

City of Marco Island Florida

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Monday, June 5, 2023

5:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

City Council

Chair: Greg Folley

Vice-Chair: Jared Grifoni

*City Council: Rich Blonna,
Erik Brechnitz, Becky Irwin,
Darrin Palumbo, Joe Rola*

City Manager: Mike McNees

Assistant City Manager: Casey Lucius

City Attorney: Alan L. Gabriel

City Clerk: Joan Taylor

1. Call to Order

Chair Folley called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

Also Present

*Michael McNees, City Manager
Casey Lucius, Assistant City Manager
Joan Taylor, City Clerk
Alan L. Gabriel, City Attorney
Tracy Frazzano, Police Chief
Chris Byrne, Fire Chief
Daniel J. Smith, Community Affairs Director
Jeff Poteet, Water & Sewer General Manager
Martin Luna, Audio/Video Technician
Kelley Faulk, Recording Clerk*

3. Invocation - Pastor Daphne Johnson of Wesley United Methodist Church**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by Chair Folley.

5. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION by Councilor Brechnitz, seconded by Vice-Chair Grifoni, that the Agenda be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

6. Approval of the Minutes

- a. [ID 23-2911](#) Approval of the City Council Special-Called "Closed Meeting" Minutes of May 8, 2023

MOTION by Councilor Irwin, seconded by Councilor Blonna, that the Agenda be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

- b. [ID 22-2621](#) Approval of the Budget Policies Workshop Minutes of May 22, 2023

Councilor Blonna requested the May 22, 2023, minutes be amended to show Councilor Irwin was not absent but late for Roll Call. A review of the minutes showed the following statement was present on the minutes "Councilor Irwin was absent for Roll Call but arrived at 2:12 p.m." and therefore no modification was needed to the final minutes.

MOTION by Councilor Blonna, seconded by Councilor Rola, that the Agenda be Approved as Amended. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

- c. [ID 22-2592](#) Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2023

MOTION by Councilor Blonna, seconded by Councilor Brechnitz, that the Agenda be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

7. Approval of Consent Agenda (5:40 p.m.)

[Approval of Consent Agenda passed all routine items listed below.]

- [ID 23-2923](#) Authorize the City Manager to Issue a Purchase Order to Huber Technology, Inc. for Replacing Solenoid Valves, and Parts on the Rotary Drum Screen in the Amount of \$87,410.00 - Jeffrey E. Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer Department

MOTION by Councilor Brechnitz, seconded by Councilor Rola, that the Agenda be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Yes: 7 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin, Councilor Palumbo, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

8. Proclamations and Presentations

- a. [ID 23-2726](#) Employee Service Awards: (5:45 - 6:00 p.m.)
Christian Holmes - 15 Years
Oscar Castellanos - 15 Years
Daniel Ring - 5 Years
Hans Schmid - 5 Years
Edward Carey - 5 Years
Douglas Andrews - 5 Years
Jonathan Weber - 5 Years
Luz Cantor Velez - 5 Years

Chair Folley presented the Employee Service Awards.

- b. [ID 23-2920](#) Presentation - 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Preparedness - Chris Byrne, Fire-Rescue Chief (6:30 - 6:50 p.m.)

Fire-Rescue Chief Chris Byrne discussed the hurricane preparedness plans. He reminded the public about the Annual Hurricane Preparedness Town Hall meeting on June 14th at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Meeting room.

9. Citizens' comments on agenda items not scheduled for public hearing and items other than those appearing on the agenda. TIME CERTAIN 6:00 P.M. OR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEREAFTER (6:00 - 6:30 p.m.)

Mr. Hayden Dublois discussed statistics on noise complaints, noise ordinance, anonymous and verified callers.

Mr. Peter Rigas discussed noise complaints and the Short-Term Rental Ordinance.

Ms. Kassie-Annie Regus discussed the distribution of information to the public.

Mr. Keith Klipstein requested the city to perform an electrical power supply study including cost efficient energy supply alternatives.

Ms. Deb Henry discussed the Short-Term Vacation Rental Ordinance.

10. Quasi-Judicial Public Hearing - None.

11. Ordinances - None.

A. Public Hearings - None.

B. First Readings - None.

12. Resolutions & City Council Items

[ID 23-2907](#) Request from Marco Island Model Yacht Club for Consideration of a Parking Lot at Mackle Park, 1361 Andalusia Terrace, Marco Island, FL, 34145 - Daniel J. Smith, AICP, Director, Community Affairs (6:50 - 7:20 p.m.)

Community Affairs Director Daniel Smith presented a parking proposal at Mackle Park for the Marco Island Model Yacht Club.

Antonio Waring spoke on the Marco Island Model Yacht Club parking challenges and responded to the city proposals.

Chair Folley requested that City staff continue investigating alternative solutions that could accommodate the Club members' parking needs.

13. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

None.

14. Council Communications & Future Agenda (7:20 - 8:00 p.m.)

[ID 22-2594](#) Future Agenda Items

Councilor Irwin reminded council members about four items: beautification of the island, waterways, beach access and use of technology with parking issues. She requested monthly updates from the Waterways Committees' projects, the need to create a public beach access point, and exploring alternatives measures (such as using technology) to solve City issues such as parking.

Vice-Chair Grifoni congratulated the Parks and Recreation Department and Mackle Park staff for the successful "End of the Year Teen Bash" event. He discussed the noise ordinance and agreed with Councilor Irwin about leveraging technology as a solution for City issues.

Councilor Brechnitz provided an update on the Marco utility issue. The Council agreed he should spearhead the conversation, along with the City Manager.

Councilor Palumbo discussed the need for beach access. He will continue working with City Manager McNees sourcing information about a Trolley initiative.

Chair Folley agreed with the need for additional beach access points and that monthly waterways updates are included on the agenda.

Councilor Blonna agreed with exploring the need for a northern beach access point and suggested Southwest Florida Water Management District work more closely with the relevant City committees.

15. Council Reports

[ID 23-2924](#) Legal Opinion on the Single-Family Home Transient Rental Ordinance - Council Chair Greg Folley (8:00 - 9:00 p.m.)

Chair Folley discussed his White Paper with the recommendation for a legal second opinion. All councilors participated in the discussion.

(THE MEETING WENT INTO RECESS AT 8:00 P.M. AND ALL COUNCILORS WERE PRESENT WHEN THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:05 P.M.)

Public Comment:

Mr. Howie Reitz stated a second, legal opinion was premature.

Mr. Hayden Dublois requested a second opinion.

Mr. Martin Winter discussed his concerns over costs involved with an additional opinion and is not in favor of the second opinion.

Mr. Peter Rigas discussed concerns of public opinions about the City Attorney and does not support a second opinion.

Mr. Howard Reed requested that the ordinance move forward without a second opinion.

Ms. Kassie-Annie Regus shared her dissatisfaction with Councilor Blonna's opinions regarding the ordinance.

Mr. Chris Hansen expressed disappointment with the process and expressed a need for a second opinion.

MOTION by Councilor Blonna, seconded by Councilor Brechnitz, to approve option two in the White Paper for the Council to direct Chair Folley to work with the City Manager to obtain the second opinion. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:

Yes: 4 - Councilor Blonna, Councilor Brechnitz, Councilor Rola and Chair Folley

No: 3 - Vice-Chair Grifoni, Councilor Irwin and Councilor Palumbo

16. City Manager's Report

City Manager Mike McNees stated there was no report for this session. He agrees that the City Council and staff should discuss potential opportunities for beach access points.

17. City Attorney's Report - None.

18. Departmental Reports

[ID 22-2595](#) Monthly Departmental Reports

There were no comments on the Monthly Department Reports.

19. Citizens' Comments (9:15 p.m.)

Mr. Martin Winter discussed the noise ordinance.

Ms. Deb Henry discussed the importance of Freedom of Information for all citizens

20. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Councilor Blonna motioned and Councilor Palumbo seconded to adjourn the meeting. Chair Folley adjourned the meeting at 8:49 P.M.

Greg Folley, Council Chair

ATTEST:

Joan Taylor, City Clerk

PREPARED BY:

Kelley Faulk, Recording Clerk