

**Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities**  
**February 21, 2024, IRSC Brown Center**  
**Minutes**

**Board Members attending:** Mayor Linda Hudson, Mayor Karen Ostrand, Councilman David McAuley, Mayor Robert Gibbons, Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Commissioner Campbell Rich, Mayor Joel Tyson, Councilwoman Janet Hernandez, Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, Councilman John Carroll, Mayor Ed Dodd, and Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken.

**Board Members Absent:** Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, Mayor Penny Townsend and Mayor Brian Foley.

**Others Present:** Councilman Kevin Docherty and Marshall Critchfield from FPL.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Ed Dodd at 10:03 a.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Dodd led the pledge and the invocation led by Mayor Tyson.

**Self-Introduction of Board Members, Alternate Members and Guests** President Dodd asked for a self-introduction of members and guests.

**Additions and deletions to the agenda:** None

**Approval of the Agenda:** Mayor Hudson the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Rich. Motion passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of the Minutes for October 2023**
- b. **Approval of Treasurer's Report for October 2023.**
- c. **Approval of Committee Reports**

Motion to approve the consent made by Mayor Tyson, seconded by Mayor Hudson. Motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report:** Mayor Dodd spoke about legislative session coming to a close in a few weeks. Spoke about HB 7017 Homestead Exemption CPI Increase. Stated that FLC was working with members of the House to amend the bill to cap it at 3% and adjust every 5 years. The other bill of concern was regarding Building Permits issuance, but it appeared the bill may die.

**Presentations:** None

**City Reports**

- Mayor Tyson reported that Fellsmere was going to have a waterpark built off of I-95 behind the Dairy Queen.
- Mayor Hudson reported that there has been no word on Brightline, but they expect something in early March.
- Councilman McAuley announced a 105-unit housing development and Culvers was coming to Okeechobee. City Hall will also receive a \$1.8 million renovation to harden the building, which was built in 1926. A manufacturing company was coming that makes stormwater drains. The Mayor will be in the Battle of Okeechobee.
- Mayor Gibbons spoke about Orchid's beach renourishment that the County was working on as part of the Beach and Dune Preservation. Recent weather washed 50% of the sand away. Coastal Engineers were coming up with a more permanent solution.

- Councilman Carroll stated the University of Miami was working on a prototype of onshore/offshore beach preservation solutions. Vero Downtown Master Plan took place. There will be a referendum to increase density in downtown. The Three Corners Project proposals will be revealed and need residents buy-in.
- Councilwoman Hernandez reported on a groundbreaking to take place at a new residential development, “Tara Largo”, which is apartments, town homes and single-family homes. A Wastewater recycler is being constructed in Indiantown. The Village is working on the wastewater plants and received two grants worth \$18 million and \$18 million. The village was also looking at a tractor trailer parking lot opening.
- Mayor Ostrand announced the St. Patrick’s Day Parade on March 10 in Jensen Beach which Ocean Breeze will be a part of this year.

### **Legislative Matters**

- There was discussion about the Advocacy Team and how TCRLC needs to spend more time on relationship building with our local delegation during off session months. Also discussed was more attendance in Tallahassee and whether it was time for TCRLC to move towards having a Treasure Coast Days in Tallahassee that would work with TC Council of Local Government. The consensus was that we would work on TCRLC advocacy efforts.
- There was also further discussion on Form 6 and the lawsuit filed by Royce Schroeder. Sebastian joined the lawsuit.

### **New Business:**

- Location for March Lunch Meeting:** Vice Mayor Kaija Mayfield offered to host lunch in Sewall’s Point in March. Further discussion was held on the location for the May Awards Lunch. Alderwoman Van Hekken and Mayor Hudson volunteered to co-host the lunch in Fort Pierce. The Fort Pierce Yacht Club may be the location.
- Review of 2023 Strategic Plan** – Executive Director Christensen asked everyone their opinions on whether the meetings under the new format, which came from the Strategic Plan were working and if anyone had suggestions or ideas for changes. The consensus after discussion was things were going well.

**Resolutions:** None

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Report on Audit for 2023:** There is no report, as the audit had to be postponed and will be conducted immediately following the Board meeting.

**Executive Director Report** – Executive Director Christensen went through a calendar of events for Florida League and reminded everyone of the Post-Legislative Session Webinar on March 19 and IEMO in June in Palm Beach Gardens. There was grant money available through TCRLC for first time attendees for IEMO.

She also reminded everyone of the April 19<sup>th</sup> Ethics Class.

### **Associate Member Announcements:**

No reports

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 am.

Submitted by,

Commissioner Campbell Rich  
Secretary