

# City of Clearwater

*Main Library - Council Chambers  
100 N. Osceola Avenue  
Clearwater, FL 33755*



## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 18, 2021

6:00 PM

Main Library - Council Chambers

## City Council

## Roll Call

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Frank Hibbard, Councilmember Hoyt Hamilton, Vice Mayor David Allbritton, Councilmember Mark Bunker and Councilmember Kathleen Beckman

**Also Present:** William B. Horne II – City Manager, Micah Maxwell – Assistant City Manager, Michael Delk – Assistant City Manager, Pamela K. Akin City Attorney, Rosemarie Call – City Clerk, and Nicole Sprague – Deputy City Clerk.

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

Unapproved

### 1. Call to Order – Mayor Hibbard

*The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chamber at the Main Library.*

### 2. Invocation – Rev. Dr. Rhonda Blevins from Chapel by the Sea

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

### 4. Approval of Minutes

- 4.1 Approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk.

**Vice Mayor Allbritton moved to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 City Council Meeting as submitted in written summation by the City Clerk. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

### 5. Citizens to be heard re items not on the agenda

*Sheila Neisler said The District brand represents the resilience of Downtown Clearwater and its businesses. The District strives to embrace cuisine, culture, commerce and community and causes. She invited all to the Sip and Stroll tasting event and Dine Out for a Difference that will benefit the Clearwater Urban Leadership Coalition.*

*Casey Coleman said she was an urban design student and offered her services to assist with landscaping the Pinellas Trail.*

*Beth Davis submitted an eComment regarding property redevelopment throughout the City that was read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 19).*

*Kathy Flaherty submitted an eComment regarding the location of various dumpsters throughout the city that was read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 20).*

## **6. Consent Agenda – Approved as submitted.**

- 6.1** Approve a recommendation by the Public Art & Design Board for the commission of a public art installation for Crest Lake Park located at 201 S. Glenwood Avenue, as designed by Donald Gialanella for a total cost of \$61,900.00; and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.2** Approve a professional services agreement and work order with Ardurra Group Inc., of Tampa, Florida, for Northeast Water Reclamation Facility (NE WRF) Improvements project (19-0029-UT) per RFQ 08-21, in the amount of \$2,234,715; ratify and confirm task 1.4 in Exhibit A of the Work Order, in the amount of \$22,146, for a total of \$2,256,861; and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.3** Approve Supplemental Work Order Two to Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., of Tampa, Florida, for design services for Imagine Clearwater (17-0031-EN) in the amount of \$1,394,900.00, increasing the work order from \$6,478,560 to \$7,873,460 and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)
- 6.4** Approve an agreement between the City of Clearwater and the School Board of Pinellas County, Florida providing for the continuation of the School Resource Officer program at Clearwater High School, Countryside High School, Oak Grove Middle School and Clearwater Fundamental for a three-year period commencing July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. (consent)

**Councilmember Beckman 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**

## **7. Administrative Public Hearings**

- 7.1** Declare surplus, for the purpose of donation for development of affordable housing, real

property located at 1112 Palm Bluff Street; approve the Real Property Donation Agreement between the City and Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. (CDC of Tampa); and allow appropriate officials to execute same, together with all other instruments required to affect closing. (APH)

This property is currently vacant, and it is identified by Resolution 19-10 as a city-owned property appropriate for use as affordable housing (Pinellas County Property I.D. #10-29-15-33552-006-0390). The property is suitable for construction of a single-family home. The city acquired the property at no cost in 2015 through the Pinellas County escheatment process due to non-payment of taxes.

This property is located within the North Greenwood Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area. CDC of Tampa has a history of contributing to community revitalization and is a reputable builder of affordable homes in the Tampa Bay region.

A staff appraisal valued the property at \$21,700 on December 30, 2020. According to Section 2.01(d)(5)(i) of the Clearwater City Charter, the City Council may approve the donation or sale for less than fair market value of city-owned property of not more than five acres in size for Workforce Housing. Workforce Housing means housing affordable to persons or families whose total annual income does not exceed 120 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), adjusted for household size, as published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for Pinellas County or metropolitan area. According to information provided by the Pinellas County Property Appraiser, the property is 0.084 acres (3,640 square feet).

**Councilmember Bunker moved to declare surplus, for the purpose of donation for development of affordable housing, real property located at 1112 Palm Bluff Street; approve the Real Property Donation Agreement between the City and Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc. (CDC of Tampa); and allow appropriate officials to execute same, together with all other instruments required to affect closing. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

- 7.2** Approve the correction of a scrivener's error in the title block of Ordinance 9431-20, adopted on December 3, 2020, vacating portions of a 15-foot drainage and utility easement and a 10-foot utility easement, and pass Ordinance 9436-21 on first reading.

A scrivener's error was made in the title block only of Ordinance 9431-20, setting forth a quarter section call as the "NW" rather than the "NE", and it is necessary to correct said scrivener's error. Ordinance 9436-21 corrects the title block (revises NW to the correct, NE) in the adopted Ordinance No. 9431-20. This Ordinance vacates a portion of an easement as part of the David Avenue land swap with Creative Contractors.

**Councilmember Hamilton moved to approve the correction of a scrivener's error in the title block of Ordinance 9431-20, adopted on December 3, 2020, vacating portions of a 15-foot drainage and utility easement and a 10-foot utility easement. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Ordinance 9436-21 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Allbritton moved to pass Ordinance 9436-21 on first reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

- 7.3** Declare as surplus, certain city owned real property located at 701 Missouri Avenue N. for the purpose of entering a Business Lease Contract with Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. (LSF) for lease of the site for the Head Start Program. (APH)

The City has leased the city-owned property at 701 N Missouri Avenue for the Head Start program since the 1971 and, more specifically, to Lutheran Services Florida, for over 7 years. During its due diligence in considering the requested lease, city staff was unable to locate historical documentation of a declaration of surplus for the property. It is suspected, based on the history of the leases, a rezoning was done in conjunction with a referendum which approved the existing use in 1998, that a declaration of surplus was likely accomplished despite not locating record of a surplus. This declaration is intended to clear the record as to the existing use.

Head Start is a community service program aimed at providing preschool-aged children with structured recreation and educational opportunities. The Head Start program is funded by federal grant dollars and is being operated by LSF, a non-profit agency, at the 701 N Missouri site, under the direction of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

The Head Start facility at 701 N. Missouri is being operated entirely on city owned property. The 0.98-acre site contains a playground and portable modular units for use as a pre-school nursery. The existing modular units are beyond their useful life, so LSF is proposing removing two or three of the modular units and replacing them with new ones. The City holds no interest in the existing modular units or in the proposed new units. LSF's current lease

expires on 12/31/2023 with an option to extend another 5-year term through 12/31/2028. LSF has requested a new lease term through the year 2036 for the 701 N Missouri site. This new lease term will allow LSF to meet their minimum 15-year lease requirement to secure federal funding for the purchase of the new modular units. There will be a federal interest in these new modular units through the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/Office of Head Start.

The proposed lease has terms and conditions similar to the previous lease. The lease has a rental rate of \$1.00 a year for the lease term. Staff supports the declaration of surplus and related lease to LSF.

**Councilmember Beckman moved to declare as surplus, certain city owned real property located at 701 Missouri Avenue N. for the purpose of entering a Business Lease Contract with Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. (LSF) for lease of the site for the Head Start Program. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

## **8. Second Readings - Public Hearing**

- 8.1** Adopt Ordinance 9419-21 on second reading, annexing certain real property whose post office address is 2776 N. Terrace Drive, Clearwater, Florida 33759, into the corporate limits of the city and redefining the boundary lines of the city to include said addition.

**Ordinance 9419-21 was presented and read by title only.**

**Councilmember Bunker moved to adopt Ordinance 9419-21 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

- 8.2** Adopt Ordinance 9420-21 on second reading, amending the future land use plan element of the Comprehensive Plan to designate the land use for certain real property whose post office address is 2776 N. Terrace Drive, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Residential Low (RL).

**Ordinance 9420-21 was presented and read by title only.**

**Councilmember Hamilton moved to adopt Ordinance 9420-21 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton,

Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

- 8.3** Adopt Ordinance 9421-21 on second reading, amending the Zoning Atlas of the city by zoning certain real property whose post office address is 2776 N. Terrace Drive, Clearwater, Florida 33759, upon annexation into the City of Clearwater, as Low Medium Density Residential (LMDR).

**Ordinance 9421-21 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Allbritton moved to adopt Ordinance 9421-21 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

- 8.4** Adopt Ordinance 9433-21C on second reading, approving changes to the Clearwater Gas System utility rates to become effective for all gas bills and services rendered on or after March 1, 2021.

**Ordinance 9433-21C was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Beckman moved to adopt Ordinance 9433-21C on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

- 8.5** Adopt Ordinance 9434-21 on second reading, vacating an alley described as all of the platted alley lying within Block 10 of Jones Subdivision of Nicholson Addition to Clearwater Blocks 7, 8, 9, and 10, as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 82 of the Public Records of Hillsborough County, of which Pinellas County was once a part.

**Ordinance 9434-21 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Bunker moved to adopt Ordinance 9434-21 on second and final reading. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

## **9. City Manager Reports**

**9.1 Confirm COVID-19 Emergency Proclamation and adopt Resolution 21-07.**

**Councilmember Hamilton moved to confirm COVID-19 Emergency Proclamation. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**Resolution 21-07 was presented and read by title only. Vice Mayor Allbritton moved to adopt Resolution 21-07. The motion was duly seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

**9.2 Approve a Business Lease Contract between the City of Clearwater (City) and Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. (LSF) (Tenant) for the use of a city-owned property located at 701 Missouri Avenue N for a Head Start Preschool and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same.**

LSF's current lease expires on 12/31/2023 with an option to extend another 5-year term through 12/31/2028. LSF has requested a new lease with a term through the year 2036 for the 701 N Missouri site. The new 15-year lease term will allow LSF to meet their minimum 15-year lease requirement to secure federal funding for the purchase of new modular classroom units. There will be a federal interest in these new modular units through the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/Office of Head Start. The City holds no interest in the existing modular units or in the proposed new units. The approval of the declaration of surplus of the subject property in the preceding City Council agenda item gives the City the authority to contract for a new lease on the 701 N Missouri site.

The proposed lease has terms and conditions similar to the previous lease. The lease has a rental rate of \$1 per year for the lease term. Staff supports the Business Lease Contract with LSF.

**Councilmember Beckman moved to approve a Business Lease Contract between the City of Clearwater (City) and Lutheran Services Florida, Inc. (LSF) (Tenant) for the use of a city-owned property located at 701 Missouri Avenue N for a Head Start Preschool and authorize the appropriate officials to execute same. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**9.3 Review the Value Engineered Items in the redesigned Coachman Park and provide direction.**



Staff provided a list and most recent renderings of various value engineered components proposed as adjustments to the Coachman Park final design plans. Previous iterations of the plan were designed around a performance venue located centrally to the park. With the re-orientation of the performance venue to the north, various active areas of the park were consolidated toward the southerly portion of the park and redesigned to provide a cohesive active park area with a performance venue separated by a large and open green as a centerpiece of the new waterfront. As part of the overall value engineering effort, final design is intended to ensure park amenities match the identified financial resources. It is anticipated that additional, yet undetermined funding support will be generated by sale or leasing of bluff properties, as well as the anticipated application for various funding requests from both the legislature and/or TDC dollars. These latter sources remain as of now, indetermined.

For that reason, staff is recommending consideration of moving forward with current park plans. While it may be a fact that some redesign of certain amenity components may be restricted in future designs (interactive splash pad), many if not all of additional design components could occur via future sponsorships or naming rights, or as on-going capital improvements which could be planned as later additions to the park once the facility is up and running. It should be noted that even if somewhat reduced in size, the interactive splash pad feature continues to represent a substantial component of the active area of the park along with many other amenities.

*Assistant City Manager Michael Delk said after the work session, he met with staff regarding the total package. Since Council has expressed some interest to add back the value engineered (VE) items, staff is recommending continuing the agenda item until final design of the outstanding VE items have been completed. He said the delay will not slow down construction of the park.*

*One individual opposed cutting back on the splash pad or shade components.*

*One individual expressed concerns that the proposed revisions do not connect to the original vision for the park.*

*One individual submitted an eComment supporting shaded picnic pavilions, which was read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 21).*

*In response to a comment, it was stated that Council was not considering eliminating the splash pad or playground but reducing the number of nozzles in the splash pad.*

*Mr. Delk said staff recommends continuing the item to March 15. The March 2 special work session will discuss various options for the operation and maintenance of the park and venue.*

*It was suggested that staff also provide information on police enforcement in the park.*

**Vice Mayor Allbritton moved to continue Item 9.3 to March 15, 2021. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

- 9.4** Authorize commencement of the Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting Project, approve the transfer of \$1,485,000 from general fund reserves at first quarter, authorize a Community Aesthetic Feature Agreement between the city of Clearwater and the Florida Department of Transportation, authorize the appropriate officials to execute same and adopt Resolution 21-06.

Following council approval in December 2019, staff contracted with consultants H.W. Lochner to design and engineer aesthetic lighting for the Memorial Causeway Bridge. This lighting will enhance the unique architecture of the bridge and produce a smooth color gradient that can be controlled by city staff. The project is in the final stage of permittable design.

Engineering plans were updated to accommodate the relocation of the amphitheater. These plans include a two-phase implementation that allows for the installation of lighting prior to the construction of Imagine Clearwater. Once construction of the amphitheater is underway, a permanent conduit and control board will be installed in the back of house.

A total of \$166,656 in design costs has been spent and encumbered to-date with Imagine Clearwater project funding. The final engineer's estimate for the construction is \$1,335,932.94. Additionally, a restoration and removal deposit of \$84,488.40 is required by FDOT. With contingency, a total of \$1,485,000 of General Fund reserves is requested to complete the bridge lighting project.

Completed stages:

July 15, 2020	Permit / USCG Approvals
August 14, 2020	100% Design Submittal
August 21, 2020	100% Engineer's Estimate
September 25, 2020	Final Plans Submittal

With an approved budget allocation, staff will present to Council a resolution to

enter into a Community Aesthetic Feature Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation. This agreement will complete the FDOT permitting process. Staff will then coordinate with Skanska to advertise for construction bids and generate a Guaranteed Maximum Price for this project.

**APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:**

A first quarter budget amendment will provide a transfer of \$1,485,000 from General Fund Reserves to capital improvement project ENGF200003, Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting to fund this project.

**USE OF RESERVE FUNDS:**

Funding for this contract will be provided by a first quarter budget amendment allocating General Fund reserves in the amount of \$1,485,000 to capital improvement project ENGF200003, Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting. Inclusive of this item if approved, a net total of \$3,181,540 of General Fund reserves has been appropriated by Council to fund expenditures in the 2020/21 operating budget. The remaining balance in General Fund reserves after the 8.5% reserve is approximately \$32.6 million, or 21.4% of the current General Fund operating budget.

*In response to questions, Cultural Affairs Coordinator Christopher Hubbard said the City is in the final stage for obtaining a permit from FDOT. The last item in this process is the Community Aesthetic Feature, which is largely related to public art and signage features. Once the community aesthetic feature is enacted, the City has 2 years to implement the permit. He said the City is required to maintain \$85,000 in reserves for the removal of the lighting infrastructure, which is part of the \$1.4 million project cost. The lighting will be located on the north and south sides of the bridge. He said no concerns have been raised regarding the proposed lighting impacting sea turtles.*

*One individual spoke in opposition.*

*One individual submitted an eComment in opposition that was read into the record by the City Clerk (see page 21).*

*One individual expressed concerns that funding used for the bridge lighting will divert needed funds away from Imagine Clearwater.*

*Mr. Delk said the lighting is programmable allowing staff to implement a lighting scheme during the week and another during the weekends. Clearwater has one of the most iconic unique underutilized waterfronts in the region. The bridge is an iconic piece of architecture that can also be managed as a community amenity that will enliven the waterfront and not*

*offend members of the community.*

*In response to questions, Senior Landscape Architect Catherine Corcoran said the lighting infrastructure and control panel costs are included in the Imagine Clearwater budget. Mr. Hubbard said the permit is good for two years to implement the project and 20 years for the installation of the lighting. If the project is not implemented within two years, the City may need to restart the permitting process if changes were made to the hardware or fixtures. Ms. Corcoran said the City does not have to move forward during the 2-year timeframe; staff has been in constant communication with FDOT, who is giving the City flexibility with time to commence.*

*Discussion ensued with concerns expressed that now is not the time to pursue the project given the costs associated with Imagine Clearwater. Support was expressed to implement the underground mechanics and conduits. It was stated the lighting project can be implemented after the park has been finalized.*

**Councilmember Beckman moved to postpone authorization of commencement of Item 9.4. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

**9.5 Authorize moving forward with a North Ward Community Preservation and Restoration plan for the historically significant North Ward Elementary School and establish initial project funding to respond to immediate maintenance needs.**

The historic North Ward School was one of the first public schools constructed in the newly formed Pinellas County in 1912. The original North Ward school was constructed in 1915. The school was expanded with a second structure in 1926. In addition, North Ward was for many years a segregated facility but became integrated in the late 60's and early 70's. North Ward was finally closed in 2009. North Ward continues to remain a special place in the community with a deep and abiding history of significance to generations of students who began their educational careers in the Old Bay district of Clearwater.

In 2019, the City of Clearwater acquired North Ward School from the Pinellas County School Board for \$1.8 million. The City obtained from Wannamaker Jenson Architects a conceptual review and rendering of a mixed-use rehabilitation and activation plan. This plan incorporated preservation of the two main historic structures and a unifying modern compatible addition that would

preserve but restore occupancy status to the 1915 and 1926 historic structures.

This purpose of this agenda item is to authorize formulation of a strategy for preservation and activation of the North Ward School. This strategy is proposed to occur in phases:

1. Stabilize and protect the school as an important community asset
2. Assess the potential for historic preservation designation
3. Develop an activation plan
4. Restoration of the structures for occupancy
5. Solicit partnership(s) for creating active commercial uses
6. Solicit partnership (s) for creating community social and civic uses
7. Establish North Ward as contributor to the North Greenwood CRA

The City has implemented Downtown District Standards to guide the development and redevelopment of sites in Downtown Clearwater. The standards are designed to accomplish among other things the following:

- Encourage mixed use, pedestrian-oriented development.
- Promote context-sensitive forms, patterns, and intensities of development.
- Support a variety of new housing types to provide for a range of affordability and mix of incomes.
- Preserve and celebrate the unique features of Downtown's community and neighborhoods.
- Encourage the renovation, restoration and/or reuse of existing historic structures: and
- Provide for the design of safe, attractive, and accessible places for working, living, and shopping. (Ord. No. 9149-18, § 8, 8-2-18)

The 2018 update of Clearwater's Downtown Redevelopment Plan expanded the Old Bay Character District so that it now includes the North Ward Elementary School. That plan states "Reopening the North Ward School as a public school or marine/maritime school or visual and performing arts school is encouraged to enhance the neighborhood and utilize the unique structure. Additionally, the North Ward School could be adapted to a community/cultural center, art gallery or museum and improved with publicly accessible amenities like a playground, garden, or space for outdoor events to expand the cultural attractions in the District. Historic designation of the North Ward School to preserve the structure while allowing for adaptive reuse is supported (page 62 of the Clearwater Downtown Redevelopment Plan as updated 2018).

Adaptive reuse of the North Ward school is consistent with the City of

Clearwater Comprehensive Plan, Downtown Redevelopment Plan, and the North Marina Master Plan.

At the February 16 work session, staff presented a strategy for the preservation and activation of North Ward School. Staff seeks confirmation of Council's concurrence with the strategy as presented:

- Stabilize Property
- Pursue listing on the National Register of Historic Places
- Issue RFP for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the N. Ward School with uses supportive of the redevelopment goals of the Old Bay neighborhood.
- Adopt ordinance establishing a Local Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Historic Properties
- Pursue local historic designation of N. Ward School

**APPROPRIATION CODE AND AMOUNT:**

A first quarter budget amendment will establish capital improvement project C2101, North Ward Preservation Plan, recognizing a budget transfer of \$75,000 in General Fund revenue from project C1907, City Hall Hardening to fund this project.

*In response to questions, Planning and Development Director Gina Clayton said stabilizing the structure will entail patching the roof to make it watertight. Thirteen water leak points have been identified. Assistant City Manager Michael Delk said he has authorized repairs to address the roof leaks and encroachment of growing vines into the building.*

**Councilmember Bunker moved to authorize moving forward with a North Ward Community Preservation and Restoration plan for the historically significant North Ward Elementary School and establish initial project funding to respond to immediate maintenance needs. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

## 9.6 Strategic Visioning Process

Review proposals submitted by:

1. Florida Institute of Government
2. Jim Anaston-Karas

*In response to questions, Public Communications Director Joelle Castelli said the feedback survey usually obtain responses from those already engaged with the City, which are typically the silent majority. A statistically viable survey includes a resident sample from all over the city and provides data that can be applied to all residents with a 95% certainty. The City Clerk said FIOG and Mr. Karas have conducted strategic visions for Florida municipalities and were recommended by the Florida League of Cities.*

*One individual suggested that the strategic plan include environmental stewardship.*

*One individual stated that the City's current strategic plan never took off.*

*Discussion ensued with council consensus to include a second community forum, the statistically viable survey and the employee survey.*

**Councilmember Hamilton moved to approve the proposal submitted by FIOG. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.**

## **10. City Manager Verbal Reports**

### **10.1PSTA/Forward Pinellas Update - Vice Mayor Allbritton**

*Discussion deferred to the next meeting.*

## **11. City Attorney Reports – None.**

## **12. Other Council Action**

### **12.1TBARTA Resolution - Councilmember Hamilton**

*Councilmember Hamilton said staff has recommended not to approve a resolution that addresses the repeal of the regional planning association. The City's lobbyists are working with the bill sponsors to address any concerns. Staff has provided a resolution opposing legislation that would repeal TBARTA.*

**Resolution 21-10 was presented and read by title only. Councilmember Hamilton moved to adopt Resolution 21-10. The motion was duly**

**seconded and upon roll call, the vote was:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Hibbard, Councilmember Hamilton, Vice Mayor Allbritton, Councilmember Bunker and Councilmember Beckman

### **13. Closing comments by Councilmembers (limited to 3 minutes)**

*Vice Mayor Allbritton said eyes need to be kept on Tallahassee, it seems every year they try to take home rule away from municipalities and that Council has better judgement over what Clearwater's citizens need. He said there are currently few bills in committee meetings that will take away some home rule, he said he hopes they don't pass and will die out*

*Councilmember Beckman said she will host a meet and greet on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in Morningside Meadows. She said there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> intersection mural painting this weekend and encouraged all to come out and help.*

*Councilmember Hamilton said historically, once Valentine's Day passes, the Spring season kicks in with an increase in traffic. He said he's not sure what the season will hold given the severity of the pandemic and uncertainty. He asked all to be careful and courteous.*

*Councilmember Bunker said his thoughts and prayers are with everyone in Texas after their winter storm. He said there was a story in the paper about a person arrested in the Bank of America building accused of stealing \$1.8 billion in a Ponzi scheme. He said he is interested to find out if some of the money filtered into downtown businesses.*

### **14. Closing Comments by Mayor**

*Mayor Hibbard expressed his thoughts and prayers to the family and PCSO for the passing of Deputy Magli. He said he and the City Manager attended the Clearwater High School groundbreaking ceremony today and the principal will be coming to a Council meeting to provide information on what citizens and students can expect. He thanked Vice Mayor Allbritton and Mr. Horne for going to the flag football event that was associated with Super Bowl; he said there is a group of people from all over the country that came in for the game and it aired on ESPN for 2 hours. He congratulated the Tampa Bay Buccaneers for their Super Bowl win. He reviewed recent and upcoming events.*



**15. Adjourn**

*The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.*

Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor  
City of Clearwater

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

# City Council on 2021-02-18 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: 02-18-21 18:00

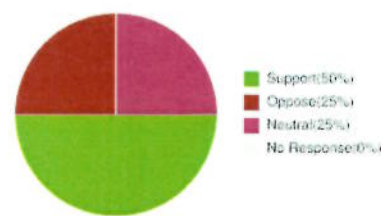
## eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
City Council on 2021-02-18 6:00 PM	02-18-21 18:00	38	4	2	1	1

### Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

#### Overall Sentiment



## City Council on 2021-02-18 6:00 PM

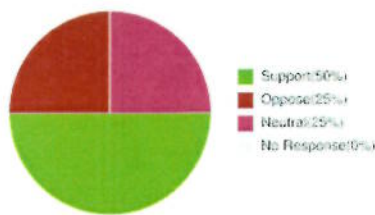
02-18-21 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
5. Citizens to be heard re items not on the agenda	2	1	0	1
9.3 ID#21-8810 Review the Value Engineered Items in the redesigned Coachman Park and provide direction.	1	1	0	0
9.4 ID#21-8818 Authorize commencement of the Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting Project, approve the transfer of \$1,485,000 from general fund reserves at first quarter, authorize a Community Aesthetic Feature Agreement between the city of Clearwater and the Florida Department of Transportation, authorize the appropriate officials to execute same and adopt Resolution 21-06.	1	0	1	0

### Sentiments for All Agenda Items

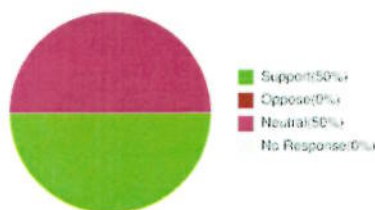
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

#### Overall Sentiment



#### Agenda Item: eComments for 5. Citizens to be heard re items not on the agenda

#### Overall Sentiment



### Beth Davis

Location:

Submitted At: 4:13pm 02-17-21

Tonight, I suggest an idea about property re-development in our city to increase our revenue.

Perhaps the zoning staff could notify the owners of all commercial zoned vacant (and maybe not vacant) properties, with an offer to rezone for affordable housing. The parameters could include 30-40 % of the units 500-800 sq ft, and also recommend that at 25- 50% of the construction come from local businesses.

This may need to include Largo, Dunedin, but keeping the employment as local as possible. Redeveloping

currently paved land seems to be a need in our city.

Perhaps there can be tax breaks on the first 3-5 years as the owners/landlords, invest, to reconfigure current buildings. The renovation should expect improvement on sustainable energy and utilities.

The need to refresh our concrete deserts, raise money for the city and increase true, affordable housing, could be a win, win, win. Thank you.

### **Kathy Flaherty**

Location:

Submitted At: 3:16pm 02-17-21

Across the street from my business I can see a large green roll off type dumpster. It sits by the street 24/7, lids usually open, usually overflowing with trash, used as a drug stash by dealers for years, 10 feet from a kids bus stop and uphill from a storm drain leading into Stevens Creek. I've looked at it for over 10 years waiting for some action as it is an eyesore, a source of disease, hiding place for drugs, causes litter and stinks. Lots of kids live on this street and many people walk down the street as it connects to Crest Lake Park. Nothing ever happens.

This is just one. On the same street there are 3 more like it. I started noticing how many dumpsters there are just sitting by the roads in Clearwater and it bothers me.

As a citizen I complained about the number of dumpsters just sitting by the sides of the roads. I complained to the City Council, CRA and City Manager. My complaint was forwarded to the City Code Department and was advised by the City Manager to chill out and not look for things to complain about. The Director of Code Department informed me that the dumpsters were all in code violation but the City Code Department did not cover those violations, Solid waste does.

Solid Waste basically said that the unenclosed, open, overflowing dumpsters, some located on public right of ways are grandfathered from code violations because the property was developed prior to 1999. It was explained that any property developed prior to 1999, when the ordinance was passed, did not have to adhere to the ordinance and the trash container could get a free pass. I read the ordinance and could not find any grandfather clause nor could the the Solid Waste person helping me. I understand that erecting an enclosure is a cost for a business owner, and there are private property rights but the health and safety of the community and the environment also have to be a factor, especially dumpsters on right of ways in residential or environmentally sensitive areas. Businesses should not get a free ride of maintaining their trash at the expense of the community.

I have a question :

If grandfathering in dumpsters prior to 1999 is not specifically in the ordinance, how does the City justify ignoring life / safety issues for the community, especially on public right of ways?

and a couple requests:

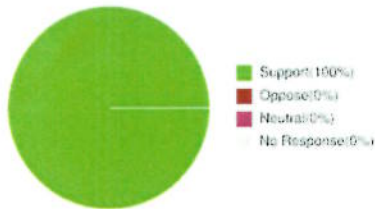
The Council needs to review the code enforcement policies regarding unenclosed dumpsters - they are in violation of code.

and

Next time you drive around Clearwater count how many dumpsters you can spot. Its like an exhibition of dumpsters.

Agenda Item: eComments for 9.3 ID#21-8810 Review the Value Engineered Items in the redesigned Coachman Park and provide direction.

#### Overall Sentiment



#### Laura Black

Location:

Submitted At: 3:48pm 02-17-21

If this is a park meant to be enjoyed by local residents and families, please do not eliminate the shaded picnic table pavilions. Take a trip to John Chestnut park on any weekend and you will see that picnic pavilions are very popular and well-used. You should consider not only keeping the ones in the design but adding more if possible.

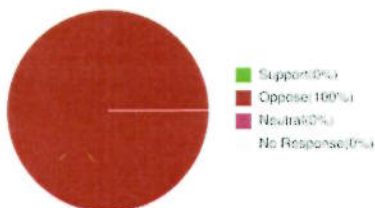
Any shade structures should be functional and have seating or perhaps small tables underneath. This is a park - I think it would be a mistake to cut back on the planting/gardens by eliminating the groundcover and paths. There looks like a lot of concrete in this park. Please keep all of the trees, plants, and paths.

While watching the work session video, I heard someone say they eliminated 50% of the trash receptacles. This is a mistake. Please add them back in and be sure to include both trash and recycling receptacles. Convenient restrooms are also very important. There seemed to be a question about whether the ones near the amphitheater would be open all the time.

I am in favor of eliminating both the Intracoastal water stairs and the Civic Gateway water stairs but going ahead with the bridge lighting project. The lighted bridge would look beautiful not only from the park but also from the surrounding areas. It would be a memorable and iconic addition to our city for both residents and tourists.

Agenda Item: eComments for 9.4 ID#21-8818 Authorize commencement of the Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting Project, approve the transfer of \$1,485,000 from general fund reserves at first quarter, authorize a Community Aesthetic Feature Agreement between the city of Clearwater and the Florida Department of Transportation, authorize the appropriate officials to execute same and adopt Resolution 21-06.

#### Overall Sentiment



#### Maura Hedrich

Location:

Submitted At: 5:04pm 02-17-21

Mayor Hibbard and Council Members,

Thank you to Mr. Horne, Council Member Beckman, the city attorney and any others for following CDC and Pinellas County health guidelines and wearing a face covering indoors. It's important to model health guidelines for Clearwater residents.

The Memorial Causeway Bridge Lighting Project sounds like a beautiful addition to the Imagine Clearwater project. Unfortunately, the impact may be more negative for numerous residences who face the bridge and it will have a direct impact on their resale values.

Has anyone from the council or city spoken to the Island Estates HOA about the proposal or The Oaks, Harbor Bluffs Condominiums, Pierce 100, Clearwater Point residents to name just a few to get their feedback? Do they know that a decision is being made tonight?

The \$1.4 million dollars could be better used for the Imagine Clearwater project by including strategically placed shade shelters that could double for vendor space. Solar panels to the shelter would easily add power for the shelters. The St. Pete Pier has been successful in accomplishing shelters and so can Clearwater.

Although the lights might look beautiful from the park, the lights won't look so beautiful from someone's living room or kitchen at 10:00pm at night, every night.

Maura Hedrich

Clearwater