

City Council Minutes
October 23, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Andrew Rencich. Council members present: Cynthia Brown, Joe Blocker, and Ryan Bullard. Also present: City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Clerk Maryanne Schrader, City Attorney Jonathan Holloway, and various staff members. Mayor JB Whitten and Councilmember Doug Capps were excused.

2. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

2.1. Pastor Joe Bennett of the First Church of the Nazarene

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Pastor Joe Bennett of the First Church of the Nazarene.

3. Open Policy Making and Legislative Session

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich declared a quorum was present.

4. Approve Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for action.

Motion by Councilmember Joe Blocker and seconded by Councilmember Cynthia Brown to approve the agenda, as presented.

Roll Call: Joe Blocker, Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. All ayes. Motion carried.

5. Presentations and Reports – No item brought forward.

6. Consent Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for action.

Motion by Councilmember R. Bullard to remove Item #2, traffic MOU from the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Ryan Bullard and seconded by Councilmember Joe Blocker to approve the Consent agenda, as amended.

Roll Call. Ayes: Joe Blocker, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. Nays: Cynthia Brown. Ayes 3; Nays 1. Motion carried.

6.1. Vineyard Village State Grant Agreement No. HL204

6.2. Traffic MOU – Pink Periwinkle Beads

Councilmember R. Bullard expressed concern about the traffic MOU stating the amount does not make financial sense.

Councilmember C. Brown mentioned she had emailed Mr. Schwendt and was advised the business is small without much traffic. She added the purpose is to mitigate some of the expenses.

City Manager T. Bolduc explained that in order for us to make changes with mitigation a study must be done adding we plan to partner with the county in the future which will help make more improvements. We have to charge the current fee as is in the fee schedule. The County has completed their study, but the commissioners must adopt it. He has met with Jason Autry and the commissioners, so his expectation is after the first of the year, the study will be adopted. He added the store is small and has fees already in the sidewalk improvements. We have assisted them with the CRA grant program.

Councilmember R. Bullard said he does not want to stifle small businesses but he wants to ensure we are appropriately assessing the fees.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich added we are utilizing a metric currently.

Motion by Councilmember Cynthia Brown and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Bullard to approve the Pink Periwinkle traffic MOU.

Roll Call: Joe Blocker, Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. All ayes. Motion carried.

6.3. Joint Use Agreement - Sandspur Field

6.4. Approval of City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2023

7. Public Hearings / Ordinances on Second Reading

7.1. Ordinance 1952 - General Employees Retirement Amendment

City Manager T. Bolduc presented Ordinance 1952 to the City Council and asked the City Clerk to read Ordinance 1952.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read Ordinance 1952 by Title: An Ordinance of the City of Crestview Further Amending the City of Crestview General Employees' Retirement Plan; Amending Section 6 Benefit Amounts and Eligibility; Amending Section 7 Pre-Retirement Death; Amending Section 10 Optional Forms of Benefits; Amending Section 15 Minimum Distribution of Benefits; Providing For Inclusion In the Code; Providing For Severability; Providing For A Repealer; and Providing for an Effective Date.

City Manager T. Bolduc said this requires changing the retirement distribution from 70 1/2 to 73 years of age.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment from the Council and from the public. In hearing none, he called for action.

Motion by Councilmember Joe Blocker and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Bullard to adopt Ordinance 1952 on 2nd reading.

Roll Call: Joe Blocker, Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. All ayes.
Motion carried.

8. Ordinances on First Reading – No item brought forward.

9. Resolutions

9.1. Resolution 24-1 Support of CDC in Greater Crestview Area

City Manager T. Bolduc presented Resolution 24-1 to the City Council stating this action is a resolution of support. He went over the childcare issues stating the federal government desires to build a CDC. We would prefer that the CDC be built in Crestview. It could also potentially have a VA benefit facility included. He then asked the City Clerk to read Resolution 24-1 by title.

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader read Resolution 24-1 aloud: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Crestview, Florida, Supporting Siting of A Military Child Development Center In the Greater Crestview Area; and Providing For An Effective Date.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment from the Council.

Councilmember C. Brown said this is a great opportunity to showcase what we have been doing behind the scenes.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment from the public. In hearing none, he called for action.

Motion by Councilmember Cynthia Brown and seconded by Councilmember Joe Blocker to approve Resolution 24-1.

Roll Call: Joe Blocker, Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. Motion carried.

10. Action Items

10.1. Declaration of Surplus Property and Approval to Sell to Habitat for Humanity

City Manager Tim Bolduc explained we have had a partnership with Habitat for Humanity. He went over the five lots listed at \$6,000 per lot. The recommendation is that we sell them, as it not only allows for the development of much-needed affordable housing within the City, but it also gives us enough money to provide money that can be made available to further blight removal efforts. The money will be placed in a Code Enforcement Reserve Fund until needed for tear down or

improvements on other properties.

Discussion ensued on the ownership of the properties and the pros and cons of donating or selling the properties.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment from the Council.

Councilmember C. Brown commented that Habitat for Humanity has improved a lot of neighborhoods throughout Okaloosa County.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich asked if they were deed restrictive, and City Manager T. Bolduc replied that there were none adding Habitat for Humanity plans to build affordable housing.

Nancy Vincent of Habitat for Humanity came forward stating the homes will have a second mortgage adding she has a grant for each home. The second mortgage will include equity which will return to Habitat for re-use. They do not charge interest. She receives her data from HUD. The military and city volunteers have assisted in building the homes. The next house is ADA compliant, and the funding is secured through ARPA for \$70,000 for materials.

City Manager T. Bolduc said in the past we have donated properties to donate to Habitat for Humanity, but this is the best plan moving forward.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment from the public.

Shannon Hayes came forward stating he supports the project.

Motion by Councilmember Cynthia Brown and seconded by Councilmember Joe Blocker to approve the designation of the five lots as surplus and authorize staff to execute the required documentation to sell the property to Habitat for Humanity in Okaloosa County, Inc. for the requested amount.

Roll Call: Joe Blocker, Cynthia Brown, Andrew Rencich, Ryan Bullard. All ayes. Motion carried.

11. City Clerk Report

11.1. Monthly Update

City Clerk Maryanne Schrader mentioned the update is in the staff report and informed the City Council that Deputy City Clerk Natasha Peacock is attending the second year of training this week.

12. City Manager Report

12.1. Financial Update - Finance Director

City Manager T. Bolduc updated the City Council on the financials.

He added the performance evaluation for the City Clerk will be on the next Council agenda. He added Ms. Leavins will send a link to the Council or they could provide a hard copy.

He announced we had our LEAD graduation during Government Week and stated we had a great turnout for the Cops and Bobbers event.

13. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment.

Councilmember R. Bullard asked about the Twin Hills project, and City Manager T. Bolduc provided an update that the rock donated from Crestview Commons will be used. The dog park is now open.

Councilmember Joe Blocker asked about an update for Veterans Day, and City Clerk M. Schrader mentioned the parade will begin November 11th adding Chance will send out additional information, as she did not have the information yet.

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich said the Cops and Bobbers event had a great turnout and the kids were happy.

City Manager T. Bolduc is going to forward the Legislative Days information to the City Council adding he will take care of the planning, if they want to attend. The session will be in the middle of November.

14. Comments from the Audience

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich called for comment.

Ms. Patterson came forward stating she emailed the Governor on the sewage system issue on Benjamin Street.

City Manager T. Bolduc said we have funding for the Benjamin Street project and the governor is matching the funds. He added we will be able to connect it without the citizens having to pay the connection fee.

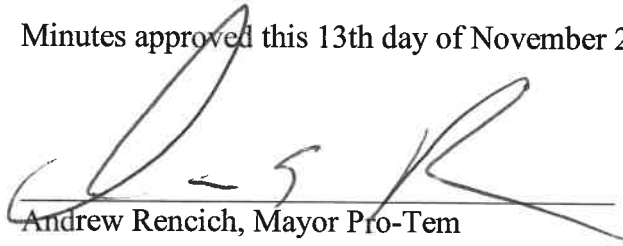
Shannon Hayes said our representatives will be in Niceville next week, if the Council wants projects for them to approve, he advised them to meet with them. It is always good to know who represents the citizens.

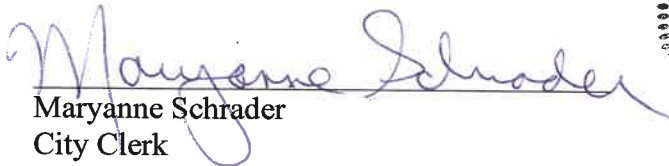
He added that for the properties the city just sold, we can utilize the funds for the other properties in need of improvement.

15. Adjournment

Mayor Pro-Tem A. Rencich adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Minutes approved this 13th day of November 2023.


Andrew Rencich, Mayor Pro-Tem


Maryanne Schrader
City Clerk

Proper Notice having been duly given

