

**Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities, Inc.**  
**Board Meeting**  
**May 17, 2023, 10:00 AM**  
**Santa Lucie River Club, Port St. Lucie**  
**Minutes**

**Board Members attending:** Mayor Joel Tyson, Mayor Linda Hudson, Councilwoman Janet Hernandez, (alternate for Councilwoman Angelina Perez), Mayor Karen Ostrand, Councilman Noel Chandler, ( alternate for Councilman David McAuley), Councilwoman Mary Jane Benedetto, (alternate for Mayor Robert Gibbons, arrived late), Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Mayor Bill Thiess,( alternate for Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken), Commissioner Campbell Rich (arrived late) , Councilman John Carroll, Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, (arrived late), Councilman Ed Dodd

**Board Members Absent:** Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken, Councilman David McAuley, Mayor Robert Gibbons, Mayor Brian Foley

**Others Present:** Attendance list available upon request.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Ed Dodd at 10:06 a.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Councilman Dodd led the pledge and Mayor Joel Tyson led 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:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Ostrand took each item individually.

**a. Approval of the Minutes for January 2023**

**b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for January and February 2023**

**c. Approval of Committee Reports**

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda was made by Mayor Linda Hudson, seconded by Commissioner Campbell Rich. Motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report:** President Dodd updated the membership on the upcoming FLC Conference in August, encouraged everyone to attend. He also reported that many cities are reviewing the new legislation on Affordable Housing to determine the bill's impact on their cities. He also reported on the FLC Board meeting and how the League who owns property in Orlando will be selling a piece and using the funds to update and renovate the existing building.

**City Reports**

- Okeechobee City Manager invited everyone to visit Okeechobee and view the new bronze Cattle Sculptures on Park St.
- Vero Beach Councilman John Carroll reported on the challenges of moving the treatment plant off of the property on the Indian River. The City of Vero won appeal against Indian River County

- Mayor Hudson reported the city is working on dealing with outdoor music. People are complaining. There is also a lot of roadwork in progress as FPUA is moving utility lines.
- Councilman Ed Dodd mentioned the City of Sebastian is discussing the Police Department future. The City Attorney resigned and went to Melbourne. The City Manager also retired.
- Mayor Joel Tyson reported on the three new housing developments. One will include a Publix or Winn Dixie with 375 workforce units. The City is holding a workshop for businesses along Broadway, to see about redeveloping the area.
- Mayor Bill Theiss reported the town is pushing to get utilities to the residents using ARPA funds to design the project. Goal is to design the north.

**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 Signup** – President Dodd and Past President Caraballo encouraged the members to sign up for the upcoming Policy Committees for the 2024 Legislative Session. Our goal is to have at least one member on each of the five committees. It is OK for more than one member to sit on any committee, but the goal is to have at least one. After a discussion, they agreed to apply to sit on the following committees.
  - Finance, Taxation and Personnel – Commissioner Kaija Mayfield
  - Land Use and Economic Development – Mayor Linda Hudson and Councilman Ed Dodd
  - Municipal Administration – Mayor Karen Ostrand
  - Transportation and Intergovernmental Relations – Councilman John Carroll
  - Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works – Commissioner Campbell Rich
- b. **Final Report on Scholarship Recipients:** The final Scholarship recipients were recommended to the membership. Their applications were included in the backup for review by the members. The two are Luke Capezza who is recommended for the TCRLC Vocational/Technical/Agricultural Scholarship and Angelyssa Linton is recommended for the TCRLC Public Administration Scholarship. Each will receive a one-year scholarship to IRSC if approved. Mayor Linda Hudson moved approval of the recommendation and the motion was seconded by Mayor Karen Ostrand. Motion passed unanimously. The Scholarship presentation will take place at lunch.
- c. **Nomination for the District 9 Representative for the Florida League of Cities Board** – Executive Director Christensen explained that no final decision was made during the Strategic Planning session on how the Associate Members could be made to feel a bigger part of the TCRLC.

**Resolutions:** None

**Unfinished Business:** None

#### **Associate Member Announcements:**

**Career Source** – Mitch Kloorfain reported that the unemployment rate is improved along the Treasure Coast. Businesses are still looking for staff. There will be a job Fair in Sebastian and Port St. Lucie, sponsored by Untied Against Poverty.

**Tom Campenni** reported on the towns and cities in Martin County held a Home Rule Roundtable in April at the Flagler Center. About 60 were in attendance and Mayor Ostrand, Commissioner Rich and Commissioner Mayfield were the speakers. Councilwoman Scott from Jupiter Island was present but declined to participate. The presenters spoke about some of the most egregious bills before the legislature in 2023 and encourage people to be more involved. Everyone was happy with the results and was interested in doing it again.

The meeting adjourned at 11.45 for networking and lunch.

### **Lunch Meeting Minutes**

Lunch meeting was called to order by Councilman Dodd at 11:40.

1. **Welcome** - Councilman Dodd welcomed everyone.
2. **Introduction** – Guests who arrived after the Board meeting introductions introduced themselves.
3. **Invocation** - led by Mayor Dowling Watford.
4. **Welcome by the City of Port St. Lucie and Presentation** - Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo welcomed everyone and gave a presentation on the progress the City has been making over the last few years.  
Councilman Dodd thanked our speakers and presented them each with a gift.
5. **Presentation of the John Land Longevity Award** – This prestigious award is presented to elected leaders who have served 10, 25 and 40 years. Our local recipient for serving 25 years is Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken. FLC Representative Eryn Russell presented the award with FLC President Jolien Caraballo
6. **Presentation of the Home Rule Hero Awards** – The Home Rule Hero awards were presented by FLC Representatives Chris Holly and Eryn Russell to the recipients and a photo was taken.
7. **Thank you** - FLC President Jolien Caraballo thanks everyone for a great year as President and looks forward to next year being back with the TCRLC Board.
8. **Lunch** - served at 12:20
9. **Scholarship Recipients** - Councilman Dodd introduced Angeleysa Linton and invited her address the membership. Luck Capezza was unable to attend, but President Dodd read a brief bio on him.
10. **Adjourn** - Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

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Kaija Mayfield, Secretary