

M I N U T E S

ADMINISTRATIVE WORKSHOP
SOUTH PASADENA, FLORIDA

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
COMMISSION CHAMBERS - 9:05 A.M.

Vice Mayor Neidinger called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. immediately following the Agenda Meeting and dispensed with opening formalities.

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

The topics scheduled for discussion were Hurricane Recovery Update and House Bill 301 RE: Sovereign Immunity Cap.

City Clerk Lewis introduced and welcomed the new Marketing Coordinator, Kelley Britton-Kant, to the City Commission.

The first topic for discussion was Hurricane Recovery Update.

Community Improvement Director Sullivan spoke regarding hurricane recovery processes. She updated the Commission on permitting activity, repair and development projects, and substantial damage letters.

Public Works Director Shimko spoke regarding repairs to local medians and lift stations. He reported that approximately \$70,000 worth of work will need to be done on the lift stations.

In response to Vice Mayor Neidinger, Mr. Shimko stated that staff is waiting for information from the City's insurance company on what will be covered for City repairs. He noted that he has been told that repairs to the Public Works Department shop will not be covered.

Public Safety Director Mixson reported that all storm damage to Fire Station 20 has been repaired. He noted that he is working closely with the Community Improvement Department on storm-related inspections.

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In response to Vice Mayor Neidinger, Mr. Shimko responded that the solar lights behind the fire station should be repaired by the end of the week.

Mr. Shimko reported that the Public Works Department ice machine died. He requested Commission approval to purchase an ice machine for \$5,000 using leftover funds budgeted for a tractor.

The consensus of the Commission was to approve Mr. Shimko's request to purchase an ice machine for \$5,000 using remaining tractor funds.

Chief Mixson noted that he plans to roll some purchases into next year as departmental items like the ice machine and copier do not need to be replaced yet.

Chief Mixson spoke regarding members of his crew receiving the Hurricane Emergency Response Team award.

Chief Mixson requested Commission approval to purchase \$200 Visa gift cards for volunteers from Pasadena Community Church (PCC) who assisted the City's emergency operations center (EOC) during Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. He noted that there were seven volunteers that would receive gift cards if the Commission approves.

Commissioner Thompson suggested that the City try to assist PCC with pressure washing some areas of their facility that needs it.

City Clerk Lewis suggested asking the Union if volunteers could help with the pressuring washing.

The consensus of the Commission was to purchase \$200 Visa gift cards for the seven PCC EOC volunteers.

City Clerk Lewis informed the Commission that the PCC EOC volunteers are scheduled to attend the March 25th Special Commission Meeting to be presented with a plaque of appreciation.

Commissioner Thompson spoke regarding waiving permits for new construction building permit fees and distributed a handout (attached to Minutes as Exhibit A). She spoke in favor of providing relief to those pursuing new construction after sustaining damage from the recent hurricanes.

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City Clerk Lewis stated that City staff is researching assistance programs for those who sustained storm damage and are calculating estimates for fees waived fees and increased expenses.

Ms. Sullivan said that the current waiver of building permit fees for storm damage repairs is set to end on March 31st.

Discussion ensued regarding waiving permits for new construction building permit fees.

The consensus of the City Commission was to discuss the topic at the March 25, 2025 Administrative Workshop when more information is available.

The next topic for discussion was House Bill 301 RE: Sovereign Immunity Cap.

City Clerk Lewis spoke about House Bill 301 and reviewed a previously distributed handout (attached to the Minutes as Exhibit B). She reported that HB 301 proposes significantly increasing the sovereign immunity cap and the City's insurance provider has requested that municipal partners contact their legislators in opposition to the increase.

Commissioner Reid reported that the Florida League of Cities (FLC) opposes House Bill 301. He said that the proposed increase is especially problematic for smaller cities.

Discussion ensued regarding House Bill 301.

The consensus of the Commission was to send a letter to the City's legislators on behalf of the City Commission opposing House Bill 301.

City Clerk Lewis spoke regarding the consolidation of Commission offices due to the creation of new positions. She reported that the offices used by staff will have their glass frosted and asked if the Commission would like to frost all the glass.

The consensus of the Commission was not to frost the glass of offices used by the City Commission.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 A.M.

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Arthur Penny

Arthur Penny, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carley Lewis

Carley Lewis, City Clerk
03-04.25a

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