

# CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Government Center 4800 W. Copans Road Coconut Creek, Florida Date: September 13, 2018

Time: 6:30 p.m. Workshop Meeting

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Rydell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

#### 2. PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor Joshua Rydell
Vice Mayor Sandra L. Welch
Commissioner Rebecca A. Tooley
Commissioner Lou Sarbone
Commissioner Mikkie Belvedere
City Manager Mary C. Blasi
City Attorney Terrill C. Pyburn
City Clerk Leslie Wallace May

#### 3. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF CITY MANAGER

City Manager Blasi summarized the strategic initiatives accomplished over the past year. She shared some of the challenges presented, which included the proposed Turnpike Expansion Project, Hurricane Irma, Solid Waste issues, and other contract issues. She complimented staff for the wonderful job they do and how well they work together. She mentioned the accreditation process with the Police Department in which the three-day review showed the department to be one hundred percent compliant. The full accreditation review will take place on October 3, 2018, where the City will receive its accreditation.

She mentioned the work done analyzing alternative solutions for the E-911 communications system, and the discussions regarding coordinating a four-city Fire/EMS system, and E-911 communications system through the City of Coral Springs. She noted that the formal proposal from Coral Springs had not been received, but Coconut Creek was budgeted to fund the proposed new E-911 provider as well as fund a third fire station. She explained that there would be one-on-one meetings set with each Commissioner with the Coral Springs Fire Chief, Frank Babinec, and the Union Representatives for the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 3080. She said the next step would involve a workshop with Coral Springs and Margate to give a presentation to the community and to the elected officials. She

hopes to have an agreement approved before the end of this calendar year in order to effectuate a smooth transition of employees beginning October 1, 2019. Commissioner Tooley inquired about the need to give a one year notice to Broward County to end the E-911 services. City Manager Blasi confirmed that she will need to give the one year notice to the County at the end of September. She mentioned that the County recently placed an item on one of their meetings to discuss not extending E-911 services with the Broward Sheriff's Office.

City Manager Blasi explained that the City is moving forward with upgrading internet capabilities between City facilities with the installation of fiber optic lines. She mentioned the 95 percent employee retention rate for City employees. She touched upon the Seminole Tribe Trust and the resulting funding to the City, including \$250,000 that will be paid to an education foundation for the benefit of Coconut Creek children. She anticipated having the foundation in place in time for the April appointment of board members. She spoke about a new consultant being hired as an onsite Environmental Specialist, who specializes in landfill compliance. She mentioned that the "Do the Right Thing" Program was successfully implemented.

City Manager Blasi noted the City purchase of ten acres of land on the north end of the City occurred for use as future park land. She spoke about the continued engagement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the complete streets project on Lyons Road from Fern Forest to the Sawgrass Expressway. She noted that City Staff worked with the County to devise the surtax proposal for transportation and put together \$82 million in projects to be funded by the surtax, if approved, over 30 years. The City was one of the few cities that all of the projects were accepted by the County; including phases two and three of the comprehensive roadway program, which will free up the majority of the \$10 million dollars we just received through a bond. She noted the continued work with the current contract holders of the MainStreet property to effectuate the desired development for the area. She mentioned the redesign of Windmill Park, the Hillsboro Corridor re-development plan, and the e-government application enhancement plan. She summarized the different boards and committees in which she is involved including: serving her second year as President of the Broward County City County Managers' Association (BCCMA); participation with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Leadership Steering Committee; Junior Achievement; BCCMA liaison and participant in the Broward County Solid Waste Study Committee; and BCCMA liaison and a participant in the Broward League of Cities School and Community Public Safety Task Force that met after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragedy. She also received the Florida League of Cities hometown hero legislation appreciation award because of the City's work in assisting the League in contacting senators and representatives at the federal and state level regarding protecting home rule. She stated that for the upcoming year the focus will be to continue with projects approved in the upcoming budget.

Commissioner Sarbone stated that what makes a successful leader is how well staff performs in adverse situations. He mentioned the adverse situations that took place over the past year, which included a hurricane and the lack of power at an assisted living facility, waste management issues, working with the community and the

developer with the hotel matter, and the response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas tragedy with one of our police officers arresting the shooter. He noted how proud he was of staff in all of those situations. He said the only issue he has is with the provision for a lump sum payment in City Manager Blasi's contract. He stated that after doing the math, he finds that with the lump sum payment, City Manager Blasi's compensation is \$117,000 short when compared with receiving an annual increase based on five percent. He distributed a printout showing his calculations. He wanted to have the contract revised by resolution to take out the lump sum and instead give her up to a five percent raise. He explained that in doing this correctly, the City Commission would need to approve her lump sum for this year and then have a resolution prepared to give her a performance raise based on up to five percent on her base salary.

Mayor Rydell expressed his concerns with continuing the discussion, as the meeting time was coming to an end. Discussion ensued, and a consensus was made to continue the meeting on Monday, September 17, 2018.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Transcribed by Leslie Wallace May

10/25/18

Dated