

TCRLC Board Meeting
January 17, 2024, 10:00 AM
Minutes

Board Members attending: Mayor Linda Hudson, Mayor Karen Ostrand, Councilman David McAuley, Councilwoman Mary Jane Benedetto, (alternate for Mayor Robert Gibbons), Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Commissioner Campbell Rich, Mayor Joel Tyson, Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, Mayor Ed Dodd, Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken, Mayor Penny Townsend and Mayor Brian Foley.

Board Members Absent: Councilwoman Janet Hernandez, Councilman John Carroll, Mayor Robert Gibbons.

Others Present: Councilman Kevin Docherty, Glenn Torcivia, Lynee Barletta, Jill Schafer, Brenda Washinton, Angel Roberson, Susan Garret, Bob Daniels and Kelly Layman.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Ed Dodd at 10:05 a.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman 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 Foley made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mayor Hudson. 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 Hudson, seconded by Mayor Foley. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report: Mayor Dodd addressed several bills going through the State Legislature, including the constitutional amendments for homestead exemption and Utility Surcharge, sponsored by Rep. Brackett.

Presentations: Lynne Barletta spoke about child Trafficking. She showed a 3-minute video, 'Don't Take the Bait.' She shared statistics and spoke about the bill in Tallahassee to prevent Child Trafficking. She shared that four teachers on the Treasure Coast have been arrested for Child Trafficking in recent years.

Presentation: Attorney Glen Torcivia, City Attorney from Sewall's Point gave a detailed presentation of filing Form 6.

City Reports

- Councilman McAuley reported that Highway 70 would begin being resurfaced causing traffic slowups through the city until complete.
- Commissioner Rich reported the City of Stuart Commission recently approved a 4-story Hilton hotel to be constructed. There was a lot of decent from residents and businesses in the city.
- Alderwon Van Hekken reported the Village is in the first state of a Septic to sewer conversion. It is being funded by the State of Florida.
- Mayor Tyson reported that Frog Leg Festival will be held January 18 to 21. Expecting large crowds.
- Vice Mayor Caraballo reported Port St. Lucie will be getting a Costco Distribution Warehouse in Legacy Park It will bring 400 jobs with 110% above average wages.

Legislative Matters

- No reports.

New Business:

a. Committee Appointments for 2024

Committee appointments for Nominating, By-Laws, Scholarship and Audit are made annually by the President.

After discussion, it was decided that all the appointments to the committees will remain as they were for 2023.

A motion was made by Mayor Foley, seconded by Mayor Hudson. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Recommendation for the FLC Nominating Committee Member – The annual recommendation is made by the Board to the FLC Board. It was recommended that it be someone other than those sitting on the Board of Directors, to avoid a conflict of interest. The appointee must attend the two Nominating Committee meetings in June and August.

After some discussion, Stuart Commissioner Rich asked to be considered as the recommended member for the TCRLC. A motion was made by Mayor Tyson, seconded by Mayor Hudson. Motion passed unanimously.

c. 2023 Budget/Audit Committee Review – Ex. Director Christensen reported it was time for the audit and she would schedule with the Budget/Audit Committee, made up of Mayor's Tyson, Dodd, Hudson and Alderwoman Van Hekken, to take place sometime before the next Board meeting.

Mayor Dodd had to leave for a prior commitment and turned the meeting over to Mayor Hudson to complete.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Advocacy Team Update – Mayor** Ostrand gave an update on the team trip to Tallahassee on January 9-10.

There was a question on whether the TCRLC was going to consider a resolution in support of the FLC Priorities. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Tyson to send a resolution of support to FLC in support of the FLC Priorities. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rich. Under discussion, Maor Foley said he did not support the Priority on Utilities and would be voting against the resolution.

Mayor Dodd called for the vote. Motion passed with 11 yay's and 1 nay.

Executive Director Report – Reminder of Legislative Action Days on Jan. 29 – 31

A request for information was sent out by FLC/Brenda Jones on information for Homestead Exemption Expansion, Wastewater Surcharge and Local Business Tax. Please send information to FLC and Patricia.

Stipend from FLC increased to \$3670 per month for a total of \$44040 from \$38232 a month in 2023.

Associate Member Announcements:

No reports

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Submitted by,

Commissioner Campbell Rich
Secretary