



**CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2011 9:00 A.M.**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Goldberg, Albers, Wallace, Freeland, Keesling

**CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT:** Dave Drury, Finance; Rick Keeney, Public Works; Tom Jackson, Utilities; Phil Wickstrom, Human Resources; Dennis Murphy, Growth Management; Butch Arenal, Police; Robert Hancock, Fire; City Attorney Levin; City Manager Kunik; City Clerk Foster

**Mayor Goldberg** called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Invocation was given by Mr. John Burrage, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COUNCIL REORGANIZATION**

**Oath of Office - Carolyn Freeland & Bill Albers**

City Clerk Foster swore in Councilmembers Freeland and Albers.

**Election of Mayor**

City Attorney Levin opened the floor for nominations for Mayor.

**Councilmember Goldberg** spoke of the honor of representing the City he loved as Mayor; however, he felt it time to allow someone else to do so.

Councilmember Goldberg **NOMINATED** Councilmember Albers.

Councilmember Albers was **APPOINTED** Mayor by Acclimation.

**Mayor Albers** stated he was honored and pleased to work with Council. He thanked Councilmember Goldberg for his service.

**Election of Vice Mayor**

**Mayor Albers** opened the floor for nominations for Vice Mayor.

Councilmember Wallace **NOMINATED** Councilmember Goldberg.

Councilmember Goldberg was **APPOINTED** Vice Mayor by Acclimation.

**PROCLAMATION/PRESENTATIONS**

**Festival of Lights**

**Mayor Albers** presented the proclamation to Ms. Patti Allen of Fishermen's Village.

**Shop Charlotte Month**

**Councilmember Keesling** presented the proclamation, which was accepted by Ms. Julie Mathis of the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce.

**Christmas Parade Day**

**Councilmember Freeland** presented the proclamation to Ms. Mathis.

**Mayor Albers** presented certificates for five years of service to Councilmembers Goldberg and Wallace. He then presented Councilmember Freeland with a certificate of completion for the Institute of Elected Municipal Officials.

**QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS**

City Clerk Foster swore in all participants for the quasi-judicial hearing.

**PD-01-11 - An Ordinance of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, amending Ordinances 1215-98 and 1358-03 regulating uses and structures on property described as Lots 1, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and the westerly ½ of Lot 20, Block G, a Revised Plat of La Punta Park according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 4 of the Public Records of Charlotte County Florida, also the vacation of a portion of Boca Grande Boulevard and the Park as shown on a Revised Plat of La Punta Park, addressed as 1750 Manzana Avenue, Punta Gorda, which is zoned Planned Development/Special Purpose (PD/SP), to allow additional structures and uses on said property; providing for conflict and severability; and providing an effective date.**

**FIRST READING**

City Attorney Levin read the ordinance by title.

Ms. Teri Tubbs, Zoning Official, displayed overheads of the subject location, as delineated in the agenda material, stating the proposal was to add an enclosed storage yard to facilitate the needs of Habitat for Humanity's construction division with a 6' high privacy fence and two sets of gates. She stated the proposed location was the south east portion of the property where an existing parking lot was located, adding sufficient parking existed on the remainder of the property. She advised the use was existing, adding there would be no additional impacts on traffic or concurrency requirements. She concluded staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

**Mayor Albers** commented the neighboring properties had been notified and were pleased with the plan.

Mr. Tom Huff, agent, commended staff for working with Habitat for Humanity to come to a solution.

**Mayor Albers** called three times for public comment.

Councilmember Wallace **MOVED** to close the public hearing, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Keesling.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

Councilmember Wallace **MOVED** approval, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Keesling.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mayor Albers** pulled items C-1 and E-1.

**ITEM C-1: Mayor Albers** stated he preferred in-kind donation of staff efforts rather than waiving the fee for the event.

Consensus of members was to agree.

**ITEM E-1: Mayor Albers** then stated he felt retention ponds looked beautiful when full; however, he voiced concern with the location at a main gateway when the pond was dry.

City Manager Kunik advised staff would provide a landscape design to enhance same. He stated the retention pond was an integral part of the project, adding invasive plants would also be removed.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated he felt the existing ponds had improved in appearance over the years.

**Councilmember Keesling** inquired if the landscaping would match that used on the Harborwalk.

Mr. Dennis Murphy, Growth Management Director, responded similar plant types would be utilized.

Councilmember Freeland **MOVED** approval of the consent agenda as amended, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Goldberg.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**A. City Clerk's Department**

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 2, 2011

**B. Finance Department**

1. Approval of Sungard Maintenance invoice to Sungard Public Sector for software maintenance and support for the City's primary software application programs.
2. Master Term Agreement award of the Engineering Library to forty-two (42) Architect and Engineering firms for various qualifying disciplines.

**C. Growth Management Department**

1. Event Permit: 11-119712; IFDS Worlds Disabled Sailing Championship; January 5-16, 2012; Laishley Park & Laishley Park Pavilions (Exclusive Use).
2. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA) with the Florida Department of Transportation for Lighting Construction on US 41 (SR 45)

from Taylor Road to Aqui Esta Drive within the City of Punta Gorda, Florida; and providing an effective date

3. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the construction of a Multi-Use Recreational Trail located on a portion of State Road 45 (U.S. 41/Tamiami Trail) from Aqui Esta Drive to Airport Road and Monaco Drive to Taylor Road within the City of Punta Gorda, Florida; and providing an effective date
4. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda Florida, approving submission of an application for the Tree City USA Growth Award and authorizing the City Manager to sign the application
5. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda Florida, approving submission of an application for designation as a Tree City USA and authorizing the City Manager to sign the application

**D. Police Department**

1. Disbursement Request – Law Enforcement Trust Fund
2. Memorandum of Understanding with Sarasota County Sheriff's Office

**E. Public Works Department**

1. Proposed Site for Phase II Downtown Flooding Stormwater Pond

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Linear Park II - Alternative Route based on Purchase of Church Property**

City Manager Kunik recalled previous discussion with regard to purchasing two parcels from the First Baptist Church in order to possibly eliminate the cost of constructing two tidal bridges as originally included in the plan. He provided a detailed description of the parcel locations, appraisal results and other estimated costs, stating staff had estimated the savings at \$100,000. He concluded staff was seeking direction as to whether to move forward with negotiations with the church toward purchase of same while bidding redesign without the two bridges or to bid the project as originally designed with a total of four bridges. He stated staff recommended bidding phases 2 and 3 at the same time in hopes of gaining better cost estimates do to lack of mobilization costs for separate bids.

**Mayor Albers** opined asking bidders to bid on both and to do so by enabling staff to separate them would cause bidders to add the mobilization to both phases.

City Manager Kunik stated it may be possible funding was not existent to complete both phases, adding same was the reason for seeking the ability to separate them if necessary.

**Councilmember Freeland** questioned the combined cost.

City Manager Kunik responded \$1,300,000.

**Councilmember Freeland** questioned the cost of phase 3.

City Manager Kunik responded \$250,000.

**Councilmember Freeland** then asked if members wished to devote \$1,000,000 in this area, stating portions of the Harborwalk which were not funded at this time were estimated at \$816,000, thus it may make more sense to fund it at this time rather than phase 2. She stated staff had advised there may be funding available in future years for the Linear Park's remaining phase. She noted doing so would provide for a contiguous Harborwalk.

**Councilmember Goldberg** asked if any sidewalk was planned with the construction of the small boat launch in Gilchrist Park.

City Manager Kunik responded in the negative.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated the intent was to have connectivity throughout the City, adding there were many amenities already existing in the park. He stated he felt the cost estimates were high.

**Mayor Albers** opined continuity was important, adding he felt the project should be put to bid.

**Councilmember Keesling** agreed the cost estimates seemed high, adding she was in favor of bidding the project for both phases as one project.

**Councilmember Goldberg** stated the future funding would not be available until 2016, opining same was too long to wait before connecting the circle around the City. Consensus of members was to move forward with the bid, less the two bridges and as one project.

**Councilmember Keesling** inquired as to costs for the easement.

Mr. Murphy responded he would be unsure of same until he began negotiations with the church.

Councilmember Freeland **MOVED** approval, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Goldberg.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

#### **Presentation of Fair Share Impact Fee Updates by Clarion Associates**

Mr. Dwayne Guthrie, Clarion Associates, displayed a PowerPoint presentation, as delineated in the agenda material, stating members had suspended collection of impact fees with the exception of roads and parks while studying the fee schedule. He stated public input had been gained and a draft report was prepared. He stated the study included methods and cost components of the existing structure and new approach which was driven by the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and multi-modal

improvements. He provided a detailed description of the calculation method, while displaying the fee summary tables, as delineated in the agenda material. He stated fees for single family construction could be based upon square footage of living space.

**Councilmember Goldberg** commented the proposed methodology appeared to be more equitable.

Mr. Guthrie acknowledged that was the intent, adding impact fees were to be proportionate to demand, thus large residential units had more people generating more vehicle trips.

**Mayor Albers** interjected Punta Gorda was not necessarily a typical community as most households did not have more than two residents.

Mr. Guthrie explained the data used was specific to Punta Gorda which did have fewer residents per household.

Discussion ensued with regard to the impetus for the study and methodology process.

Mr. Guthrie then displayed a total fee comparison, explaining the difference in methodology of the current and proposed structure. He stated he felt the proposed methodology was appropriate for Punta Gorda as it was a more urban approach rather than suburban which only considered vehicle trips.

**Councilmember Goldberg** stated he felt the proposed structure was very important to the small businesses which existed or were hoped for.

**Mayor Albers** commented he felt there was too much of a disparity in fees for the different types of commercial business, asking how a day care caused a larger impact than an assisted living center.

Mr. Guthrie stated it was possible not to itemize certain types of business and consider them under the all other services category. He stated the study had considered business types that were existing and the number of employees per square feet. He then provided a description of the calculations utilized for CIP for Linear Parks and Trails, CIP to Complete Streets and Residential or Non-residential Complete Streets fee based on population and jobs. He detailed the methodology utilized by Complete Streets allocated to Populations and Jobs and Complete Streets allocated to Vehicle Miles. He stated their recommendation was to adopt the updated fee schedule for Parks and Trails and to adopt the updated impact fee schedule for Roads using the previous methodology of vehicle miles while gaining additional peer review of the methodology of using population and jobs.

Ms. Susan Schoetle-Gunn stated the population and jobs methodology had not been utilized previously, thus additional review on the allocation of costs was necessary prior to going to that method. She expressed uncertainty as to how courts would view

that methodology, adding Legislative changes had also increased the legal burden of municipalities with regard to impact fees. She provided a detailed explanation of those Legislative changes, stating the intent of the Legislature was to make it more difficult for local governments to get fees approved. She concluded same explained her reason for recommending further review on the proposed new methodology prior to adopting same.

City Manager Kunik referenced the total impact fee comparison table, as delineated in the agenda material, stating the intent of the study was to consider the specifics of Punta Gorda in that residential construction was improving and the majority of commercial was small business. He stated he felt the proposed methodology was focused on those aspects; however, it would provide a dramatic reduction in impact fees to be collected. He pointed out the reduction in fees would occur with either methodology, adding he recommended adopting the new fee schedule utilizing vehicle miles at this time.

**Councilmember Goldberg** concurred. He then asked if the Complete Streets methodology was being used in other communities.

Ms. Schoetle-Gunn responded it was being used as a planning method with regard to capital improvements rather than impact fees.

**Councilmember Goldberg** then inquired if the court challenges regarding impact fees were mainly related to the excessive amount.

Ms. Schoetle-Gunn stated fees were being reduced in most locations; however, at some point in time, they would begin to rise which would cause challenges that the impacts were not as large as denoted in the schedules.

City Attorney Levin opined the challenge would be toward having to pay fees at all rather than the methodology.

Discussion ensued with regard to new construction and change of use.

**Mayor Albers** voiced reservation with being the first to use a new methodology. He stated the commercial rates were still quite high, suggesting the schedule be collapsed more to denote the small businesses which existed in Punta Gorda.

**Councilmember Goldberg** countered he did not have a problem with being a pioneer as same considered the current environment and economy.

**Councilmember Freeland** agreed, stating the methodology was specific to Punta Gorda. She questioned the legal options.

City Manager Kunik stated the City would go through the courts to validate the methodology, adding if that was the choice, he felt the vehicle miles of travel methodology schedules should be adopted while the validation was underway.

**Councilmember Wallace** pointed out the likelihood of being sued for reducing impact fees was quite small.

Mr. John Wright, Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce (PGCC), stated he had attended the public meeting which resulted in the following questions needing to be answered: had consideration been given to what neighboring communities were doing; had there been any discussion or collaboration with Charlotte County; what would happen if the impact fee reduction created a shortfall; would the study be better if ten years history was considered rather than five due to Hurricane Charley; when was Complete Streets added to the methodology and would portability be included in the schedule.

City Manager Kunik pointed out portability did cause impact, thus a fee was necessary. He stated the City's methodology must stand on its own, thus what the County was doing had no relevance. He stated any shortfall would have to be replaced from another revenue source.

**Councilmember Goldberg** added the projections utilized in the study were extremely conservative which may help to buffer any shortfall.

**Councilmember Keesling** inquired if bicycle/pedestrian improvements could be included in the vehicle mile methodology.

Ms. Schoetle-Gunn responded affirmatively.

**Councilmember Keesling** then stated she would prefer to utilize that methodology with collapsing the commercial areas, adding she was not in favor of additional legal costs.

Consensus of Council was to adopt the vehicle mile methodology with an adjustment to the schedule to the amount of funding derived from the other method, while pursuing the population and job validation.

**Mayor Albers** requested the new charts be reviewed at the second December meeting prior to the ordinance being drafted.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Discussion regarding initiation of a Punta Gorda Citizens Academy**

**Councilmember Freeland** advised she had made the recommendation to consider same to better educate residents about their local government. She mentioned her time spent with each department following her election to City Council and the wealth of information she gained. She drew members' attention to the information provided in the agenda material, which included suggestions from the Florida League of Cities, who had great experience in these sessions. She mentioned the PGCC was in favor of developing same with the City.

**Councilmember Goldberg** voiced approval.

**Mayor Albers** stated he had been concerned with regard to staff time; however, City Manager Kunik assured him it would be possible.

Discussion ensued with regard to the specifics to be included, such as tours of City facilities.

Consensus of Council was to have staff work with PGCC toward development of a Citizen's Academy.

**NOTE: A short break was called at 10:46 a.m.**

**Discussion regarding Stationary Vending at Parades**

Ms. Tubbs explained staff had received a request from the Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce to allow a stationary food vendor during the Christmas parade, adding previous Development Review Committee (DRC) approval of the event allowed two moving vendors who traveled with the parade itself, based upon the City Code's prohibition of street vending. She requested direction from members.

**Mayor Albers** recalled the reason it was not allowed was due to it competing with local businesses, adding future requests might be made for events such as Gallery Walk.

**Councilmember Goldberg** stated he was unsure how it could be limited for future parades.

**Councilmember Freeland** stated the proposed location was where many people wished to view the parade.

**Councilmember Keesling** opined same may proliferate.

City Attorney Levin requested specifics with regard to mobile vending as he was drafting an ordinance related to same.

**Councilmember Freeland** stated she felt it was unfair to businesses in the area.

Mr. Mike Haymans stated he had been unaware that a decision had previously been made regarding stationary vendors, adding It's a Hot Dog Day had been a vendor at the Christmas Parade for eight years. He asserted It's a Hot Dog Day was a licensed Punta Gorda Business.

**Councilmember Keesling** asked how the City would know which vendors had been selected by the Chamber to participate. She added she would also like to know if they were licensed with the City and had met any necessary requirements.

Ms. Tubbs explained the Chamber of Commerce had been issuing City of Punta Gorda Vending Permits unbeknownst to the City.

Mr. Haymans added a fee was paid to the Chamber for same.

**Councilmember Freeland** stated she felt City licensure was necessary.

City Manager Kunik explained the vendors were included as a part of the parade, which required no license.

**Councilmember Keesling** asked if a list of vendors was included as a part of the approval process.

Ms. Tubbs stated the approval was for the parade itself rather than individual participants.

Discussion ensued with regard to the difference between event permitting and business taxes.

**Councilmember Goldberg** pointed out there were five parades held in the City, suggesting a specific area be denoted for stationary vendors.

**Councilmember Keesling** stated same would make it easier to control.

Mr. Steve Murphy, Sugar Island Cupcakes, stated he along with other vendors planned to have stationary trailers for specific events, adding he was also a licensed business within the City. He pointed out stationary vending was a trend in the food industry.

**Councilmember Freeland** suggested vendors meet with staff to provide input prior to the regulations being drafted. She reiterated they should be licensed in the City.

**Councilmember Goldberg** agreed this could expand; however, he was concerned with competition from an outside vendor with an existing local business.

**Mayor Albers** inquired if the pending ordinance related to mobile vendors would tie into this discussion.

City Attorney Levin responded the pending ordinance would be brought for discussion related to trucks being able to vend from the street which was currently prohibited. He agreed input from interested parties would be beneficial.

Discussion ensued with regard to the various types of mobile and/or stationary vending and possible regulations of same.

Councilmember Goldberg **MOVED** to allow vending for the Christmas Parade, to be followed by an analysis of mobile vending, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Freeland.

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**Discussion regarding future use and disposition of West Henry Street Enhancement Zone property (former Public Works & Utilities site)**

City Manager Kunik stated Councilmember Wallace had mentioned it may be time to market the property for economic development purposes and to be more proactive toward same. He noted one possibility was to have Charlotte County Economic Development assist in pursuing same.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated funding would need to be available, adding when a development was proposed, it was generally desired to gain the development funding immediately. He mentioned actions taken by Charlotte County to increase the tax base and create jobs. He stated consideration must be given to what surrounding property

owners would accept on the property. He stated those types of decisions must be made prior to being able to discuss development options with any potential developer.

**Councilmember Keesling** inquired what the previous plan for the property entailed.

City Manager Kunik responded mixed use housing would ring the site with a small village style commercial area in the center of the property.

**Mayor Albers** stated he would not envision anything else due to the property's location.

**Councilmember Freeland** agreed having a plan policy in place may help if a development offer came forward.

**Mayor Albers** added members must understand the property would be worth much less than when the economy improved.

**Councilmember Freeland** agreed; however, developing same may spur further development.

**Mayor Albers** pointed out large residential complexes were not being constructed, adding he felt the timing was not right.

**Councilmember Goldberg** concurred.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated another option was to sell the property to someone else to hold until the time was right, thus letting them bear the holding costs while placing the property back on the tax rolls.

**Councilmember Keesling** questioned what was being proposed.

City Manager Kunik stated there may be a company which desired a residential location, adding that had not been considered with the previous proposal. He suggested a group be formed to consider options of what may be appropriate for the site.

**Mayor Albers** reiterated he felt it was not the time.

**Councilmember Freeland** stated she felt input should be gained. She opined economic improvement would occur sooner than most thought.

**Councilmember Wallace** suggested members await further action and decision by the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF).

**Councilmember Keesling** agreed with gaining input.

Consensus of members was to gain input from the EDTF and the public to be presented for discussion.

City Attorney Levin suggested the previous plan be brought back for review by members.

City Manager Kunik then stated the City had been approached with the concept of creating a park-like area on the triangle property bound by Henry Street, Olympia

Avenue and Maud Street. He mentioned several options such as allowing the group to raise funds and complete the plantings or to await any use of same until the ultimate decision was made as to development.

**Mayor Albers** pointed out the subject parcel was a part of the above mentioned site, thus it may not be an attractive part of the proposal.

**Councilmember Goldberg** stated he felt if a citizen's group wished to raise funds to develop the park, the City would be required to maintain same.

**Mayor Albers** mentioned another park in the area as well as the Harborwalk, asking if same was necessary.

Mr. Gene Murtha, Punta Gorda Historical Society, stated they were more interested in the property adjacent to the Punta Gorda History Park to enable them to develop a history center. He stated doing so would provide a "History Campus", thus they would ask to work with the City prior to the site being marketed.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated he was not adverse to considering same, adding he just did not like 17 acres sitting with no purpose.

Discussion ensued with regard to the proposed triangle garden.

Consensus of members was to await further information from the public and EDTF prior to making any decision regarding same.

#### **RECOMMENDATION FROM CITY OFFICERS**

##### **CITY ATTORNEY**

##### **Update on Best Western Harborwalk**

City Attorney Levin stated after several meetings with the principles, a new proposal to have the City construct a new seawall in front of the existing seawall to enable construction of the cantilevered walkway had arisen. He displayed overheads of the proposed location and construction, as delineated in the agenda material, stating the decision as to whether landward pilings would be necessary would be determined by the engineers. He provided a brief description of the construction, stating he was seeking approval to begin negotiations with Best Western with regard to same.

**Mayor Albers** asked why the walkway could not be 10' in all areas.

City Attorney Levin responded same would not be allowed as it would require amendment to the State's Submerged Lands Lease.

Consensus of Council was to move forward with the proposal.

City Attorney Levin then asked members if there was any reason to prohibit a business from allowing a vendor to sell food from their parking lot or to allow a truck to locate at a particular location on public or private property to sell food. He inquired if members wished to allow it with regulations or to prohibit it.

**Councilmember Wallace** stated he did not feel it should be located on public property. He stated same provided an unfair advantage to local businesses.

**Mayor Albers** stated he did not feel it should be allowed on private property either.

**Councilmember Keesling** agreed with regard to public property; however, if same could be regulated, she would support it. She stated many such businesses were located in downtown areas of many other cities.

City Manager Kunik suggested same be added to a future agenda for discussion.

#### **CITY CLERK**

##### **Council Appointment to Various Boards and Committees**

City Clerk Foster drew members' attention to the listing of boards, noting a decision as to membership would be required on four of the committees as the remainder had only one member expressing interest.

**Mayor Albers** displayed an amended copy of the listing, noting his suggestion was a more equitable division of responsibility between all members. He pointed out no alternate was required for the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC), thus the number of appointments could be reduced by one.

**Councilmember Keesling** explained the City was a liaison to the Arts & Humanities Council (A&H) rather than a voting member, adding she was unsure if the City needed a seat at that table as she attended meetings and received input on planned events, which was available in other venues.

**Mayor Albers** concurred it did not appear necessary to delegate a liaison to same.

**Councilmember Keesling** stated she would offer to be a contact point if necessary.

Consensus of members was to agree.

Discussion ensued with a consensus as follows: Airport Authority – Goldberg; Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) – Keesling; EDTF – Freeland; Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) – Goldberg, Freeland; National Estuary Program (NEP) – Wallace; Punta Gorda Housing Authority (PGHA) – Albers; Southwest Florida League of Cities (SWFLC) – Wallace and Tourist Development Council (TDC) – Albers, Wallace.

#### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

##### **Announcement of Vacancies**

Punta Gorda Isles Canal Advisory Committee

City Clerk Foster announced the vacancies.

##### **Nominations**

Burnt Store Isles Canal Advisory Committee

Councilmember Goldberg **MOVED** to nominate and appoint Mr. Ron Frazier, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Keesling.

## **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

### **Appointments**

Firefighters' Pension Board

Voting forms were distributed.

City Attorney Levin advised Mr. John Beane had received the most votes and was therefore appointed to the Firefighters' Pension Board.

Punta Gorda Isles Canal Advisory Committee

Voting forms were distributed.

City Attorney Levin advised Mr. John Dauster had received the most votes and was therefore appointed to the Punta Gorda Isles Canal Advisory Committee.

### **POLICY AND LEGISLATION**

**ALBERS:** Commented the Mayor and City Manager alternated appearances on the Ken Lovejoy radio show, adding he felt same was a good opportunity which should be rotated among all members.

City Manager Kunik stated he was to appear on the next day's meeting, adding he would be happy to have someone take over.

**Mayor Albers** advised he would do so.

- Stated he would like to rotate who presented the proclamations at Council meetings.
- Recalled in past years, when issues were debated and decided, regardless of whether it was unanimous, when the meeting ended members and/or staff began to implement the decision, asking that members adopt the same policy in moving forward as it served the Council well.

**Councilmember Goldberg** mentioned same had been formally adopted five years prior and should be readopted.

**GOLDBERG:** Introduced Ms. Shannon Simonson, whose husband was serving in Iraq and would be returning home in December. He explained she had requested permission to place yellow ribbons on the trees to welcome him home. He stated although same was prohibited by code, he felt it should be approved.

**Mayor Albers** stated the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association had offered to help.

Consensus of members was to approve the request.

**FREELAND:** Stated she felt positive for the upcoming year, thanking those who supported her.

**KEESLING:** Spoke favorably toward the Brazilian Delegation events.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Ray Rose welcomed Councilmember Freeland. He then stated many times good

things occurred in Punta Gorda that no one was aware of, adding he would like to thank Public Works for the trimming job at the Ponce de Leon inlet as visibility was much better. He commented the proposed Citizen's Academy may spur more residents to volunteer with the City once they were better aware of how things worked. He suggested consideration be given to partnering with the sales agent for the Impact University property in order to gain synergy toward a purchase of the City's property. The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 P.M.

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Mayor

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City Clerk