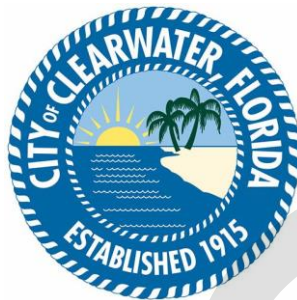


City of Clearwater

*City Hall
112 S. Osceola Avenue
Clearwater, FL 33756*



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 3, 2018

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

City Council

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Mayor George N. Cretekos, Vice Mayor Doreen Caudell, Councilmember Hoyt Hamilton, Councilmember Bob Cundiff and Councilmember David Allbritton

Also Present: Jill Silverboard – Deputy City Manager, Micah Maxwell – Assistant City Manager, Pamela K. Akin - City Attorney, Rosemarie Call - City Clerk and Nicole Sprague – Official Records and Legislative Services Coordinator

To provide continuity for research, items are listed in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.

Unapproved

1. Call to Order – Mayor Cretekos

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

2. Invocation – Vice Mayor Caudell

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilmember Cundiff

4. Special recognitions and Presentations (Proclamations, service awards, or other special recognitions. Presentations by governmental agencies or groups providing formal updates to Council will be limited to ten minutes.) – Given.

- 4.1 International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day, May 20, 2018 - Ellen Bauer, AIDS Partnership, Inc. - Ellen Bauer, AIDS Partnership, Inc.
- 4.2 Cinco de Mayo Day Proclamation, May 5, 2018 - Juan Sabines Guerrero, Mexican Consul of the Mexican Consulate in Orlando
- 4.3 Homeownership Month Proclamation, June 2018 - Terry Malcolm-Smith, Economic Development and Housing Department
- 4.4 Relay for Life Weekend Proclamation, May 18-19, 2018 - Nichole Tenderholt, Relay for Life Event Coordinator
- 4.5 Drinking Water Week Proclamation, May 6-12, 2018 - David Porter, Director of Public Utilities
- 4.6 Water Reuse Week Proclamation, May 13-19, 2018 - David Porter, Director of Public Utilities

5. Approval of Minutes

- 5.1 Approve the minutes of the April 19, 2018 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

Councilmember Hamilton moved to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2018 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

6. Citizens to be heard re items not on the agenda

Tom Rask said the public records request he made during the last council meeting has been filled. He learned the City has entered into a temporary use agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, effective September 1, 2017. DEP decided not to collect the \$12,800 per year that they are now charging for the temporary use agreement for the last 10 years. It sends a message to business owners that if you violate submerged land lease rules, you will be financially rewarded. He said he submitted an additional public records request regarding how the City determined on September 6, 2007 it owned the land under the Clearwater Beach Recreation Center in fee simple title.

Mr. James suggested council meetings should be held once a week and that the water and gas reconnection fees should be eliminated.

Ellen Bauer thanked the City for the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Day Proclamation and invited all to attend the memorial on May 20 at First Presbyterian Church.

7. Consent Agenda – Approved as submitted.

- 7.1 Award a contract/purchase order in the amount of \$500,000 to General Utilities Pipe Supply for the purchase of Steel Pipe and Fittings for the period May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019; award a contract/purchase order in the amount of \$750,000 to General Utilities Pipe Supply for the purchase of Polyethylene Pipe and Fittings for the period May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019, including two one-year renewal terms for each and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.2 Approve an amendment allowing for a time extension to the existing grant between the City of Clearwater and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Land and Water Conservation Fund for the renovations and improvements at Moccasin Lake

Nature Park and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)

- 7.3 Approve the recommendation made by the Public Art and Design Board (PADB) for the commission of a public art installation for the St. Petersburg College East Community Library located at 2465 Drew Street, as designed by Gus and Lina Ocamposilva for the total cost of \$60,000 to be funded from the Library CIP code 0315-93530. (consent)
- 7.4 Approve co-sponsorship and waiver of requested city fees and service charges for Fiscal Years 2018/19 special events including four annual city events and twenty-two city co-sponsored events at an estimated General Fund cost of \$577,060 (\$110,750 cash contributions and \$466,310 in-kind contributions) and Enterprise Fund cost and fee waiver of \$91,320 for the purposes of Fiscal Year 2018/19 departmental budget submittals. (consent)
- 7.5 Approve an Engineer of Record (EOR) Work Order to McKim and Creed, Inc. in the amount of \$190,800 for the Marshall Street and East WRF Basins Inflow and Infiltration Permanent Flow Monitoring (18-0023-UT) and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.6 Approve an annual blanket purchase order (contract) to Toter Incorporated of Statesville, NC for residential container purchases in accordance with City Code of Ordinances, Section 2.564, Exceptions to bid and quotation procedure (d) authorizing use of contracts previously awarded by other governmental entities, in the annual amount of \$175,000 with four one-year renewal terms at the City's option, as required by the Solid Waste Department, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 7.7 Appoint Jerri Menaul to the Public Art and Design Board with a term to expire April 30, 2022. (consent)

Vice Mayor Caudell moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Public Hearings - Not before 6:00 PM

8. Administrative Public Hearings

- 8.1 Approve the request from City of Clearwater staff to vacate a portion of public right-of-way of Haven Street dedicated by plat in Plat Book 5, Page 53, Official Records of Pinellas County, Florida, and certain real property dedicated as public right-of-way by City of Clearwater Resolution 79-50, as recorded in Official Records Book 4867, Page 1478, Pinellas County, Florida and pass Ordinance 9129-18 on first reading. (VAC 2018-04)

As a pre-requisite to a land swap between the City of Clearwater and the

Church of Scientology Flag Service Organization, Inc. (COS), it is necessary to vacate a portion of Haven Street and certain real property that was dedicated as Right-of-Way in Official Records Book 4867, Page 1478. The portion of property that remains in City ownership following the vacation will represent one of the three parcels to be swapped in the property exchange between the City and COS.

The land swap, which is outlined in more depth in that certain Contract for Exchange of Real Property agenda item, being presented for City Council consideration simultaneously herewith, will provide for the exchange of three city owned properties in return for a strategic downtown property owned by the COS.

There are four conditions to this vacation. 1) the declaration of surplus of the city-owned portions of real property; 2) City Council approval of the Contract for Exchange of Real Property along with the closing on, and conveyance of, the property as contemplated in the contract; 3) The City will retain a blanket general utility, drainage and gas easement over the entire premises to be vacated; and 4) Easements will need to be granted to private utility companies so that they may sustain their existing utilities, as well.

All city departments have reviewed this vacation and have no objection.

The City Attorney said the agenda item before Council was heard two weeks ago; Council approved the agenda item but the ordinance was not heard. It is back on the agenda for first reading.

Discussion ensued with concerns expressed that the Church of Scientology (COS) is not communicating with the City and that the City is vacating a piece of right-of-way that is currently public. Comments were made that the COS put together the land swap deal at the City's request, the land swap has been in the works for 1.5 years, and that the City will be acquiring a parcel worth more than the one being traded. It was requested that the declaration of surplus and the contract for exchange be placed on the May 17 council agenda.

The City Attorney said the City is maintaining a utility easement over the entire right-of-way.

**Ordinance 9129-18 was presented and read by title only.
Councilmember Allbritton moved to a pass Ordinance 9129-18 on first reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

Ayes: 3 - Mayor Cretkos, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

Nays: 2 - Vice Mayor Caudell and Councilmember Hamilton

Motion carried.

- 8.2** Approve the request from property owner Drs. Kiran Patel and Pallavi Family Foundation Inc. to vacate a portion of Public Right-of-Way of Damascus Road abutting the owner's property and an Ingress and Egress Easement located on the owner's property, pass Ordinance 9130-18 on first reading. (VAC2018-03)

As a pre-requisite to a Contract for Sale of Real Property between the City of Clearwater and Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel Family Foundation, Inc. (Property Owner), it is necessary to vacate a portion of Public Right-of-Way of Damascus Road, formerly known as Bostrom Road, that the City acquired in 1964 per Resolution 64-90 of the City of Clearwater, Florida, and an Ingress and Egress Easement Deed acquired in 1996, as recorded in Official Records Book 9551, Page 1433 of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.

This vacation ordinance is subject to the following conditions:

- The Property Owner will grant to both the City of Clearwater and Pinellas County an easement for ingress and egress over a new access road constructed to city standards.
- The Property Owner must grant to the City of Clearwater a general blanket utility easement.
- The Property Owner must grant private utilities an interest as needed and acceptable to those utilities.
- The Property Owner must grant to the City of Clearwater a temporary ingress and egress access easement for access during construction.
- City Council declaring the City Property as surplus for conveyance to the adjoining property owner, in accordance with the City of Clearwater Code of Ordinances/Charter.
- City Council's approval of a Contract for Purchase and Sale of Real Property between the Property Owner and the City.

All City departments have reviewed this vacation and have no objections.

Applicant representative Katie Cole reviewed the request and said she met with city and county staff to discuss Damascus Road and the access easements to access Coopers Point. She provided Council with copies of a map that identified the replacement access to Coopers Point Bayou.

Councilmember Cundiff moved to approve the request from property owner Drs. Kiran Patel and Pallavi Family Foundation Inc. to vacate a portion of Public Right-of-Way of Damascus Road abutting the owner's property and an Ingress and Egress Easement located on the owner's property. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Ordinance 9130-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Hamilton moved to pass Ordinance 9130-18 on first reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretelos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 8.3** Declare surplus certain real property formerly used as City right-of-way located in Section 16, Township 29 South, Range 16 East for the purpose of sale to the abutting property owner and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (APH)

May 18, 1964, City of Clearwater acquired the title to the right-of-way of Damascus Road, formerly known as Bostrom Road, per Resolution No. 64-90 of the City of Clearwater, Florida, as recorded in Official Records Book 1936, Page 522 of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.

This property is approximately 17,960 square feet and was used to provide access to former Clearwater Christian College campus.

April 4, 2018, by Jim Millspaugh and Associates performed an independent appraisal of the property. This appraisal report determined that the fair market value is \$137,000.

This item is a prerequisite to the Contract for Sale of Real Property between the City of Clearwater and Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel Family Foundation, Inc, who recently acquired the adjacent property, formerly known as the Clearwater Christian College.

Per City Charter 2.01, when the property declared surplus is vacated right-of-way, in which the city owns the fee interest and the vacated right-of-way is abutted by a single property owner, no competitive bid shall be required; and the city may sell the property to the abutting property owner for not less than fair market value.

Vice Mayor Caudell moved to declare surplus certain real property formerly used as City right-of-way located in Section 16, Township 29 South, Range 16 East for the purpose of sale to the abutting property owner and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

9. Second Readings - Public Hearing

- 9.1** Continue to May 17, 2018: Adopt Ordinance 9129-18 on second reading, vacating public right-of-way described as that certain portion of Haven Street right-of-way of Court Square, being bound by Franklin Street to the North, South Garden Avenue to the East, Court Street to the South, and South Fort Harrison Avenue to the West; subject to, among other things, a blanket general utility, drainage and gas easement to be reserved over the entire right-of-way to be vacated herein, subject to the granting of certain private utility easements.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to continue Item 9.1 to May 17, 2018.

The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Mayor Cretkos, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

Nays: 1 - Vice Mayor Caudell

- 9.2** Adopt Ordinance 9134-18 on second reading, annexing certain real properties whose post office addresses are 1500 Country Lane West and 1505 Country Lane East, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said additions.

Ordinance 9134-18 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Hamilton moved to adopt Ordinance 9134-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretkos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.3** Adopt Ordinance 9135-18 on second reading, amending the future land use plan element of the Comprehensive Plan of the city to designate the land use for certain real properties whose post office addresses are 1500 Country Lane West and 1505 Country Lane East, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Low (RL).

Ordinance 9135-18 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to adopt Ordinance 9135-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretkos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.4** Adopt Ordinance 9136-18 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real properties whose post office addresses are 1500 Country Lane West and 1505 Country Lane East, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Medium Density Residential (LMDR).

Ordinance 9136-18 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Caudell moved to adopt Ordinance 9136-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretekos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.5** Adopt Ordinance 9137-18 on second reading, annexing certain real property whose post office address is 1756 El Trinidad Drive East, Clearwater, Florida 33759, into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said additions.

Ordinance 9137-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Cundiff move to adopt Ordinance 9137-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretekos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.6** Adopt Ordinance 9138-18 on second reading, amending the future land use plan element of the Comprehensive Plan of the city to designate the land use for certain real property whose post office address is 1756 El Trinidad Drive East, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Low (RL).

Ordinance 9138-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Hamilton moved to adopt Ordinance 9138-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretekos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.7** Adopt Ordinance 9139-18 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real property whose post office address is 1756 El Trinidad Drive East, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Medium Density Residential (LMDR).

Ordinance 9139-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Allbritton moved to adopt Ordinance 9139-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretkos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.8** Adopt Ordinance 9140-18 on second reading, annexing certain real properties whose post office addresses are 3018 Glen Oak Avenue North and 3047 Hoyt Avenue, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said additions.

Ordinance 9140-18 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Caudell move to adopt Ordinance 9140-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretkos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.9** Adopt Ordinance 9141-18 on second reading, amending the future land use plan element of the Comprehensive Plan of the city to designate the land use for certain real properties whose post office addresses are 3018 Glen Oak Avenue North and 3047 Hoyt Avenue, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Low (RL).

Ordinance 9141-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Cundiff moved to adopt Ordinance 9141-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretkos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

- 9.10** Adopt Ordinance 9142-18 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real properties whose post office addresses are 3018 Glen Oak Avenue North and 3047 Hoyt Avenue, all in Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Medium Density Residential (LMDR).

Ordinance 9142-18 was presented and read by title only.

Councilmember Hamilton moved to adopt Ordinance 9142-18 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretekos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

10. City Manager Reports

10.1 Amend Section 2.251 of the Clearwater Code of Ordinances, increasing the composition of the Sister Cities Advisory Board from six to seven members to include an at-large member and pass Ordinance 9133-18 on first reading.

On March 1, 2018 the Sister Cities Advisory Board made a recommendation to the City Council to add one at-large member to the Board, which the Council approved.

Adoption of this Ordinance will allow for the one additional at-large member to be added to the Sister Cities Board raising the total from six to seven members. The at-large member to be appointed by the City Council and must reside within the City of Clearwater.

Councilmember Cundiff moved to amend Section 2.251 of the Clearwater Code of Ordinances, increasing the composition of the Sister Cities Advisory Board from six to seven members to include an at-large member. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

Ordinance 9133-18 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Hamilton moved to pass Ordinance 9133-18 on first reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:

Ayes: 5 - Mayor Cretekos, Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

10.2 Approve a Contract for Sale of Real Property in the amount of \$137,000 between the City of Clearwater and Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel Family Foundation, Inc. for city-owned property formerly used as a portion of Damascus Road and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same, together with all other instruments necessary to affect closing.

May 18, 1964, City of Clearwater acquired the title to the right-of-way of Damascus Road, formerly known as Bostrom Road, per Resolution 64-90 of the City of Clearwater, Florida, as recorded in Official Records Book 1936,

Page 522 of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida.

This portion is approximately 17,960 sq. ft. and traverses through Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel Family Foundation, Inc.'s recently acquired property, formerly known as the Clearwater Christian College.

The size and shape, of this city-owned land, impose limitations on potential land uses. Any meaningful development of this property will most likely require the adjacent lands.

April 4, 2018, Jim Millsbaugh and Associates performed an independent appraisal of the property. This appraisal report determined that the fair market value is \$137,000. Per City Charter 2.01, when the property declared surplus is vacated right-of-way in which the city owns the fee interest and the vacated right-of-way is abutted by a single property owner, no competitive bid shall be required; and the city may sell the property to the abutting property owner for not less than fair market value.

This contract is contingent upon two pre-requisites. The first being City Council's approval of an ordinance which vacates that certain portion of public right-of-way of Damascus Road, formerly known as Bostrom Road, acquired by the City per Resolution 64-90 of the City of Clearwater, Florida as recorded in Official Records Book 1936, Page 522 of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida, and an Ingress and Egress Easement as recorded in Official Records Book 9551, Page 1433 of the Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida. The second pre-requisite being the declaration of the City Property as surplus by City Council for conveyance to the adjoining property owner in accordance with the City of Clearwater Code of Ordinances/Charter.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to approve a Contract for Sale of Real Property in the amount of \$137,000 between the City of Clearwater and Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel Family Foundation, Inc. for city-owned property formerly used as a portion of Damascus Road and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same, together with all other instruments necessary to affect closing. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

10.3 Appoint one member to the Community Development Board as the alternate member with a term to expire April 30, 2022.

APPOINTMENT WORKSHEET**BOARD: Community Development Board**

TERM: 4 years

APPOINTED BY: City Council

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE: Yes

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT: City of Clearwater

MEMBERS: 7 & 1 alternate

CHAIRPERSON: Michael Boutzoukas

MEETING DATES: 3rd Tues., 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chambers APPTS. NEEDED: 1

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS: Board shall include members qualified and experienced in the fields of architecture, planning, landscape architecture, engineering, construction, planning & land use law and real estate

THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER (ALT. MEMBER) HAS A TERM WHICH EXPIRES ON APRIL 30, 2018 AND NOW REQUIRES EITHER **REAPPOINTMENT** FOR A NEW TERM OR **REPLACEMENT** BY A NEW APPOINTEE:

1. Charles Reed Haydon - 105 Bayside Drive, 33762 - **Civil Engineer**
Original Appointment: 3/2/17
(0 absences in the last year)
(Mr. Haydon was appointed as the **alternate member** to finish an unexpired term until 4/30/18)

THE FOLLOWING NAMES ARE BEING SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION TO FILL THE ABOVE **VACANCY**:

1. David L. Jaye - 2856 Shady Oak Ct., 33761 - **Real Estate**
Yes to Alt. member seat
2. Peter P. Kohut, P.E. - 240 Windward Passage, Unit 105, 33767 - **Civil Engineering**
Yes to Alt. member seat
3. Elizabeth Van Scoyoc - 3460 Countryside Boulevard, #51, 33761 - **Administrative Specialist/Asst. Professor**
Yes to Alt. member seat

Zip codes of current members: 1 at 33755, 1 at 33759, 1 at 33762, 2 at 33764 and 3 at 33767

Current Categories:

- 1 Architect
- 2 Attorneys
- 3 Civil Engineers
- 1 Landscape Architect
- 1 Real Estate Broker

In response to questions, the City Clerk said Mr. Haydon is eligible to be reappointed and has expressed an interest in serving as the alternate member. Currently, there is one female appointed to the board. Elizabeth Van Scoyoc resides in the Countryside area; she has been a city resident for a year. There are three civil engineers serving on the board.

Vice Mayor Caudell moved to appoint Elizabeth Van Scoyoc to the Community Development Board as the alternate member with a term to expire April 30, 2022. The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember Cundiff and Councilmember Allbritton

Nays: 1 - Mayor Cretelos

11. City Attorney Reports

The City Attorney said, in response to Mr. Rask's comment regarding the Bay Esplanade case, he stated that the case concluded that Mr. Blackwood owned the Clearwater Beach Recreation Center. That comment was incorrect; the City was not a party to that litigation and that litigation cannot remove the City's ownership without the City being a party. The City still owns the Clearwater Beach Recreation Center.

12. Other Council Action

12.1 Advantage Group Letter submitted by Bud Elias.

The Mayor said Council received a letter from a constituent regarding changing the current form of government to a strong mayor form of government.

Discussion ensued with comments made that changing the form of government has been discussed for a long time, no council action on changing the form of government was taken and individuals interested in changing the form of government had time. Concerns were expressed that changing the form of government does not mean one takes the

current city charter and substitute city manager with mayor, time constraints with a November 2018 ballot language deadline does not provide sufficient time for the task force to review and draft a new charter. It was suggested that Council consider a straw ballot for August asking citizens if the City of Clearwater should take steps to change the city charter by replacing the city manager-council form of government with a strong mayor form of government.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Karen Aungst.

In response to questions, the City Attorney said a complete charter amendment will be needed; all the amendments necessary to implement the strong mayor system that Council is proposing. What is approved in November will be the charter. Changes to the charter can be made afterward however, there will not be another regularly scheduled election until March 2020. She said what is adopted in November would be the charter for 2020. Council approves the ballot language by ordinance; second reading must be completed by August 16, 2018. Council would only have one meeting July to review and makes changes to the ordinance before first reading. The ballot language is due to the Supervisor of Elections by August 21. She said every city charter looks different; there are 67 examples of strong mayor forms of government in Florida. Questions to be considered when rewriting the charter: does the mayor sit on council, does the mayor get to vote or break ties, how is power balanced between the council and the mayor, how is the mayor replaced. There are a lot of issues to be discussed, with some more complex than others, and the public may have different views on how they should be addressed. The City Clerk said the cost to hold an election in November would be approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000, since it is being held in conjunction with a county election. If a special election is called, it would cost approximately \$100,000. Deputy City Manager Jill Silverboard said staff would continue to work under the direction of the current council for any work or priorities.

Ten individuals spoke in support.

One individual spoke in support and suggested eliminating council and replacing it with a confederation council of the neighborhoods.

Two individuals spoke in opposition and suggested that the process outlined in the charter to revise the charter be followed.

The City Attorney said this is not about drafting a ballot question; this is

about rewriting the city charter, which should not be taken lightly or quickly. She supports whatever form of government Council chooses but the process to make sure the charter is carefully drafted and considered is important. She said she spoke with Mr. Salzman briefly regarding the document presented by the constituent interested in changing the form of government.

In response to questions, the City Attorney said any vote tonight does not commit the City; Council would make the decision then the ordinance is approved. The City Clerk said past Charter Review Committee meetings were not advertised but were publicly noticed and open to the public.

A concern was expressed that the motion does not mention public input or task force committee size and makeup. It was suggested that members of the 2015 and 2011 Charter Review Committees be asked to serve on the task force. A concern was expressed that placing this request on the ballot would set a precedent for future citizen requests.

There was consensus that the task force would be charged with drafting a city charter for a strong mayor form of government.

The City Attorney said at the next meeting, Council will appoint the task force committee; at that point, the committee members may not talk to each other outside of a committee meeting. If council wishes to direct specific public workshops, specific direction must be given.

Councilmember Allbritton moved to form a task force of 15 members of the 2015 and 2011 Charter Review Committees charged to work with the City Attorney and public input to finalize charter language for strong mayor form of government to be given to Council for approval in August to be on the November 2018 ballot. The motion was duly seconded and carried with the following vote:

Ayes: 3 - Vice Mayor Caudell, Councilmember Hamilton and Councilmember Allbritton

Nays: 2 - Mayor Cretkos and Councilmember Cundiff

13. Closing comments by Councilmembers (limited to 3 minutes) – None.

14. Closing Comments by Mayor – None.

15. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Attest

Mayor
City of Clearwater

City Clerk

Draft