

## M I N U T E S

ADMINISTRATIVE WORKSHOP  
SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS - 9:00 A.M.

Mayor Penny called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. All participated in the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL: COMMISSIONERS GAIL NEIDINGER, BEN THOMAS, LYNDA THOMPSON, VICE MAYOR THOMAS REID, AND MAYOR ARTHUR PENNY. ALSO PRESENT: CITY CLERK CARLEY LEWIS, CITY ATTORNEY CHRISTOPHER BERG, FINANCE DIRECTOR JAMES GRAHAM, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR SHAWN SHIMKO, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR DAVID MIXSON, COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DIRECTOR TERESA SULLIVAN, AND DEPUTY CITY CLERK MARY JO BOWMAN.

The topics scheduled for discussion were City Position on Conflict in Israel, Commission Official Portraits, and Recognition of Local Businesses.

The first topic for discussion was the City Position on Conflict in Israel.

Vice Mayor Reid spoke regarding the current conflict in Israel. He stated that his daughter-in-law's family is from Israel and he would like to convey support for the people of Israel. He asked that the City Commission issue a resolution or proclamation supporting Israel in light of recent events.

Commissioner Neidinger expressed concern over taking a political stance because there are city residents of differing cultures. She stated that the City Commission did not take a stance on previous conflicts like the events in Ukraine and spoke against the City taking a formal stance.

Commissioner Thompson spoke regarding the issuance of prayer initiatives. She noted that there are conflicts in other areas that need attention.

Commissioner Thomas spoke in favor of Vice Mayor Reid's request to take a position in support of Israel.

Discussion ensued regarding the City's position on the conflict in Israel.

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Mayor Penny suggested that the City Commission take a general stance against the atrocities happening around the world and that ideas be presented to staff for an item to be drafted.

Commissioner Thompson led a prayer for those affected by the conflict in Israel.

The next topic of discussion was the Commission Official Portraits.

Vice Mayor Reid suggested that the Commission have official portraits done with consistent backgrounds like the American flag.

Mayor Penny suggested having a professional group portrait taken.

Discussion ensued regarding Commission portraits.

The next topic for discussion was Recognition of Local Businesses.

Commissioner Thompson spoke regarding City recognition of local businesses. She stated that the Chamber welcomes businesses to the areas but she feels the Commission should also recognize new businesses. She suggested that information be put together to give to new businesses and the Mayor or City Commissioners could visit them personally.

Discussion ensued regarding welcoming new businesses.

The consensus of the Commission was to pursue putting together information to welcome new businesses to the city.

City Clerk Lewis spoke regarding upcoming Commission meeting dates. She recommended canceling the November 21<sup>st</sup> Administrative Workshop since it falls during the week of Thanksgiving. She reviewed the tentative schedule for meetings and agenda items. She asked the Commission to review their holiday plans and notify staff of travel plans and conflicts with upcoming meetings.

The consensus of the Commission was to cancel the November 21, 2023 Administrative Workshop.

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There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

*Arthur Penny*

Arthur Penny, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Carley Lewis*

Carley Lewis, City Clerk  
10-17.23a

**DIGITALLY SIGNED COPY.  
TO VIEW ORIGINAL SIGNED MINUTES,  
PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.**