
ROCKLEDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 ♦ 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Rockledge City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Rockledge City Hall, 1600 Huntington Lane, Rockledge, Florida.

PRESENT:	Thomas J. Price	Mayor
	Sammie Brown Martin	Councilmember, Seat #3
	Frank T. Forester	Councilmember, Seat #4
	Duane A. Daski	Councilmember, Seat #5
	Ted J. Hartselle	Councilmember, Seat #6
	Joseph E. Miniclier	City Attorney
	Dr. Brenda Fettrow	City Manager
	Jennifer M. LeVasseur	City Clerk & Public Relations Officer
ABSENT:	Dr. Michael A. Cadore	Councilmember, Seat #1
	Dr. R. Shaun Ferguson	Councilmember, Seat #2
STAFF PRESENT:	Matthew Trine	Assistant City Manager & Finance Director
	John Cooper	Planning Director
	Joseph P. LaSata	Public Safety Director/Chief of Police
	Victor "VJ" Karycki	Public Works Director
	James Elmore	Wastewater Treatment & Water Reclamation Director
	Donna Seyferth	Deputy Chief of Police
	James H. Wilson	Deputy Fire Chief

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas J. Price.

2. INVOCATION

- In the absence of Councilman Ferguson, the invocation was given by Pastor Rick Banks, Assistant Pastor at Faith Temple Christian Center.

3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A salute was given to the flag, and the Pledge of Allegiance was repeated in unison.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting on July 19, 2023

Councilman Daski moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on July 19, 2023; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (5).

- B. Council Budget Workshop on August 2, 2023

Councilman Forester moved to approve the minutes of the Council Budget Workshop on August 2, 2023; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed by unanimous vote (5).

5. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Mayor Price

- 1. Special Recognition

- a. 30 Years of Service

- Lieutenant Richard Harris, Department of Public Safety – Police Division

Mayor Price recognized Lieutenant Richard Harris, Department of Public Safety – Police Division, for 30 years of service and presented him with a Certificate of Commendation, Letter of Congratulations, City anniversary pin, and a gift card.

- 2. Mayoral Proclamations

- a. Florida Water Professionals Month

Mayor Price read aloud a Proclamation recognizing August 2023 as Florida Water Professionals Month. The Proclamation was presented to Florida water professionals and accepted by Kevin Shropshire, Pretreatment Coordinator, Wastewater Treatment and Water Reclamation Department.

- b. National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day

Mayor Price read aloud a Proclamation recognizing August 21, 2023 as National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day. The proclamation was accepted by Suzy Pereira, Founder and Chairwoman of The Blue Plaid Society. Ms. Pereira thanked Council for their support and offered brief remarks concerning the efforts to spread awareness of illicit Fentanyl poisoning.

6. FINANCIAL / BUDGET REPORT

- July 2023

Councilwoman Martin moved to be in receipt of the Financial/Budget Report for the month of July 2023; seconded by Councilman Hartselle. The motion passed without objection (5).

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

- None

8. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilman Daski moved to be in receipt of the minutes of the following meeting:

- Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners, Minutes of Meeting on July 26, 2023

and to consider independently any recommendation(s) contained therein; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion carried unanimously (5).

- A. Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners, Minutes of Meeting on July 26, 2023

1. Recommendation: Amendment of Façade Improvement Grant Program to Increase Maximum Grant Amount to \$25,000.00 for Exterior and/or Interior Improvements

...amend the façade improvement grant program and increase the improvement grant to up to \$25,000.00 each for exterior and interior project improvements...

City Manager Fettrow explained that the Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners considered and supported amending the Façade Improvement Grant Program to include interior projects, as well as to increase the maximum grant amount to \$25,000.00 due to price increases. Additionally, applicants could apply for one of each type of grant in a fiscal year. Councilmembers noted the importance of scrutinizing applications for interior renovations to ensure that funds are utilized for improvements versus replacements.

Councilman Forester moved to approve the recommendation; seconded by Councilwoman Martin.

City Manager Fettrow explained that Florida Statutes do not prohibit the utilization of façade improvement grants for interior projects and reiterated that ample funds have been budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year.

The motion carried by unanimous vote (5).

2. Recommendation: Approval of Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners Vice Chair for Remainder of Calendar Year 2023

...elect Commissioner Bucher as Vice Chair...

Councilman Daski moved to approve the recommendation; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed without objection (5).

B. Reappointments and Appointments

1. Reappointments

- a. The Rockledge Environmental Enhancement (TREE) Board

Councilwoman Martin moved to reappoint Eugene Sims to The Rockledge Environmental Enhancement (TREE) Board for a successive three-year term; seconded by Councilman Daski. The motion carried by unanimous vote (5).

2. Appointments

- o None

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- o None

10. CONSENT BUSINESS

Councilman Daski moved for approval of these consent business items:

- A. Approval: Ratification of Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association (P.B.A.) Contract Amendments – Officers, Sergeants, and Public Safety Telecommunicators (City Manager)
- B. Approval: Ratification of Coastal Florida Police Benevolent Association (P.B.A.) Contract Amendments – Lieutenants (City Manager)
- C. Approval: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Traffic Signal Lighting, Maintenance, and Compensation Agreement (Public Works Department)
- D. Approval: Revised Assignment of Utility Easement at Wastewater Treatment Facility, Florida Power & Light (Wastewater Treatment Department)
- E. Approval: Purchase of Four (4) Police Vehicles (Public Safety Department)

- F. Approval: Declaration of Surplus Property and Authorization to Sell or Scrap Said Property, Information Technology Division Vehicle (Finance Division)
- G. Approval: Declaration of Surplus Property and Authorization to Sell or Scrap Said Property, One Legally Impounded Vehicle (Public Safety Department)
- H. Approval: Ratification of Teamsters Contract Amendments (City Manager)
- I. Approval: Declaration of Surplus Property and Authorization to Sell or Scrap Said Property, Public Works Vehicle (Public Works Department)
- J. Approval: Purchase and Installation of Replacement Fountain at Lake Virginia, Solitude Lake Management (Planning Division)

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Martin and passed by unanimous vote (5).

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT BUSINESS

- None

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Action Item: Request for Exception from Rockledge Land Development Regulations to Construct Eight-Foot Gates, 1330 S. Fiske Boulevard (Building Department)

City Manager Fettrow explained that Trinity Lutheran School, 1330 S. Fiske Boulevard, is requesting approval to install eight-foot gates to increase security. She confirmed that installation of an eight-foot fence has not been requested at this time.

Councilwoman Martin moved to approve the request; seconded by Councilman Daski. The motion carried without objection (5).

13. PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- None

14. REPORTS

- A. City Manager Report
 - City Manager Fettrow:
 - Complemented City Clerk & Public Relations Officer LeVasseur on her handling of the school supply drive and shared a letter from Rockledge High School Principal Burt Clark thanking the City for school supply donations from the school supply drive.

- Announced that the City's newest fire engine, which has been ordered, will be a hometown fire engine. The engine will be painted Rockledge blue and black and will feature an image of the Rockledge High School logo on the back of the engine.
- Noted that the City's "Grandma" fire engine has received a face lift and shared that the City will celebrate "Grandma's" 100th birthday next year.
- Asked for Council's authorization to order items on the approved Fiscal Year 2024 ARPA List now in an effort to lock in prices and avoid potential supply chain issues.

Councilman Forester moved to allow the City Manager to order the items as requested; seconded by Councilwoman Martin. The motion passed by unanimous vote (5).

- Attended the Florida League of Cities Annual Conference with Councilman Ferguson and offered a few highlights from the Conference.

B. City Attorney Litigation Report

- August 2023

Councilman Daski moved to be in receipt of the City Attorney Litigation Report dated August 8, 2023; seconded by Councilman Hartselle. The motion passed unanimously (5).

City Attorney Miniclier provided an update on cases listed in the report.

C. Reports from the Dais

- Councilman Daski:

- Attended the recent Space Coast League of Cities meeting, where scholarship awards were presented to recipients.
- Announced that Congressman Bill Posey and 9/11 Survivor Ricky Aw will be keynote speakers at the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.
- Offered complementary remarks concerning the "Grandma" fire engine makeover.

- Councilwoman Martin:

- Thanked Councilman Daski for participating in the Space Coast League of Cities Scholarship Committee.
- Attended the recent Space Coast League of Cities dinner.
- Thanked City Clerk & Public Relations Officer LeVasseur for her coordination of the school supply drive.

- Councilman Hartselle:
 - Thanked Councilman Daski for his service on the Space Coast League of Cities Scholarship Committee.
 - Attended Rockledge High School’s registration.
 - Announced that the Kiwanis Club held a membership drive and welcomed seven new members.

15.ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Price declared the meeting to be adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Council Chairman

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk