

MINUTES

FACEBOOK LIVE

The South Daytona City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 6:04 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 1672 S. Ridgewood Avenue, South Daytona, Florida.

PRESENT: Mayor William C. Hall
Vice-Mayor Doug Quartier
Councilman Brandon Young
Councilman Lisa O'Neal
Councilman Eric Sander
City Manager James L. Gillis, Jr.

The audience joined the Council in the pledge of allegiance to the flag, followed by invocation by Councilman Young.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Gillis began his report by providing an update on Volusia County's COVID-19 Relief fund for business owners. Businesses located in South Daytona have received a total of \$406,500 in relief with thanks going to our Redevelopment Director, Patty Rippey, for vetting the applications and ensuring businesses received funding during this pandemic. The City hosted a Drive-In movie night on November 20, 2020 that was very successful. Residents were able to social distance by remaining in their cars and pre-order refreshments that were delivered while they watched the movie. City staff is looking into another movie night possibly next month. Turning now towards our employees of the year. Citizens Alert recognizes employees each year who stand out and have gone above and beyond in the performance of their duties. Officer Kevin McCracken was selected as Officer of the Year assisting with police patrol vehicle leases and volunteering for extra assignments. Firefighter Chad Hubeck was chosen as Firefighter of the Year having developed a software program to assist with daily truck inspections that alert our mechanics to needed maintenance and repairs. J.T. Kelly was selected as General Employee of the Year. J.T. single-handedly ran the City's flag football program while the Parks Department went through a reorganization. The City will host a North Pole Drive-Thru event on Friday, December 11, 2020 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Reed Canal Park. Come out and see Santa; it's your last chance before the big night. Thanks to Police Chief Mark Cheatham and Public Works Director Brian Peek, the City has two new digital message boards to alert residents of upcoming events, traffic, and many other uses utilizing COVID-19 relief funds.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Hall presented Pat Clark, Public Works Specialist, a dedicated employee of 43 years with a proclamation acknowledging her years of service and well-deserved retirement.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

George Locke, 1883 Magnolia Avenue, South Daytona came to the podium addressing council on his

dissatisfaction changing law firms for legal services.

Debbie Darino, 6795 Alice Circle, Port Orange, Florida came to the podium to speak on anti-tethering of animals and requesting South Daytona to create an ordinance limiting the tethering of animals.

Rita Ware 3300 South Nova Road, Port Orange, Florida came to the podium in support of an ordinance limiting the tethering of animals.

Darlene Kochendoerfer 5571 Lance Drive, Port Orange, Florida came to the podium in support of an ordinance limiting the tethering of animals.

PRESENTATION

Team Volusia Update

Keith Norden, President and CEO of Team Volusia along with Chris Wimsatt, Vice-President of Business Development for Team Volusia came to the podium to address council. Team Volusia is ten years old this year and is the official agency for recruiting businesses from outside of Volusia County. Team Volusia is funded about 45% through the public sector, 50% through the private sector and 5% by colleges and universities. Bringing businesses to Volusia County is a team effort and the staff are dedicated to working together with the cities, county, and at the state level to make it a reality. Mr. Norden and Mr. Wimsatt complimented City Manager Gillis and Redevelopment Director Patty Rippey for their enthusiasm and willingness to work together for a better future for Volusia County.

Economic Development Update in the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA)

Patty Rippey, Redevelopment Director came to the podium. With new construction and growth in 2020, estimated increase for South Daytona's annual ad valorem is approximately \$569,000. With the addition of the new apartment complex, The Enclave at 3230, utility revenues are estimated to see an increase of \$358,000 once fully occupied. South Daytona is anticipating more growth with the addition of 14 two-story townhomes along the river and two seven-story condominiums at the property surrounding Murray Way. In addition to the much-needed development improvements in the City, Façade Improvement Grant projects are underway along U.S. 1 and Beville and we are happy to report that 141 business assistance grants were approved for COVID-19 relief funds provided by the County. Even with COVID-19, some businesses have thrived by adapting to new ways to do business such as Backyard Boys BBQ. South Daytona is a small city with a bright future, concluded Ms. Rippey, with thanks to the City Council and City Manager for their vision.

CONSENT AGENDA

Those matters included under the consent agenda are self-explanatory and are not expected to require review or discussion. Items will be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by any member of the City Council, that item must be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. (Read by Mayor Hall)

Consent Agenda Approval

Approval of minutes: City Council Meeting – November 10, 2020

Consideration of approving the purchase of four (4) police patrol vehicles utilizing the State of Florida's purchasing contract.

A motion to approve was made by Councilman Sander, seconded by Councilwoman O'Neal.

VOICE VOTE: ALL YES (5)

REGULAR AGENDA

Consideration of ratifying a three-year union labor agreement with the International Union of Police Associations (IUPA)

City Manager Gillis began by stating that the meetings with all three labor unions, fire, police, and general employees were fair and reasonable. We found that communication was key and the need to be consistent with each labor union was vital. Presented in the labor agreement for our Police Department is the same salary increase that was agreed upon by the other two unions, 4% this year, 3% next year and 4% in the third and final year. Our employees are our greatest asset, and a fair wage needs to be provided for the work they perform.

A motion to approve was made by Vice-Mayor Quartier, second by Councilwoman O'Neal.

VOICE VOTE: ALL YES (5)

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance No. 2020-21 an Ordinance of the City of South Daytona, Florida amending Article V, Zoning Regulations, Section 5.6, subsection (E)(2)(C) of the City's Land Development Code to allow six-foot-tall fences in side corner yards; repealing all inconsistent ordinances or parts thereof; providing for severability; and setting forth an effective date.

This is the second reading, stated Mr. Gillis. to allow six-foot fences on the side yard of corner lots to properly screen and obscure recreational vehicles and boats.

A motion to approve was made by Councilman Sander second by Councilwoman O'Neal.

VOICE VOTE: ALL YES (5)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

Consideration of approving legal services agreement with the Vose Law Firm to act in the capacity of City Attorney for the City of South Daytona.

In October, City Council authorized the release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Contractual Legal Services. Staff contacted approximately 70 law firms who specialized in municipal law with 35 firms requesting the RFP. Of those 35 firms that requested an RFP, 10 indicated that they would submit a proposal. Of those 10 that stated they would submit a proposal; the City received a total of six proposals from well qualified firms. A selection committee consisting of City Manager Gillis, Police Chief Mark Cheatham, Community Development Director Laureen Kornel, Attorney Ray Donadio, and Councilman Young as Chair was formed to evaluate and rank proposals. The committee met on December 2, 2020 and spent several hours reviewing all proposals narrowing down to the top four firms. On December 4, 2020, the top four law firms gave oral presentations to the committee to understand their approach, experience with municipal law, board certification, indicate any conflicts, and referrals. Each member of the committee asked specific questions pertaining to their departments needs for legal advice and service. The committee, after a lengthy deliberation, made a unanimous recommendation for the Vose Law Firm with Wade Vose being the point of contact for the City of South Daytona. The Vose Law Firm's proposal offers unlimited legal services including attendance at meetings, litigation, local bond counsel work and representation of the City's enterprise funds for a lump sum of \$120,000 per year. Chair Young thanked the council for their trust in him to Chair the Committee. City Manager Gillis stated that if the City Council approves the agreement and once it has been executed, the existing legal services agreement with Scott Simpson will be terminated.

Former Mayor George Locke was afforded an opportunity to speak on the issue before the Council vote. Mr. Locke asked if the RFP was advertised. City Manager Gillis responded that the RFP and Selection Committee meetings were advertised. Mr. Locke then asked why the City would consider paying more for the new law firm than the amount we were paying to our current attorney, Scott Simpson. Councilman Young answered by stating over the past decade we have paid Scott Simpson an average of roughly \$150,000 per year and that the \$120,000 being proposed by the Vose Law Firm was actually a decrease in the amount we were paying for legal services and therefore, the City would experience a decrease in cost in legal services which is very beneficial to a City of our size.

A motion to approve was made by Councilman Young, second by Vice-Mayor Quartier. Mayor Hall asked for a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Young	–	Yes
Councilwoman O'Neal	–	Yes
Councilman Sander	–	Yes
Vice-Mayor Quartier	–	Yes
Mayor Hall	-	Yes

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice-Mayor Quartier thanked all for coming to the meeting and he thanked Redevelopment Director Patty Rippey for all her hard work along with staff and the City Manager.

Councilman Young thanked staff by stating that the new apartment complex is a beautiful addition to our City.

He also requested City Manager Gillis to investigate what the other municipalities are doing in regard to anti-tethering laws.

Councilwoman O'Neal wished all Happy Holidays.

Councilman Sander thanked staff for all the hard work and that he appreciated the tour of the new apartment complex which took place immediately before the meeting. The Transportation Planning Organization's December meeting was cancelled but they issued a call for projects that is due by February 26, 2021. The projects should center around traffic operations, bicycle and pedestrian initiatives, and transportation studies. Happy Holidays to all.

Mayor Hall stated the Executive Director for the First Step Shelter had made contact asking if the City of South Daytona would be donating this year. Mayor Hall stated how nice the new pickleball courts are and he is looking forward to the North Pole Drive-Thru event on Friday night. Mayor Hall also requested the City Manager to investigate tethering laws and wished all Happy Holidays.

Mayor Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Mayor William C. Hall