

Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities, Inc.
Board Meeting
October 17, 2023, 10:30 AM
Flagler Center, Stuart, FL
Minutes

Board Members attending: Mayor Joel Tyson, Mayor Linda Hudson, Councilwoman Janet Hernandez, Mayor Karen Ostrand, Councilman David McAuley, Mayor Robert Gibbons, Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Commissioner Campbell Rich, Councilman John Carroll, Councilman David Pickett, (alternate for Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo), Councilman Ed Dodd and Vice Mayor Bob Auwaerter, (alternate for Mayor Foley).

Board Members Absent: Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken, Mayor Penny Townsend.

Others Present: Attendance list available upon request.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Ed Dodd at 10:12 a.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Councilman Dodd led the pledge and the invocation.

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 Linda Hudson made the motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mayor Joel Tyson. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda: - Motion to approve the consent agenda with Item B removed for discussion. Motion was made by Mayor Ostrand, seconded by Commissioner Mayfield. Motion passed unanimously.

a. Approval of the Minutes for September 2023

b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September 2023 - This item was pulled for separate consideration. VM Auwaerter asked if there was a better interest rate that could be achieved if the funds were invested in another type of account. It was explained that the account he suggested is only allowed for governmental entities, and TCRLC is not considered as a governmental agency. The treasurer had looked into those accounts previously. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Vice Mayor Auwaerter, seconded by Mayor Hudson. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Committee Reports

President's Report: President Dodd updated the membership on the importance of all of our member cities to participate in advocacy on the bills that affect how cities operate. He suggested a stronger voice in Tallahassee and to see the TCCLG wanted to join with TCRLC to have a stronger voice.

City Reports

- Mayor Ostrand reported that Rep. Snyder spoke on the legislature at the recent Town of Ocean Breeze meeting.
- Councilman Carroll reported that the RFP's went out on the Three Corners Project in Vero Beach.
- VM Auwaerter reported that FLC is creating a database of Ring cameras for those wanting to allow personal footage to be used in crime investigations.

- Councilman Dodd reported that Sebastian will celebrate their 100th Birthday on Dec. 6th but the city will celebrate all year. Brian Benton was hired as the new City Manager.

Legislative Matters – Discussion on Form Six. The Commission on Ethics will oversee. There will be a program on the topic at the FLC conference in August. More information to follow.

New Business:

a. Policy Committee Reports

- Finance, Taxation and Personnel – Commissioner Kaija Mayfield
Commissioner Mayfield deferred to Councilman Dockerty. There was a speaker from Florida DEP and EDR. They reviewed their priorities. One priority is reducing the cap on the property tax cap from 3% to 2%. Also, discussion about Enterprise Fund Transfers and Revenue Sharing.
- Land Use and Economic Development – Mayor Linda Hudson – The committee's two priorities are Sovereign Immunity and Mobility Fees. There was a presentation on SB 102 from the City Manager from the Town of DeBary and how it will negatively impact their community.
- Municipal Administration – Councilman Ed Dodd and Mayor Karen Ostrand – They haven't set their priorities, but discussion included Police Retention, Cyber Security and Short Term Rentals.
- Transportation and Intergovernmental Relations – Councilman John Carroll – no report
- Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works – Commissioner Campbell Rich – There was a presentation on Stormwater Regulations. The regulations haven't been updated in 20 years. One priority discussed was PACE Funding.

New Business

- Discussion of 2023 HB 1379 – Septic to Sewer** – Councilman Dodd led the discussion explaining the bill that was approved last year and how it would impact his City and Indian River County. There was a detailed discussion on asking for an amendment of the Bill from Rep. Overdorf who sponsored the bill last year. The consensus was to invite him to a future meeting to discuss the bill.
- Notice O Nominations Committee to nominate the 2024 Slate of Officers** – Executive Director Christensen stated it was time for the nominating committee, but the President needed to appoint a committee. President Dodd asked for volunteers. Mayor Gibbons and Councilman Carroll volunteered. Vice Mayor Caraballo as Past President is the Chair. A third volunteer is needed. Councilman McAuley volunteered. Ex. Dir. Christensen will schedule a Zoom meeting. Anyone interested in being nominated should send an email to the Ex. Director.

Unfinished Business:

- Advocacy Team Update** – Ex. Director Christensen will schedule a meeting of the team. Appointments with our local delegation will also be made for December when the legislators are home.

Executive Director Report – Reminder of our December Holiday Installation. Ex. Dir. Christensen is looking for recommendations for a location. Legislative Conference at the end of November. You can register online on the FLC website.

Associate Member Announcements:

Career Source – Mitch Kloorfain reported that the unemployment rate is averaging 4 % on the Treasure Coast. There is a job fair in Fort Pierce for Veterans.

TCRPC – Stephonie Heite spoke about grants that the TCRPC received to promote the Marine industry. They are also working on a CDBG mitigation grant for Indiantown which includes rainfall analysis.

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 for networking and lunch.

Lunch Meeting Minutes

Lunch was a buffet. After everyone was seated, the meeting was called to order by Councilman Dodd at noon.

1. **Welcome** - Councilman Dodd welcomed everyone.
2. **Introduction** – Guests who arrived after the Board meeting introductions introduced themselves.
3. **Welcome by the City of Stuart and Presentation** – City Manager Mike Mortell gave an update on the City of Stuart and the changes being made throughout the city.
4. **Presentation by Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch on Water Related Issues** – Former Commissioner Jacqui Thurlow-Lippisch presented an update on her life both in politics and how it led her to fight for clean water. She mentioned how she started the River Kids Initiative and then spoke on her time on the South Florida Water Management Board, as an appointee by Gov. Ron De Santis.
5. **Adjourn** - Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Kaija Mayfield, Secretary