

# City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive  
Marco Island, Florida  
cityofmarcoisland.com*



## Meeting Minutes - Draft

**Monday, April 15, 2019**

**5:30 PM**

**Community Meeting Room**

### **City Council**

*Chair: Erik Brechnitz*

*Vice-Chair: Victor Rios*

*City Council: Jared Grifoni, Larry Honig, Howard Reed,  
Charlette Roman and Sam Young*

*Interim City Manager: David Harden*

*City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel*

*City Clerk: Laura Litzan*

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Brechnitz called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** 6 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

**Absent:** 1 - Councilor Young

**3. Invocation - Led by Deacon Mark Leonard of the San Marco Catholic Church****4. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Chair Brechnitz**

*It is noted for the record Councilor Young is now present for the meeting at 5:32 P.M.*

**5. Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION by Vice-Chair Rios, seconded by Councilor Young, to approve the Agenda. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 7 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Young, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

**6. Approval of Minutes**

[ID 18-731](#) Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2019 will be on the May 6, 2019 agenda

This item was deferred.

**7. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

**MOTION by Vice-Chair Rios, seconded by Councilor Grifoni, to approve the Consent Agenda. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 7 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Young, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

[Approval of Consent Agenda passes all routine items indicated by asterisk (\*). Consent Agenda Items are not considered separately unless a Council Member so requests. In the event of such a request, the item is returned to the Regular Agenda.]

*(IT IS NOTED FOR THE RECORD, THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA APPEAR IN NUMERICAL ORDER IN THE MINUTES.)*

**a.(\*)** [ID 19-212](#) Distribution of Applications for Appointments to Audit Committee

This item was approved under the Consent Agenda.

## 8. City Council Items

### A. Presentations

1. [ID 19-204](#) Proclamation Honoring Division Chief Tom Bogan

*On behalf of City Council, Chair Brechnitz read a proclamation honoring Fire Division Chief Tom Brogan for his twenty-eight (28) years of service.*

2. [ID 19-210](#) Proclamation Recognizing Arbor Day

*On behalf of City Council, Chair Brechnitz read a proclamation to commemorate the 147th anniversary of Arbor Day and Beautification Advisory Committee Members Becky Irwin and Andrew Kirlin were present to accept the proclamation.*

### B. Discussion Items

#### [ID 19-220](#) Interview Schedule for City Manager Finalists

*(Editorial History: At the April 1, 2019 meeting, City Council discussed possible scenarios where the finalists would be interviewed either the week of May 6 or the last week in May. Some concern was expressed that the background checks would not be completed in time for a May 6 deadline. Based upon conversations with the background investigator, it is anticipated that the background checks will be completed and available for Council's review by May 3. Should Council agree, we will ask the finalists to arrive May 4 or 5, provide each with a tour of the City and arrange a Sunday evening meet & greet. The individual interviews of the candidates will be conducted by Councilors throughout the day on May 6. The group interviews and ranking of the finalists will be conducted by the Council at a special-called meeting at 5:30 pm on May 7.)*

*Council engaged in discussion regarding the interview schedule for City Manager finalist and Council agreed with the proposed schedule to conduct the interviews on May 6 and May 7.*

## 9. Citizens' comments on agenda items not scheduled for public hearing and items other than those appearing on the agenda.

*Citizens expressing their support for Police Chief Al Schettino:*

*Mr. Richard Blonna, 1541 San Marco Road  
Mr. Michael Cunningham, 848 South Heathwood Drive  
Mr. Bob Brown, 1036 South Collier Boulevard  
Ms. Yvette Benarroch, 847 Rose Court  
Ms. Vicki Huff, 14 Manor Terrace  
Mr. Joe Batte, 240 Marquesas Court  
Ms. Carol Schettino, 1260 Mariana Court  
Mr. Warren Dettinger, 71 Hickory Court*

*Mr. Robert Rowe was called to speak but he ceded his time to Mr. Joe Granda.*

*Mr. Joe Granda, 831 Partridge Court, asked for Councilor Honig's resignation from the Marco Island Police Foundation.*

*Mr. Bruce Brenner, 1890 Honduras Avenue, commented on the weeds in Mackle Park Lake and how to remedy the situation.*

Mr. Alex Popoff, 309 Waterleaf Court, expressed his support for Interim City Manager David Harden's decision to ask the Police Chief to retire.

Mr. Ron Hudson was called to speak but he left the meeting.

Ms. Teri Sommerfeld, 1111 San Marco Road, commented on the climate survey.

Ms. Caitlin Robinson, 121 Lamplighter Drive, voiced her concerns over a City Manager final candidate that is anti police and asked Council to do their due diligence when making their selection. She also supports Marco Island Police Department.

(THE MEETING WENT INTO RECESS AT 7:05 P.M. IT IS NOTED FOR THE RECORD THE SAME COUNCILORS WERE PRESENT WHEN THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 7:15 P.M.)

## 10. Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing - None

## 11. Ordinances

### A. Public Hearings - Time Certain Approximately 7:00 p.m.

#### 1. [ID 19-211](#) Ordinance - Second Reading & Public Hearing - Capital Spending Ordinance

*(Editorial History: At the March 18, 2019 meeting, Council voted 5-2 to direct staff to bring the ordinance back before Council for consideration. At the April 1, 2019 meeting, the ordinance was passed 4-3 on first reading.)*

City Clerk Laura Litzan read into the record by title only, Ordinance 19-10 on second reading.

Citizens speaking in opposition of the Ordinance:

Ms. Teri Sommerfeld, 1111 San Marco Road  
Mr. Ken Honecker, 632 Dorando Court

**MOTION by Vice-Chair Rios, seconded by Councilor Honig, to approve Ordinance 19-10 on Second Reading. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 4 - Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

**No:** 3 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Young and Councilor Roman

#### 2. [ID 19-207](#) Ordinance - Second Reading & Public Hearing Amending Sec. 30-62 of the Land Development Code (LDC) Zoning - Amendment Procedures, to require holding Neighborhood Information Meetings

*(Editorial History: Staff-initiated change as suggested by Councilor Roman, allowing the City Manager or designee to require, if needed, a Neighborhood Information Meeting (NIM) for changes to the Land Development Code (LDC) regarding rezoning of land. The change would also require the applicant to post and maintain a 32 square foot sign prior to any public hearing. Currently, code language for high impact projects within the Marco Island Community do not require a NIM. For the first reading of the Ordinance on April 1, City Council approved the revisions 4-3.)*

City Clerk Laura Litzan read into the record by title only, Ordinance 19-11, on Second Reading.

Community Affairs Director Dan Smith answered Council's questions and concerns.

Public Comment: None

**MOTION by Councilor Roman, seconded by Councilor Reed, to approve Ordinance 19-11 on Second Reading and to review the Ordinance within one (1) year to decide whether or not to add other categories. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 6 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

**No:** 1 - Councilor Young

3. [ID 19-208](#) Ordinance - Second Reading & Public Hearing Amending Sec.30-673 of the Land Development Code (LDC) Site Development Plan and Site Improvement Plan Submittal Requirements, to require Neighborhood Information Meetings

*(Editorial History: Staff-initiated change, allowing the City Manager or designee to require, if needed, a Neighborhood Information Meeting (NIM) for site development, amendment, or improvement plan approval. Currently, code language for high impact projects within the Marco Island Community do not require a NIM. For the first reading of the Ordinance on April 1, City Council approved the revisions 6-1.)*

City Clerk Laura Litzan read into the record by title only, Ordinance 19-12 on second reading.

Public Comment: None

**MOTION by Councilor Roman, seconded by Vice-Chair Rios, to approve Ordinance 19-12 on Second Reading. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 7 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Young, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

4. [ID 19-206](#) Ordinance - Second Reading & Public Hearing - Amending Sec. 30-222 of the Land Development Code (LDC) - Zoning - To Add Permitted Health Office Uses in C-3 Zoning District

*(Editorial History: Staff-initiated change, allowing health related office uses (62121(DENTIST), 62131 (CHIROPRACTOR), 62132 (OPTOMETRIST), 62133 (MENTAL HEALTH), 62134 (PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL/SPEECH THERAPIST), 621111 (PHYSICIANS), 621112 (OSTEOPATHY), 621391(PODIATRIST), 621399 (MISC. HEALTH OFFICES)) as a permitted use in Commercial Intermediate Districts (C-3). The Planning Board voted 7-0 to approve the LDC amendment and forward their recommendation of approval. For the first reading on April 1, the City Council approved the proposed language 7-0.)*

City Clerk Laura Litzan read into the record by title only, Ordinance 19-09 on second reading.

Community Affairs Director Dan Smith answered Council's questions and concerns.

Public Comment: None

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**MOTION by Councilor Reed, seconded by Councilor Honig, to approve Ordinance 19-09 on Second Reading. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 7 - Councilor Reed, Councilor Honig, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Young, Councilor Roman, Councilor Grifoni and Vice-Chair Rios

B. *First Readings - None*

**12. Resolutions for Adoption - None**

**13. Council Reports - None**

**14. Council Communications & Future Agenda**

[ID 18-732](#) Future Agenda Items

*Council Communications:*

*Councilor Grifoni commented on the positive attributes and the negative controversy of the Police Department. He believes it is in the best interest of the City to "clear the air" and made the following motion:*

**MOTION by Councilor Grifoni, seconded by Councilor Honig, Council to direct the City Manager to bring a proposal for an outside audit or review of everything that has happened over the last year and beyond, including but not limited to the climate survey and all the recently reported issues within the Marco Island Police Department. MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**Yes:** 2 - Councilor Honig and Councilor Grifoni

**No:** 5 - Councilor Reed, Chair Brechnitz, Councilor Young, Councilor Roman and Vice-Chair Rios

*Chair Brechnitz thanked Chief Murphy and the Fire Department for their fast response after needing them for a medical emergency at his residence.*

*Future Agenda:*

*Vice-Chair Rios is asking for a discussion on the smoking ban on the beaches.*

*Councilor Reed is asking for a discussion on parking at Mackle Park Lake.*

**15. City Manager's Report**

[ID 18-733](#) City Manager's Report

*Interim City Manager David Harden provided his report and answered Council's questions and concerns.*

**16. City Attorney's Report**

[ID 18-734](#) City Attorney's Report

*City Attorney Alan Gabriel provided his report and answered Council's questions and concerns.*

**17. Departmental Reports**

[ID 18-735](#) Monthly Departmental Reports

*Council has agreed to forego the departmental reports by staff unless Council has a specific question for the department head.*

- Finance Department Report - Acting Finance Director Debi Mueller*
- IT Department Report - Director of Information Technology Jordan Turek*
- Human Resources Department Report - HR Director Leslie Sanford*
- Parks and Recreation Report - Parks, Culture and Recreation Manager Samantha Malloy*
- Growth Management Report - Community Affairs Director Dan Smith*
- Building Services Department Report - Chief Building Official Raul Perez*
- Fire-Rescue Report - Fire Chief Mike Murphy*

**18. Citizens' Comments**

*Ms. Linda Turner, 667 Thrush Court, expressed her displeasure regarding an article written in the Marco Eagle and she also supports Police Chief Al Schettino.*

**19. Adjournment**

*There being no further business to come before City Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 P.M.*

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*Erik Brechnitz, Council Chairman*  
ATTEST:

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*Laura Litzan, City Clerk*  
PREPARED BY:

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*Lisa Smith, Recording Specialist*