

City Council Meeting - Monday June 1, 2020

The June 1, 2020 City Council meeting started with a presentation by Kristine Cunningham, Chairperson for the Port Orange Environmental Advisory Board.

Ms. Cunningham explained that the board is group of volunteer residents who focus on Port Orange environmental issues. She compared the board to a Planning and Zoning board as it is strictly advisory. The Port Orange Environmental Advisory Board was started 9 years ago and currently consists of 5 resident members. Meetings are held about once every month or two and residents are encouraged to attend to bring up environmental issues in the city. As needed, the board may request one or more city staffers or possibly the City Manager to attend to address specific items.

The speaker pointed out that city staffers frequently have little time to deal with environmental issues and the board can supplement staff time for this purpose. All projects recommended by the board need to be approved by the City Council. Ms. Cunningham stated that the Port Orange City Manager was enthusiastically in favor of the work the Environmental Board does. She also mentioned that the Port Orange board would be happy to work with Edgewater to set up a similar board.

Most of the Edgewater City Council members appeared to be in favor of going ahead with forming such a board, although there was concern that Edgewater may not have enough residents with environmental expertise to form an effective board. Ms. Cunningham pointed out that Port Orange was frequently able to find outside experts to come and discuss environmental issues.

A vote regarding forming an Edgewater Environmental Advisory Board will be on the agenda for the next scheduled council meeting.

After the presentation, the City Council approved the following:

- Resolution 2020-O-04 Proposed Charter Ballot Language: Seven items approved for the charter ballot at the May 4th meeting will appear on the November ballot.
- Resolution 2020-O-16 Trespassing Offense: The City Council approved the first reading for a new trespassing offense and placing signs in public parks regarding rules governing park use. The mayor said this was necessary to stop some “punks” from taking over the park. Anyone found guilty of violating park rules could be prohibited from using the park for a period of time. The City Manager feels this will help the Police Department in dealing with these problems.
- Resolutions required for Hart Avenue Community Development Block Grant (CBDG): A series of resolutions were approved as necessary for the city to complete the application for CBDG funding for \$1.8 million to be used for flood mitigation. Mr. Irby pointed out that most of the resolutions put into a formal

policy practices the city already adhered to regarding administration of CBDG projects.

- Final Plat Approvals: City Council gave Final Plat approval for Glenbrooke Subdivision Phases 1 & 2 (200 single family lots) on Indian River Blvd, and Oak Leaf Preserve Phase 1 (77 single family lots) on Old Mission Road.
- Modified Planned Unit Development (PUD) for Elegant Manor Estates: Council approved a modification to the PUD for this 54-lot plat on Air Park Road & Silver Palm Drive. The original PUD was signed in 2007 but property was never developed. A new PUD is required to meet updated regulations
- Zoning for Oakwood Cove: Council gave Preliminary Plat Approval for this 110 acre property (110 single family lots) bounded by Old Mission Road and agreed to reconsider a modification to the PUD for this property at future meeting.

Finally, the Council gave the City Manager authority to resume posting late fees for utility customers starting June 16th and to resume cutoffs for delinquent accounts effective July 7th. Public notices will go out immediately and utility customers will be given information regarding available assistance and the option to set up a six-month payment plan to resolve delinquencies. The Financial Director estimated \$142,000 in late fees will be forgiven and reported 659 accounts currently subject to shutoff. It was noted that many of these accounts are “habitual offenders” who need to be motivated to resolve the delinquency.