



Minutes
Crystal River City Council
Regular Council Meeting
June 14th, 2021
Council Chamber, City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Meek called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Council members present: Mayor Joe Meek, Vice Mayor Pat Fitzpatrick, Council member Ken Brown, Council member Cindi Guy and Council member Robert Holmes

Council members absent: None.

Staff present: City Manager Ken Frink, City Attorney Rob Batsel, City Clerk Fink, Assistant City Manager Jack Dumas, Finance Director Michelle Russell-Maynard, Visitors Services Director Andrea Hullstrung, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Jasmine Jackson, Planning and Community Development Director Brian Herrmann

B. Invocation

Council member Holmes led the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Meek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Made by Vice Mayor Fitzpatrick; seconded by Council member Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Crystal River Women's Club 100th Birthday Proclamation

Mayor Meek presented the proclamation to Crystal River Women's Club members, including President Margaret Williams and Mary Lee Johnson who spoke on behalf of the club.

B. Crystal River Women's Club "City of Kindness" Poster Contest

Contestants presented their submissions, while Mary Lee Johnson announced names and contest winners, and presented top two selections to the Mayor.

C. Crystal River Civic Master Plan Presentation

Staff presented video introduction of the charette process and Jason King,

Jason King of Dover, Kohl & Partners introduced himself and his team and discussed the upcoming charette process.

Ron Pithouse of Dover, Kohl & Partners reviewed schedule of events for the following week, noting previous work with city staff on the Highway 44 plan.

Council discussion was held regarding the charette process and Mr. King answered questions regarding municipal boundary issues.

Mayor Meek then invited the Garden Club of Crystal River to present on the recently completed Blue Star Memorial site, re-established outside of Churchill Hammock.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. PUBLIC INPUT

Bo Borraccio- Pete's Pier- Reported that Pete's Pier was designated a "Clean Marina" by FDEP, noting it was the fourteenth ever.

Jackie Brooks- Discussed the Plantation Outpost RV Park, noting environmental concerns, specifically related to gopher tortoises, and proposing the city purchase the land and create a public park.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve minutes of the City Council meeting held May 24, 2021
- B. Monthly Departmental Report for the Month of May 2021
- C. Motion to approve a waiver of open container for the First Friday event for July-December 2021

**Made by Council Member Brown; Seconded by Council Member Guy.
Motion CARRIED**

7. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. **Consideration of adoption of Ordinance No. 21-O-05 Master Capital Project and Service Assessment on Second and Final Reading**

Mayor Meek announced that this item has been rescheduled and advertised to be heard on July 12, 2021, and the second and final reading will take place during the regular city council meeting on that date.

- B. **Consideration of Ordinance No. 21-O-07 pertaining to city liens on First Reading and setting a public hearing for July 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.**

City Manager Frink provided a brief overview of the item and explanation of certain language provisions.

Council Discussion: Council discussion was held during which City Attorney Batsel addressed concerns regarding public perception of fine reductions, and clarified purpose of legislation, including establishment of criteria. City Manager Frink provided examples. Mayor Meek also noted the use of liens as a compliance tool, rather than a revenue source.

Public Hearing:

Bob Riley- Discussed past city communication issues related to determining costs incurred and suggested alternative penalties.

Eric Palhopf- Discussed trash dumping and other illegal activities being observed in his neighborhood, recent meeting with City Manager, and city communications issues.

City Clerk Fink read the ordinance by title only.

Motion to approve Ordinance No. 21-O-07 pertaining to city liens on First Reading and set a public hearing for July 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. was made by Council member Guy; seconded by Council member Brown. Motion CARRIED.

8. CITY ATTORNEY

A. Update regarding 579 SE Highway 19 and 589 SE Highway 19 properties

City Attorney Batsel provided an update regarding the property, including the status of the redevelopment agreement and related provisions. He discussed issues related to timelines, noting request of 180 days deadline to demo, in lieu of 90 and request for consideration of any improvements (retention of a portion of structure), in lieu of demo.

Melissa Chloski- Representative for 579 SE US Highway 19, LLC Ms. Chloski addressed Council, noting items requiring additional time, including completion of FEMA analysis, review of architect report, developer agreement negotiations, presence of tenants on the property and joint use agreements.

Council discussion was held regarding validity of assertions being made, issues and challenges related to addressing the state of the structure and conditions under which a timelines extension may be granted.

City Attorney Batsel also discussed the code enforcement hearing scheduled for 6/15/21 and timelines related to potential filings, completion of work, etc.

Following extensive Council discussion City Attorney confirmed that over the next 60 days legal staff would prepare for potential filing and work on developer agreement negotiations, while fine accruals would likely begin following the 6/15/21 hearing, and following the 60-day period the property owners may return to request a deadline extension.

9. CITY MANAGER

A. 2021 Charter Review Update

City Manager Frink provided an overview of the item, noting efforts of committee and completion of review with no recommended revisions. Vice Chair Todd Workman was in attendance to address any questions.

B. Motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the Impact Fee Interlocal Agreement between Citrus County and the City of Crystal River

City Manager Frink provided an overview of the item, recommending adoption.

**Made by Council Member Holmes; Seconded by Vice Mayor Fitzpatrick.
Motion CARRIED**

C. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 21-R-19 appropriating building repairs funds for the YMCA building at LeGrone Park in the amount of \$20,000.00

City Manager Frink provided a brief overview of the item and Council member Brown discussed the building repairs.

**Made by Council Member Guy; Seconded by Council Member Brown.
Motion CARRIED**

D. FY 22 Budget Update

City Manager Frink provided an update on the FY22 budget process, noting the upcoming hearing for adoption of the tentative millage rate, discussed Law Enforcement Services and Traffic Control contract increases, as well as insurance rate increase. He confirmed staff was developing a plan to address salary issues related to Amendment 2, as well as other strategies to bring forward for consideration.

E. Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute a release of lien placed on 505 SE Paradise Point Rd., upon satisfaction of associated administrative costs

City Manager Frink provided background information regarding the lien and related request, noting pending property sale.

**Made by Council Member Guy; Seconded by Vice Mayor Fitzpatrick.
Motion CARRIED**

10. CITY COUNCIL

11. COUNCIL MEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Mayor Meek

B. Vice Mayor Fitzpatrick

C. Council member Holmes Reported on CCCCCF meeting, noting establishment of by-laws committee.

D. Council member Brown Commented on Pete's Pier Clean Marina designation and Blue Star Memorial dedication and confirmed upcoming presentation before the Waterfronts Advisory Board during which enforcement and jurisdictional issues will be discussed. He also discussed boat anchoring and personal eel grass replanting, noting Save Crystal River efforts and WAB plans to promote a pole anchoring program.

City Manager Frink discussed future goal of establishment of a permitting process for tour boats.

E. Council member Guy Reported TDC numbers are up and Discover Crystal River's refocus on promoting European tourism. She also commented on the Pete's Pier Clean Marina designation.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

13. PUBLIC INPUT

Bob Riley- Discussed challenges related to use of pole anchors and suggested development of permanent moorings.

John Taratine-Atkins North America- Introduced himself and confirmed he was working with FDOT on efforts related to SB 100 and Suncoast II Phase II extension.

Lisa Moore- Save Crystal River- Discussed restoration project, related challenges including destruction of planted eel grasses, project details, and the organization. She discussed anchoring alternatives, including spuds and power poles, and a grant program offered by Save Crystal River to fund pole anchors for tour boats. She also discussed funding awarded for future phases of the project and benefit of project.

Council member Holmes requested Ms. Moore present to the WAB, and Council member Guy requested setting up a meeting with tour company owners and Ms. Moore and city ability to establish an ordinance protecting eel grass project areas was also noted.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Meek adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.