



Council Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2020

- Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.
- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call

Councilmember Noble, Councilmember Zemaitis, Mayor Dudley, Vice-Mayor Howell, Councilmember Hauft, Manager Campbell and Attorney Mora

- Consent Agenda for December
 1. Minutes – Council Meeting (November)
 2. Revenue/Expenditure Report
 3. Building Department Report
 4. Police Department Report
 5. Fire Department Report

Motion: Vice-Mayor Howell

Second: Councilmember Zemaitis

All in Favor

- Open Forum

Dan Kurant (6071 50th Ave)

Mr. Kurant suggested waiving building department permitting fees for individuals, who will need to pursue construction to comply with the Chapter 54 Ordinance. Also, Mr. Kurant was concerned about his neighbor parking on the street, which blocks his mailbox. He asked for clarification as to what “blocking a driveway/mailbox” means in the updated Chapter 54.

Manager Campbell advised Mr. Kurant they could set up a meeting at a later date.

Mayor Dudley asked Manager Campbell to provide a summary of solutions to the Council after he meets with Mr. Kurant.

- Old Business

1. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2020-655:

An ordinance of the Town of Kenneth City, Florida amending Chapter 34 – Fire Protection and Prevention, article iii – fire prevention code, section 34-129 – alarm systems – false alarms; amending the definition section; amending the fee for false alarms; providing for appeals; providing for severability; providing for legislative findings; providing for the correction of scrivener’s errors; and providing for an effective date.

Motion: Councilmember Zemaitis

Second: Vice-Mayor Howell

All in Favor

2. Update regarding Police Chief search

Manager Campbell provided an update on the search for a new Police Chief. Manager Campbell stated the professional organizations the job was advertised in, the number of applications received within the designated timeframe (22), and his ongoing collaboration with Police Chief Riley to generate interview questions, narrow the list of applicants to 6, and interview these applicants. One applicant withdrew his application, leaving 5 applicants. These applicants were interviewed during the week of 12/14/2020.

Manager Campbell explained that following the interviews, the Town’s goal was to schedule a “meet and greet” of 2 or 3 of the applicants. This event would be a public meeting, and a chance for Council and the Community to interact with the final candidates. This meeting will be held on either January 4th or 5th. Manager Campbell is trying to provide transparency to the process. Per the Charter, the Town Manager is the hiring manager.

Manager Campbell stated that he was looking forward to a fresh perspective that this new hire would bring to the Town.

Vice-Mayor Howell asked if the salary of the position was known to the applicants. He was informed that the salary range was posted as part of the job listing.

Council discussed Management’s view on the benefit of a fresh perspective, the process of orienting a new chief, and Chief Riley’s participation in the process thus far.

- New Business

1. Renewal of 2020-2021 Election Contract with Pinellas County

Motion: Councilmember Noble

Second: Vice-Mayor Howell

All in Favor

2. Discussion of 2021 Council Meeting dates and times

Councilmember Zemaitis suggested reincorporating Workshops onto the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Manager Campbell informed the Council that budget workshops would be split and CIP Fund Projects would be a separate workshop from the regular budget workshop discussions.

Mayor Dudley asked for consensus on the dates, emphasizing that issues requiring a lengthy discussion could be scheduled on a separate night from the regular council meeting.

Council reached consensus to accept dates and times

3. Resolution 2020- 12 Town Holidays for 2021

Motion: Vice-Mayor Howell

Second: Councilmember Noble

Councilmembers had questions about the Friday after Thanksgiving (Black Friday), and Good Friday as Town Holidays.

Attorney Mora listed the holidays written into the Personnel Code, which is codified in the Land Development Code.

Manager Campbell stated we are taking one less Holiday for the year, due to Christmas being observed on a Friday.

Public Comment:

Teresa Zemaitis – 5201 57th Street

Asked how the Council could change the holiday dates, what the process is to enact that change.

Dan Kurant, 6071 50th Ave

Mr. Kurant wanted clarification on the term Black Friday and he stated that Good Friday is not a federal holiday, echoing the same point Councilmember Noble stated previously in this discussion.

Attorney Mora proceeded to answer the questions raised in the Council discussion thus far and in public comment. Stated that since this is codified in the Town Code, an ordinance would have to be done to make a change to these dates. He explained that his office is working to pull the personnel code manual out of the Land Development Code. He described how the term “Black Friday” came to be.

All in Favor, Resolution passed

- Bid Award for 46th Avenue Recreational Trail

Manager Campbell described the Recreational Trail Project, which includes the partnership with Pinellas County through the Joint Project Agreement approved by Council earlier this year. The project was bid competitively, in adherence to Consultant Competitive Negotiation Act. MTM Contractors Inc was identified as the low bidder. Staff recommends awarding the Bid to MTM Contractors Inc \$1,080,598. Pinellas County contacted staff and approved the bid from MTM. The forecasted completion date is in June of 2021. Manager Campbell stated his availability to provide an in-person, on-site tour of the project. Manager Campbell also described how this project fits into the overall vision of connecting Kenneth City to the future Joe’s Creek Pinellas Trail construction.

Motion: Councilmember Noble

Second: Vice-Mayor Howell

Public Comment:

Jeff Pfannes – 4494 61st Way N

Mr. Pfannes commented on the steep slope conditions on the west side of the 60th Street ditch.

Manager Campbell responded to Mr. Pfannes. Manager Campbell described the inheritance of the ditch from Pinellas County due to the box culver construction. The project would eliminate the need for pedestrians to walk along the steep embankment of the west side of the ditch. Vegetation solutions for the west side of the ditch are being considered, but the west side is not intended for travel, and the trail spur will encourage safe passage along the ditch. Manager Campbell stated his communication with the County to provide funding for the shoring up of the west side of the ditch.

Public Comment:

Teresa Zemaitis, 5201 57th Street

Asked for the bid amount to be stated again, and clarification of how the project bid amount is being funded.

Manager Campbell described the funding of the project. The \$1,080,598 project is funded by the County and by a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. In combination of these funding sources, the Town will be paying about \$200,000 total for the whole 46th Avenue Recreation Trail/road milling and 60th Street ditch trail spur project. The Town's portion will be coming out of Capital Improvements Fund.

All in Favor, Resolution passed

- Appointment of Councilmember Bonnie Noble to Forward Pinellas Board

Mayor Dudley and Manager Campbell expressed their excitement to have Councilmember Noble participate in this Board, and show representation from Kenneth City in the County.

Councilmember Noble accepted the nomination to the Forward Pinellas Board.

Motion: Vice-Mayor Howell

Second: Councilmember Hautt

All in Favor

- Renewal of Pinellas County Combined Mutual Aid Agreement

Manager Campbell described this agreement, and recommended approval.

Motion: Vice-Mayor Howell

Second: Councilmember Zemaitis

All in Favor

- Mayor/Council/Attorney/Manager/Clerk Comments

Councilmember Noble

Councilmember Noble expressed her desire for Manager Campbell to resign from his position as Town Manager. Councilmember Noble expressed her intentions to bring forward issues related to Manager Campbell's management of the Town at Council meetings starting in January.

Councilmember Zemaitis

Councilmember Zemaitis recommended moving the discussion of the Holiday dates to the next workshop, as a start to the ordinance change process.

Attorney Mora elaborated on his office's work on the personnel code, and that these updates to the personnel code are being worked upon.

Mayor Dudley

No Comment.

Councilmember Howell

Councilmember Howell commented in support of Manager Campbell.

Councilmember Hautt

No Comment.

Manager Campbell

Manager Campbell described a meeting he and Councilmember Noble had on December 15th as pleasant and productive. Manager Campbell expressed his desire to elevate each Councilmember's image in the community, and his commitment to the Town and its Council.

Attorney Mora

Thanked the Council for being adaptable and for the privilege of serving the Council.

Clerk Matson

Clerk Matson stated the qualifying period for the upcoming election ends on Friday (December 18th) at noon. Many packets have been pulled.

- Adjournment

Motion: Councilmember Hauft

Second: Councilmember Zemaitis

All in Favor

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy M. Matson, Town Clerk