understands a lot of what is being voiced, but it goes back to his earlier concerns in regards to where they are going regarding the revenues of the City and what they have to cover in the future. He said they need to have public input because the consensus that he is hearing is that the residents don't want to have to pay so there would need to be some kind of exemption. He said it comes down to how much it is going to cost the City and what the cost impact is going to be on the rest of the City's budget.

Councilwoman Moss asked the Deputy City Clerk when time allows that she research the minutes of old meetings so they can find out what happened with the parking meters. She is assuming that the City Council voted to put them in and voted to take them out.

Mr. Sykes felt in order to be productive that they get through public comments to get their opinions and then have Council discussion.

Ms. Patty Cassell (spelling may be incorrect) said that she is a Manager of a shop on Ocean Drive and she also lives in Central Beach. She felt that they need something short term and something long term. She said they need a parking garage. She said her customers want to park right in front of her store and they don't want to pay for parking. She said that is not an acceptable answer so she would like to know how much they would have to pay for parking. She asked would there still be time limits on the parking.

She noted that three (3) hours would be great for shoppers. She said that if they make the paid parking too cheap then people going to the beach will park in front of her shop. She felt that what they need to do is put parking meters in some areas because that will deter employees from parking in certain areas. She agreed that they do need to supply the employees alternatives. She felt that they need paid parking right away with a parking garage in the long run. She said they need to research the cost of everything before making a decision.

Mayor Howle closed comments at 7:16 p.m., with no one else wishing to be heard.

Mayor Howle asked Mr. O'Connor if staff has looked into what the kiosk would cost.

Mr. O'Connor said they have had several discussions, but it was a couple of years ago. He said the kiosk is adaptable so they could set up the maximum number of hours per day that the same vehicle could use it. He said the cost per hour would be contingent on the contract. An example is, and he agrees with Dr. Zudans, that there has to be a commitment on the City's part that if they put these in there it is typically a five (5) year window on a payback and that five (5) years would be a contract with a vendor to operate and maintain and the City might get a percentage of the proceeds. But, the vendor would determine the amount per hour because they are the ones who have to pay for the system.

Dr. Zudans said the terms as to the rate would be agreed to. It is not like the vendor could just give whatever parking rate they want.

Mr. O'Connor said it would be a negotiated contract. He reported that Mr. Falls has set up three (3) interviews with companies and hopefully he will be able to have all six (6) companies. He said most of these companies would be very happy to come in and discuss their wares, especially if they feel like they will be the selected company to provide the service.

Mayor Howle said they have to do something. He is not against the parking garage either and obviously they cannot do everything at once. He said that Dr. Zudans did some great work with Ms. Diegel and so did Mr. Bass. He said they have to do something. They can't be that Council that just talks about it all the time. They have to do whatever they are able to do today to help the situation.

Mr. O'Connor said the key is how much do they want to budget.

Mr. Sykes said there is no silver bullet to this. He said there are a lot of things that they haven't discussed tonight, such as they want to put potentially put paid parking on Ocean Drive, but questioned Cardinal Drive. They also had a private citizen attend many meetings and presented an offer to build and pay most of the bill for a private parking garage. They currently have City owned property at Humiston Park where the Farmer's Market is being held and they all have seen the response to any suggestion about an alternative use for that although it is City property and it would be an ideal space for a parking garage. There are other options to acquire additional parcels that could

potentially work. But, he would love to see the City utilize every single parking space and every single City owned piece of property that they can before they start spending additional money to acquire anything else outside what they already own. He said they need to leave this meeting with some directives. He said that he is totally onboard with sending this to the Finance Commission. Someone needs to spearhead this project in addition to the Councilmembers. They need to assign responsibility to staff and any of the Commissions as well to follow up and get bids from various companies with the kiosks. They need to get some hard numbers and look at real opportunities for sponsorship and cost sharing with the OBA. He said they saw the response to the suggestion that they free up parking on Saturday by moving the Farmer's Market and the OBA was up in arms. He said lets go to them and find out what they are willing to bring to the table. He said there are people in attendance today who contributed to a parking fund. He said historically there was a parking fund where businesses contributed money to help the City solve this parking issue and nothing was ever done. But, that doesn't mean that the same idea couldn't potentially work now that they have a Council that really wants to get something done. He said that he is not suggesting that they form a parking committee, but they need to delegate some responsibility outside of the City Council. He said that he has three (3) meetings left on the City Council and he wants something done on parking before he is off City Council. He is open to suggestions from anyone.

Councilwoman Moss agreed. She thinks it is a good idea to send it to the Finance Commission to get their input.

Mr. Sykes said they need to get some concrete data on the costs, what kind of technology they can get, etc. He said they have to consider everything and they are not going to make everyone happy. He said this is a tourist community and the businesses are the heart of central beach, which is what makes them special. So, they have to be able to have their customers get inside and spend money in their businesses. He said it is not happening as quickly as they would like. He said they are in the middle of summer and are about to come into season. He said the problem doesn't seem as extreme, but a month from now they will have a packed room of people complaining. He said let's do something now.

Mr. O'Connor said they can bring it before the Finance Commission and staff will have vendors come in and make a presentation before the Council.

Mr. Sykes said let's get that on the agenda for their next meeting.

Mr. Young said another thing that needs to happen is that they need the input from the residents. They don't want to get down the road and find out that they have made a commitment that a year from now they realize is not supported by the community.

Mr. Sykes asked how would they do that.

Mr. Young said they could send out a survey.

Mr. Sykes said to some degree he hears Mr. Young, but this is a representative government. These meetings are noticed and there are plenty of concerned citizens who attend. It is not their job to send out a survey every time they make a decision. They all have a finger on the pulse of this community.

Mr. Young said maybe a survey is not the right terminology. But, just as they have a responsibility to the businesses on the barrier island, they have a responsibility to the businesses downtown. So, as they need to make sure it is appropriate for the community at large.

Mr. Sykes agreed.

Mayor Howle said as long as what they are not saying is that they not make decisions until they have the majority of the seasonal residents here to make decisions. If that is what they are proposing then they might as well shut down City Council for six (6) months.

Councilwoman Moss said actually the parking problem is in fact seasonal. It gets a lot worse.

Dr. Zudans said the people they survey are not necessarily the people of the general public. The people they survey are the users of Ocean Drive and Cardinal Drive.

Mr. Sykes suggested that they work with the OBA and have them survey their members.

Dr. Zudans was not sure how much of the Oceanside businesses they represent.

Mr. Sykes agreed, but suggested that they include them as well.

Councilwoman Moss said yes, they are a partner absolutely. She asked the Deputy City Clerk if she is able to find the history of the previous parking meter “experiment” that she also sends the information to the Finance Commission. She felt if they could understand what happened in the past it might shed some light on the present.

Dr. Zudans said the 1970’s situation is probably not applicable to their current situation.

Councilwoman Moss said she doesn’t know that right now. Sometimes the more things change the more things stay the same.

Dr. Zudans said that Ms. Diegel had told him that they need to survey the people who use it because what we perceive as, and he really does think there is a parking problem as a user of Ocean Drive, but it could be through the businesses in sending something to every business on Ocean Drive and Cardinal Drive stating that the City is considering different things with parking and ask how they feel their customers would react to it. He said it

could be a simple two (2) question survey. They could send it out tomorrow and see what they get back.

Mayor Howle asked what are you looking for.

Dr. Zudans said that he is looking for them to confirm what he thinks is true that they want the City to do something about parking.

Mayor Howle felt that they needed to give direction to City staff to get some RFP's and they need to start making decisions on what they are going to do and how quickly they can implement it.

Mr. Sykes noted that the three (3) hour time limit on parking is almost up and it is going to go back to two (2) hour parking.

Mayor Howle reopened public comment at 7:32 p.m.

Ms. Alison Livingston said they have watched the progression of people taking parking places. She said they are not from Vero Beach and are going to the beach. They are not going into their stores and then the stores have their dedicated customers calling the businesses stating that they don't have a place to park and are mad. She said if they don't do something soon they are not going to have the stores to bring the people to the beach and keep the beach nice. She said they have to do something now. They cannot wait. They are going to lose the quaintness and what makes Vero Beach special.

Dr. Zudans said that he would rather pay a dollar or two to be able to park where he wants to park. But, he wants to know that he is not going to be ambushed at their next meeting. He is on her side and thinks it is the right solution. He just wants them to continue attending their meetings until it is done so they don't just have the people attending that don't want paid parking.

Mr. Ryan Bass suggested that rather than sending it back to the Finance Commission maybe the avenue to take is to invite the interesting parties to a City Council meeting to present their technologies to the business owners to make sure those technologies will be appropriate for the business owners. He suggested that they have the vendors at the next City Council agenda to make presentations.

Mr. O'Connor said their presentations are extensive in nature to really understand their technology.

Mr. Sykes said they would need the information ahead of time and then limit the presentation time.

Dr. Zudans said they could have a time limit on their presentations. He liked the idea because he felt if they sent this to a commission then nothing gets done. He said they have to make the decision themselves in the end and he is all in favor of doing it two (2) weeks from now.

Mr. Bass said that he is not suggesting that they don't ever send it to a committee. He is just saying that he thinks an appropriate way to get some feedback from the community by inviting the community is to see these presentations to make sure everything is fitting for them.

Mr. O'Connor said they will invite the companies to the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Howle said Mr. Sykes just suggested that they receive the information prior to the presentation and then limit the time of the presentation. Mayor Howle felt it might be appropriate to do this at a Special Call meeting so the hours allocated would be for that specific purpose only.

Dr. Zudans asked if they could hold the meeting on Friday.

Mr. Monte Falls said that the vendors need about an hour to go over their presentation. He said that he is going to have the vendors give a presentation to him and Ms. Cindy Lawson, Finance Director, so that she can look at the financial side and he can look at the public works logistic side of it. He said there are basically two (2) technologies; at based where there is no infrastructure that has to be put in or the kiosk where they would have to have the kiosk to dispense the tickets. He said they can get that information and boil it down and bring it back before the City Council. He said that he would be happy to go through the presentations twice if the City Council wants them to give them the presentation or he and Ms. Lawson can boil the information down and bring it back before the City Council. He said that he and Ms. Lawson have a meeting set up with one (1) of the vendors next week and he can get in touch with the other vendors and do them back to back.

Mayor Howle said that might be a more efficient way to do this. If the City Council decides that is what they want to do, he would like Mr. Falls to find out what the charge would be, would they set time limits, would residents have passes, etc.

Mr. Sykes said then they would vet everyone and then come and present the information to the City Council.

Mr. Falls said that he just wants to get the information so the City Council can decide which way they want to go and then they can prepare a true RFP for that type of technology.

Mayor Howle asked if they are going to have passes for people who don't need to pay, it needs to be for business owners and employees.

Mr. O'Connor felt that they needed to get out of the mood of having passes because it is not going to work. He explained that if they say they are giving passes to the citizens the next thing they will be doing is passing the passes to their relative, etc. He said everyone needs to pay the same.

Dr. Zudans said it goes back to the idea of why the shuttle didn't work before. It is because they had an alternative. As soon as they give alternatives other than having free parking with a shuttle, it will defeat the purpose of the system.

Councilwoman Moss agreed with what Dr. Zudans is saying, but questioned if that means they would be doing this Downtown as well because otherwise you could view it as they were giving an advantage to the businesses on 14th Avenue because they would have free parking.

Dr. Zudans said the ocean side businesses are asking for this.

Mr. Falls said the technology can be applied any place they choose.

Mr. O'Connor said they need to speak to the businesses on 14th Avenue before they put paid parking there.

Dr. Zudans said to summarize, the plan is that Mr. Falls and Ms. Lawson are going to meet as many vendors as they can next week and then they will provide the City Council a summary of what each vendor says. He asked what are they going to do after that.

Mr. Sykes said to put parking on their agenda.

Dr. Zudans asked in two (2) weeks.

Mr. Sykes said let's get as many people in attendance that they can and let's make a decision and vote on something.

Mayor Howle asked is two (2) weeks too soon.

Councilwoman Moss asked is October 2nd good (date of their next City Council meeting).

Mr. Sykes noted that they also have the Dodgertown property on that agenda.

Mr. Falls said if they can get the vendors to make the presentation next week.

Mr. O'Connor said if they can't they will put it on the following agenda.

Mayor Howle said they have Dodgertown on the agenda on that date. He asked the City Council if they want to hold a Special Call meeting on the parking.

Councilwoman Moss said that she can't do a Special Call meeting that week, but can do it another time or she can stay longer on that day.

Mr. Sykes said if they can't find a place for it on the agenda it would make sense to have a Special Call meeting in the evening so all the business owners can attend and be heard.

Dr. Zudans said that he would stay as late as necessary at their next meeting. If they are going to get something done it has to get done soon.

Councilwoman Moss said she is fine with that too.

Mr. Sykes suggested that they have two (2) initiatives for their October 2nd meeting, which will be to determine the outcome of Dodgertown and parking.

Mr. O'Connor said they may have other City business.

The City Council said that is fine.

Mr. Young said October 2nd is not a good date because the City Manager will not be there.

Mr. O'Connor said that Mr. Falls will be at the meeting and he is going to give the presentation.

Mr. Young felt if they are going to make a decision on Dodgertown and on parking it is important that the City Manager is present.

Dr. Zudans said that he is fine with making a decision.

Mr. Sykes agreed. He said his biggest concern is delaying another two (2) weeks.

Dr. Zudans questioned if they are going to do something relatively quickly while Mr. Sykes is on the City Council then if they decide at that meeting what they are going to do then they have to do an RFP. He would guess what they would do is at that meeting they would decide what they want and then instruct the City Manager to start the RFP process.

Mr. O'Connor said staff will be prepared for that.

Mayor Howle said on the October 2nd meeting they will keep the agenda streamlined.

Mr. Sykes asked the audience present for tonight's meeting if they have anything they would like to say to email the City Clerk and she will she will distribute it to the Councilmembers to make sure their voice is counted.

Councilwoman Moss asked what time is the meeting on October 2nd.

Mr. O'Connor answered 5:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Moss asked does the City Council want to hold the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Zudans said that he would make arrangements if they want to start the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

A woman in the audience said people are working at that time.

Mayor Howle noted that they also have the Dodgertown property on the agenda.

Mr. Sykes said they could start the meeting at 3:00 p.m. and focus on Dodgertown and get that done. They could then take a break and reconvene the meeting back at 5:15 p.m. or whatever time they decide.

Councilwoman Moss said they could do 5:00 p.m. to midnight. Either way is okay. She is good with whatever they want.

Dr. Zudans said they could set the agenda so they can do all the administrative stuff and Dodgertown and have parking later in the agenda. He said there is no way that will be done before 5:00 p.m. and then parking would be later.

Mayor Howle said if they finish before 5:00 p.m. they would take a break.

Mr. Sykes suggested that they just say that they will start discussing parking at 5:30 p.m., unless Dodgertown takes longer.

Council agreed.

2) Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Update – Requested by Councilwoman Laura Moss (MPO Representative)

Councilwoman Moss said this is very brief. It's just some good news. She said the MPO by the way is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and she is the City's representative. It is a legislative body that focuses on long range planning for transportation within the County. The good news is at the last meeting, which was last Wednesday she was told that the 17th Street improvements should be completed in total by October 3rd so it is coming up. That project has been delayed a bit and that road was difficult to use and she knows that from her own experience. So, that should be done by October 3rd. That is what the Florida Department of Transportation said at that meeting. The other piece of information is the MPO, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, has a Priority Project Report for the year and there are seven (7) projects in total, this is their list for 2018, and of the seven (7) projects there was just one (1) within the City of Vero Beach, which is Aviation Boulevard at the US1 intersection, so it was just that intersection and that had occupied position number seven (7) and the Chairman of the MPO, Mr. Phil Matson, indicated a willingness to move it forward. So she made a motion to do so and so they got to move it up the list a bit so now it occupies position number six (6) on the list. She said these are all long term projects, but she will read one (1) sentence into the record. This is from the MPO and is a quote. She then read into the record, "*The intersection is currently failing or nearly failing during peak periods and in peak directions.*" She said that is the reason that she requested that it be moved forward when it appeared that there was a willingness on the part of the Metropolitan Planning Organization to do so. So, there was a unanimous vote to move it forward. She asked the City Manager to briefly

recap what that involves. She said this is the intersection of Aviation Boulevard and US1.

Mr. O'Connor reported that this is an improvement on the turning radiuses in coming across the railroad tracks at that intersection. It also elevates some of the issues that may occur because of 37th Street in front of the Hospital. He said this all ties in with the east/west traffic bound and going up through Aviation Boulevard to the west.

Councilwoman Moss thanked Mr. O'Connor.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ORDINANCES

- 1) An Ordinance of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, related to the City of Vero Beach Police Officer's Retirement Fund; amending Section 58-108, Credited Service, in Chapter 58, Personnel and Retirement, of the Code of the City of Vero Beach, by amending the Procedures for Purchasing Credited Service; Providing for Conflict and Severability; Providing for Codification; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Police Pension Board**

The Deputy City Clerk read the Ordinance by title only.

Mr. O'Connor explained that this relates to military credit going to the Pension Board.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Mayor Howe made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Vice Mayor Sykes seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, Vice Mayor Sykes 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 \$10,060.00, for a Septic Tank Effluent Pump (STEP) System to serve the real property located at 844-846 16th Place, Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida; Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the Water & Sewer Director**

The Deputy City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mr. O'Connor explained that this is an assessment to be placed on the properties to install the STEP System.

Mayor Howle opened and closed public hearing at 7:54 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Vice Mayor Sykes made a motion to approve the Resolution. Colonel Young seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, Vice Mayor Sykes yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

B. RESOLUTIONS

- 1) **A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Vero Beach, Florida, determining that certain real properties in which the City of Vero Beach has or may have a fee simple ownership interest are no longer needed by the City, the subject real properties being certain City of Vero Beach Electric Utility Substation and related or adjacent real properties located in Indian River County and Saint Lucie County, Florida, identified as Substation #3, 2595 58th Avenue; Substation #7, 1810 58th Avenue; Substation #8, 805 1st Place; Substation #9, 199 Fred Tuerk Drive; Substation #10, 1755 Club Drive; Substation #11, 505 South A1A; Substation #14 (FPL Emerson), 5449 Emerson Avenue; and Substation #20 (City/FPUA Switching Station), 2433 1st Avenue S.E.; Authorizing Sale of said real properties to Florida Power & Light Company (“FPL”) pursuant to the negotiated sale under the asset purchase and sale agreement between the City and FPL dated October 24, 2017; Providing for Conflict and Severability; and Providing for an Effective Date. – Requested by the City Attorney**

The Deputy City Clerk read the Resolution by title only.

Mayor Howle opened and closed the public hearing at 7:56 p.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

Vice Mayor Sykes made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Moss seconded the motion and it passed 5-0 with Dr. Zudans voting yes, Colonel Young yes, Councilwoman Moss yes, Vice Mayor Sykes yes, and Mayor Howle yes.

6. PUBLIC NOTICE ITEMS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC HEARING

7. CITY CLERK MATTERS

A) Commission/Board Openings

The Deputy City Clerk went over the openings that the City currently has on their different Boards.

8. CITY MANAGER MATTERS

A) Asplundh Contract Price Change – October 7, 2018

Mr. O'Connor reported that this is one (1) of those things because the closing (referring to the sale of the Electric Utility) did not take place on October 1, 2018. He said they were going to terminate their contract with Asplundh Tree Service effective October 1st assuming that FPL would be taking over the system and since they are going to have a closing later than that staff negotiated a contract with Asplundh that is approximately \$7,000 per month higher than what the City typically pays. This also gets them through the hurricane season with a tree company. Staff is letting the City Council know that this price change is taking place and that they will be paying it and extending it up to the end of the year. He would come back before the City Council if they have to extend it beyond the end of the year. It is a month to month basis.

Dr. Zudans asked what is the base cost.

Mr. O'Connor answered about \$40,000 a month.

Dr. Zudans said so they are paying some premium because they don't have a long term contract.

Mr. O'Connor said that is correct and they don't have a contract with Florida Power & Light (FPL).

9. CITY ATTORNEY MATTERS

None

10. COUNCILMEMBER MATTERS

- A. Mayor Harry Howle's Matters**
 - 1. Correspondence**
 - 2. Committee Reports**
 - 3. Comments**

Mayor Howle reported that there is a Public Service Commission (PSC) hearing in Tallahassee on October 9th and 10th. He thought the part the City would be interested in starts at 5:00 p.m. He said there is no obligation for the City Councilmembers to be there. However, he does request that all the Councilmembers and the City Manager try to be there as a show of force. He noted that they would not be allowed to speak. He expressed they are not allowing Elected Officials to speak.

Councilwoman Moss said that she plans to be there.

Mayor Howle said if he could get any of the other Councilmembers to attend he would appreciate it.

Mr. O'Connor said that he will be there because he thinks there will be questions asked.

Mayor Howle said the City Council has a meeting scheduled on October 16th at 3:00 p.m. and requested that they not change the time.

B. Vice Mayor's Lange Sykes's Matters

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

Mr. Sykes said their thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the Carolinas dealing with Hurricane Florence. He then thanked the City Council for all their hard work and due diligence. He is looking forward to getting something done. It is not going to be a popular subject matter no matter what, but they owe it to their constituency. He is looking forward to putting something in place that will alleviate some parking issues. He thanked the City Council for their focus and energy on that.

C. Councilmember Laura Moss's Matters

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

Councilwoman Moss thanked Mayor Howle for commemorating Mr. John Kim. For those who didn't know him, he was very dedicated to this community. She said in fact, the Mayor might recall, they were sitting here on the dais and Mayor Howle needed to appoint someone to the Planning and Zoning Board and Mr. Kim was sitting in the back of the Council Chambers and raised his hand and Mayor Howle appointed him on the spot. She asked Mayor Howle if he remembered that. She said that is the kind of person he was. That is probably one (1) of the best stories you could tell and it's true. He said in the back, popped up his hand, and he was on the Planning and Zoning Board. He was just that way. He was so dedicated to this City and we miss him. She thanked Mayor Howle for commemorating him. She then commended Deputy City Clerk, Sherri Philo, stating that she didn't miss a beat. She thanked Ms. Philo for standing in for the City Clerk, Mrs. Tammy Bursick, stating that she did a great job. She then reported that Wine, Woman, and Shoes is a fundraiser for the Humane Society and Mr. Bass is a "shoe guy" and does a great job. She said that she was there last year and has attended the last three (3) years in a row, this is their fourth year. Again, this is a fundraiser for the Humane Society. It is the Thursday after Election Day, it is Thursday, November 8th and she thinks the tickets are available now. She said to call Mr. Ryan Bass about it.

Announcement of the Centennial Chili Challenge scheduled for October 27, 2018 from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Riverside Park

Councilwoman Moss reported that lastly, and this will lead in to Councilman Young, the Centennial Chili Challenge will be held on October 27th. They are going to begin the

Centennial events in October and the Chili Challenge is from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Riverside Park.

D. Councilmember Anthony W. Young's Matters

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

Mr. Young said that he had the great opportunity to watch the Vero Beach High School football game and preview the band's halftime show that they have mastered for the Centennial and so on October 26th that will begin the Centennial Celebration. He said leading up to it there has been a lot of hard work for Tree Dedications throughout all the local schools so the week leading up to the game there will be Tree Dedications held every day. He thanked the City Councilmembers that will be participating in the dedications. He reported that on Saturday the Next Generation Veterans will have an 8:20 a.m. assembly in front of Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary for a Ruck March. He then thanked the City because he recently learned that as the last bridge was built there were some elderly Live Oak Trees and through the wisdom of the City those Oak Trees were transplanted to Veterans Memorial Island. He told Mr. Sykes that he appreciates his contributions that he has made to the community.

E. Councilmember Val Zudans's Matters

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

Dr. Zudans reported that last Friday there were some comments made on facebook about some trees being cut back on one of the streets. He commended the City because he sent an email around 8:00 a.m. and by 10:00 a.m. City staff had already gone out to the home and spoke with the people explaining everything. He reported that he attended an Economic Development Council meeting that was held today. He said there is a company that is going to use renewable energy on the property that use to be the Ocean Spray Plant, where they will be using gas from the landfill.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

/sp