

**Treasure Coast Regional League of Cities
Minutes – May 15, 2024
Fort Pierce Yacht Club**

Board Members attending: Mayor Linda Hudson, Mayor Karen Ostrand, Councilman David McAuley, Councilwoman MaryJane Benedetto, Commissioner Kaija Mayfield, Commissioner Campbell Rich, Mayor Joel Tyson, Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo, Councilman John Carroll, Mayor Ed Dodd, Mayor Penny Townsend and Alderwoman Ingrid Van Hekken.

Absent: Mayor Brian Foley and Councilwoman Janet Hernandez

Others Present: Attendance List Attached

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Ed Dodd at 10:39 a.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Dodd led the pledge, and the invocation was led by Mayor Watford.

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 Mayor Tyson. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- a. **Approval of the Minutes for March 2024**
- b. **Approval of Treasurer’s Report for March and April 2024.**
- c. **Approval of Committee Reports**
- d. **Approval of Membership - Colliers International -Ken Krasnow**

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

President’s Report: Mayor Dodd spoke The sceptic to sewer legislation and how it was going to impact his city, Sebastian and what they were planning on doing to move forward to achieve the 2030 date required by state law.

Presentations: Samantha Suffice, CEO of Martin County Healthy Start spoke about the birth rates on the Treasure Coast and compared rates between counties. She also spoke about the Sustainability of Critical Care Service.

New Business

- a. **Nominating Committee-** Mayor Hudson reported on the Nominating Committee meeting addressing the District 9 seat for the Florida League of Cities Board of Directors After careful consideration the committee recommended that Mayor Dodd retain the seat for another year. A motion to approve was made by Alderwoman Van Hekken and seconded by Mayor Ostrand. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Dodd accepted but stated that anyone interested in taking it over should begin preparing a year out from the actual election.

- b. **Scholarship Committee - The** scholarship committee met and reviewed the final seven applications for the Public Service Scholarship. Applications were provided by Indian River State College. All candidates were worthy of the scholarship; however, Anthony

Dekker was recommended due to his hard work, fulltime for Indian River Fire District, raising a family and also going back to school at the same time.

The second scholarship is for Agriculture and Technology. Frances Alvarez was recommended as the recipient after clearly demonstrating the need for learning agriculture in today's environment for farming.

A motion to award the scholarships to Anthony Dekker and Frances Alvarez was made by Mayor Tyson, seconded by Mayor Hudson. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Report – Executive Director Christensen reminded everyone about the upcoming Annual Conference. She also reminded everyone of the upcoming FLC Ethics Program and the FLC University Certification Program. Policy Committee registration was beginning in June and there have been some changes to the committees. More information to follow.

Other Announcements

Port St. Lucie - Vice Mayor Caraballo announced the opening of the City of Port St. Lucie's Port District.

Stuart - Vice Mayor Rich announced the grant availability from the Indian River Lagoon Council.

Guest _ Greg Langowski, from Sen. Rubio's office, announced he was running for second VP of the FLC Board of Directors.

Treasure Coast Regional Planning - Tom Lanahan announced the TCRPC was working on a plan for redevelopment of the old Fort Pierce Waste Water Treatment plant.

Career Source - Mitch Kloorfain announced that unemployment rates had plateaued.

Home Rule Hero Awards – Jeff Branch, Florida League of Cities Legislative Lobbyist presented Home Rule Hero Awards to members elected officials from the Treasure Coast.

He also made a Post Legislative presentation, speaking about a number of bills that the FLC and elected municipal officials had great impact on during the last session.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm for lunch. Lunch ended at 1:05 pm.

Submitted by,

Commissioner Campbell Rich
Secretary