



## CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

**Government Center  
4800 W. Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, Florida**

**Date: October 8, 2020  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting No. 2020-1008R**

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sarbone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Lou Sarbone  
Vice Mayor Joshua Rydell  
Commissioner Rebecca A. Tooley  
Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere (virtually)  
Commissioner Sandra L. Welch  
City Manager Karen M. Brooks  
Deputy City Attorney Kathryn Mehaffey  
Records Specialist Darnette Grant

Mayor Sarbone asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sarbone explained that Governor Ron DeSantis' Executive Orders 20-52 and 20-69, as continuously extended, and Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, authorized all local governments to waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by both state and local law as necessary to allow local governments to continue to perform public work and take whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community. He noted that the meeting was being conducted live with a quorum physically present and participation by one (1) Commissioner using communications media technology consistent with the Governor's Orders and State law. Deputy City Attorney Kathryn Mehaffey explained the procedures for public participation and comment for the meeting.

Mayor Sarbone recognized City Manager Karen Brooks on the completion of her first year as City Manager for the City of Coconut Creek with flowers from the staff, and City Manager Brooks thanked everyone for their support.

### **INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC**

Sherri McGlynn, 854 Banks Road, commented regarding sidewalks in Wood Lake Villas. She noted work had started but not been finished and asked if there was any progress. Ms. McGlynn also stated that ordinances regarding animal waste were not being followed.

Records Specialist Darnette Grant stated there were no advanced public comments received for non-agenda or consent agenda items.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Brooks wished Commissioner Welch a happy birthday. She stated she had received a letter from the County Administrator requesting the City's support for renaming the Hillsboro Pineland Natural

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Area to the Kristin Jacobs Natural Area, and she received consensus for the Mayor to sign the letter of support.

City Manager Brooks advised the Commission that a rally scheduled at American Top Team the previous week had been cancelled due to the President's positive COVID-19 test. She stated the rally had been rescheduled for the coming weekend, and City staff had directed organizers to work with the County regarding what could and could not be done.

City Manager Brooks provided an update regarding the Recycling Reset Program, as discussed during City Budget Hearings. She stated the Commission had discussed whether to pick up carts, but additional information was required. She stated she had learned that if residents were to keep the carts it would not cost anything additional but would have bad optics and make it difficult to reset with a recycling program in the future. She explained that if the carts were collected and kept by the City, it would cost \$43,000 and there would be storage issues. If the carts were collected and recycled, the cost would be \$28,000. She stated additional carts for those needing them were \$45 inclusive of delivery and discussed whether the City should subsidize the additional carts to bring the cost down to \$25. She asked for a consensus from the Commission regarding how to proceed.

Vice Mayor Rydell stated he had read an NPR article regarding the impact of the presidency on recycling and trade war with China and stated an administration change could impact the options available. He asked if it was possible to move the decision down the road four (4) or five (5) months to see if single stream comes back. He noted he was cost conscious and did not want extra costs on the taxpayers if a change was coming.

Commissioner Tooley asserted that she would not bank on a change as soon as six (6) months, so she thought the bins should be picked up. She stated she was not originally in favor but changed her mind.

Commissioner Welch stated she tended to agree with Commissioner Tooley, noting that regardless of the presidential election outcome, positive impact on the recycling market could be realized, but it was too aspirational to expect an impact soon on the City level. She stated the Commission had made a decision to scrap it and start over and should do that.

Commissioner Belvedere stated she was conflicted and would need more information on how multi-family residents would be impacted. She noted concerns regarding the differences from single family homes and unknowns surrounding increased waste when the snowbirds come.

Mayor Sarbone asked for clarification regarding the numbers. City Manager Brooks stated that if every residence took advantage of the subsidized second cart, it would cost \$173,000 plus \$28,000 to remove and recycle the recycling carts. Mayor Sarbone asked what the cost would be if the City subsidized \$25 per cart. City Manager Brooks explained it would be up to \$216,650.

Mayor Sarbone stated offering the second cart for free was not the way to go, because those who really need them would not be the only ones to take them. He stated he thought a \$20 cost was better than \$25. He referenced a video received from a resident showing the garbage truck emptying both the trash and recycling bins into the same truck, noting the resident who recorded it was showing a passion for being a green city.

City Manager Brooks discussed the public information campaign planned regarding the changes in the recycling program.

Mayor Sarbone stated he favored collecting the bins and recycling them, rather than storing them.

Commissioner Belvedere asserted she was not hearing anything about multi-family in the conversation, and answers needed to be provided in that area. City Manager Brooks stated the issue at hand was single-family, but communications regarding commercial and multi-family would be worked on as well. Discussion ensued regarding communicating with residents.

Vice Mayor Rydell asked for clarification regarding bulk costs. He stated he saw a lot of things that people previously recycled being put out for bulk pickup, specifically cardboard boxes. Public Works Director Jim Berkman clarified the bulk pickup rules.

Joanne Stanley, Republic Services, agreed there would be an increase in bulk volume. She stated it was a new contract, so any changes that needed to be made would need to be an amendment and go through corporate offices.

Mayor Sarbone proposed that the City pick up the bins, recycle them, do a public information campaign, and subsidize the cost of the second bin for residents requesting one. He noted that he saw the cost as break-even in comparison with the previous cost of contamination in the recycling. He stated he also wanted to see the City aggressively pursuing new technology and recycling options.

City Manager Brooks stated recycling was an issue much bigger than Coconut Creek. She noted the Broward County Solid Waste Working Group was working on solutions as a region, and the City should not be expecting it to be solved at a City level until that group comes to regional solutions. The Commissioners and staff discussed the history and progress of the working group.

Vice Mayor Rydell asserted that he agreed with Mayor Sarbone, and innovation starts with creative people moving forward a ball. City Manager Brook responded that expectations needed to be managed and added that if the City did anything along those lines, it would be expensive.

Commissioner Welch stated she was proud of what was happening in the working group, but noted it was moving very slowly. She added that it was going to take methodical, time-intensive work, and even though she firmly believed in what was happening, she thought the City needed to make decisions based on what was before the Commission.

Vice Mayor Rydell asked that the letter to residents regarding recycling be circulated to the Commissioners prior to going public.

Fred Lorenzo, 2900 NW 42 Avenue, Coconut Creek, commented on the recycling education program, and suggested the City focus on the schools for education. Mayor Sarbone stated Mr. Lorenzo had a great idea. City Manager Brooks agreed and noted that staff would focus on schools as part of the education program.

Mayor Sarbone sought and received consensus on his proposal to pick up the recycling bins, recycle them, do a public information campaign, and subsidize the cost of second bin for residents.

Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey stated an ordinance would be brought before the Commission in November or December to approve the related solid waste contract changes.

## **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey had no report.

## COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Belvedere stated she had no report, but was staying current with virtual meetings, including the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), which had touched on the turnpike project.

Commissioner Welch commented on City Manager Brooks' anniversary, highlighting the challenges of the year. She added that she was proud to have City Manager Brooks on staff. Commissioner Welch shared concern with the work of Comcast as a contractor in the City. She stated she had sent a photo of some of the workers and work being done while running fiber optic cables, including a dispute over replacement of sod. She commented on the signage for the parks and called it stunning. She shared frustration in connection with the School Board meeting regarding K-9 Taylor, stating the City was blindsided. She was disappointed to see the support changed at the last minute. She stated she hoped residents would sign up to speak at the next School Board meeting. Discussion ensued regarding parent involvement in the effort.

Commissioner Welch commended Vice Mayor Rydell for representing the City at the Resiliency Roundtable. She gave a brief update on the MPO meeting, stating there had been a discussion regarding removing a small amount of money for widening roads, and a large amount of conversation surrounding the second amendment coming before the cities regarding conflict resolution with the County. She noted that the item was tabled to December.

Commissioner Tooley wished Commissioner Welch a happy birthday and commented on the School Board issue regarding K-9 Taylor. She stated parents should be notified and calls should be made to the School Board members who did not follow through on promises. She said it was a terrible situation and people should get involved because other communities were watching to see how it turned out. She recognized the Public Works Department for their work on the breezeway surface at City Hall and thanked the employees for all of their hard work during the pandemic.

Vice Mayor Rydell thanked Commissioner Welch for involving him in the resiliency issue. He stated it was refreshing that there was mass, mainstream buy-in on building resilient communities. He commented on the School Board meeting and the comments made by Board members regarding K-9 Taylor. He stated the discussion was not presented as a preventative or safety measure and was viewed incorrectly as an invasion of privacy. He added that it was a no-brainer for basic school safety, and he found the dialogue to be frustrating. He stated that what happens in the November election was going to be important to the conversation. He asked if staff could promote K-9 Taylor using positive messaging to change the dialogue among the School Board. Vice Mayor Rydell commented that people had been taking care of their homes and landscaping better than ever during the pandemic and suggested implementing a "Yard of the Month" program. The Commission and staff discussed prior programs that had been in place and expressed an interest in starting a monthly award.

Mayor Sarbone shared birthday wishes for Commissioner Welch and congratulated City Manager Brooks on her anniversary, pointing out the flowers were a staff-driven recognition.

## CONSENT AGENDA *(Items 1-4)*

- 1. 2020-184** A MOTION TO CANCEL THE NOVEMBER 26, 2020, AND THE DECEMBER 24, 2020, REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS.
- 2. 2020-185** A MOTION TO RESCHEDULE THE DECEMBER 10, 2020, REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING TO DECEMBER 3, 2020

3. **RES 2020-199** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED AND ALL FUTURE AGREEMENTS WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM), FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURES INCURRED AS A RESULT OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19).
4. **RES 2020-203** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH STATE OF FLORIDA, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (FDEM), TO PROVIDE THE CITY WITH AN EMERGENCY ALERT AND MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM TO BE USED FOR COMMUNICATION AND WARNINGS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

**MOTION:** Rydell/Tooley – To approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 1-4.

**Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.**

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **Public Works Department**

5. **20-186** A MOTION TO REJECT RFP NO. 08-19-20-09, PROCESSING, RECYCLING, DISPOSAL SERVICES OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS, BULK, AND YARD WASTE.

**MOTION:** Tooley/Rydell – To approve the Motion to reject RFP No. 08-19-20-09.

Public Works Director Jim Berkman stated the Request for Proposals (RFP) had been issued at the direction of the Commission, with the hopes of getting a bid from a company to recycle the mentioned materials. He stated only one (1) bid was received, and they did not bid on the recycling portion of the request.

Mayor Sarbone asked if it was a qualifying bid if they did not respond to all areas of the RFP. Mr. Berkman explained partial bids were allowed in response to a question during the RFP process.

Commissioner Welch stated she understood rejecting the bid because it didn't respond to what the City was looking for but hoped it would lead to a conversation regarding a new RFP and other ways to handle solid waste and recycling.

Vice Mayor Rydell agreed with Commissioner Welch and asked that City Manager Brooks bring information to the Commission regarding companies that would buy cardboard. The Commission and staff discussed options for bailing and selling recycled cardboard on the market or obtaining a compactor.

Commissioner Tooley stated she agreed that RFP should be rejected because the respondent did not bid on the entire RFP.

City Manager Brooks asserted that looking at individual recyclables would create congestion and stated she did not recommend it. Discussed continued regarding recycling options.

Records Specialist Grant stated there were no advanced public comments received for the item.

Irene Espinosa, 4242 NW 66 Drive, Coconut Creek, stated she had been seeking clarification on the item, but after hearing the conversation agreed the RFP should be rejected. She stated the City should not give up but continue looking for other alternatives for recycling. She asked if the Environmental Advisory Board would be allowed to review the recycling education materials before they went out and commented on how recycling is handled in Europe as a look to the future.

**Upon roll call, the Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.**

### Finance Department

6. **ORD 2020-031** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 18, "TAXATION," ARTICLE V, "ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION," TO INCREASE THE ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PERSONS SIXTY-FIVE (65) YEARS AND OLDER FROM \$25,000 TO \$50,000 AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION IN THE AMOUNT OF THE ASSESSED VALUE OF PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN PERSONS SIXTY-FIVE AND OLDER THAT MEET CERTAIN RESIDENCY, INCOME, AND OTHER STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS (FIRST READING)

Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey read the Ordinance title into the record.

**MOTION:** Rydell/Tooley – To approve Ordinance No. 2020-031 on first reading.

Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Peta-Gay Lake, explained the Ordinance allowed for additional exemptions for residents 65 and older who owned their homes and had an annual income of \$30,000 adjusted by cost of living. She noted the exemptions would go into effect for FY22 and would impact approximately 400 taxpayers.

Mayor Sarbone clarified the cost to the City of giving the benefit to seniors would total \$65,000.

Commissioner Tooley stated other cities gave this benefit, and it was time for Coconut Creek to do what they could to support the residents.

Records Specialist Grant stated there were no advanced public comments received on the item.

**Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 5-0 vote.**

### City Attorney

7. **ORD 2020-032** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, BY REPEALING SECTION 1-14, "EFFECT OF COUNTY ORDINANCES," IN ITS ENTIRETY TO REMOVE OBSOLETE PROVISIONS (FIRST READING)

Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey read the Ordinance title into the record.

**MOTION:** Welch/Tooley – To approve Ordinance No. 2020-032 on first reading.

Deputy City Attorney Mehaffey explained the Ordinance being repealed was first adopted in 1976 and codified in 1980, but no longer was relevant.

Records Specialist Grant stated there were no advanced public comments received on the item.

**Upon roll call, the Ordinance passed on first reading by a 5-0 vote.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Transcribed by: C. Parkinson, Prototype

Leslie Wallace May  
Leslie Wallace May, MMC  
City Clerk

11/12/2020  
Date