

**CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018, 9:00 A.M.**

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Cummings, Keesling, Matthews, Prafke, Wein

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Dave Drury, Finance; Rick Keeney, Public Works; Tom Jackson, Utilities; Phil Wickstrom, Human Resources; Joan LeBeau, Urban Design; Pamela Davis, Police; Ray Briggs, Fire; City Attorney Levin; City Manager Kunik; City Clerk Smith

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

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

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies (C.A.R.E.) Day

Councilmember Prafke presented the proclamation, which was accepted by Ms. Judi Harris, C.A.R.E. Board Chairman.

Hands Across the Harbor Day

Councilmember Matthews presented the proclamation, which was accepted by Ms. Doris Button, Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center Chief Executive Officer.

Stephen M. Fabian Jr. Day

Councilmember Wein presented the proclamation, which was accepted by Mr. Lindsay Harrington and members of the Ponce de Leon Conquistadors.

Introduction of Board/Committee Member Nominees

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Quasi-Judicial Public Hearings

City Clerk Smith swore in all participants.

SE-04-16 - A request by Robert H. Berntsson, Agent, on behalf of Vent, LLC, Vivante at Punta Gorda Property Owner's Association, Inc., Palm Isles Condominium Development, LLC, and PGI Section 24 Property Owners Association, Inc., jointly as owners, for a Special Exception pursuant to Chapter 26, Section 26-16.8, Punta Gorda Code, to construct docking facilities with up to 255 private dock slips for the sole use of the residents of the Vivante development; to permit up to 41 private docking boat slips for properties along Colony Point Drive with lake frontage, for a total of 296 private dock slips; to create a navigable channel connecting to the Peace River through vacant common area on the North end of the development, and to install a seawall along the lands

abutting the proposed channel, since none of these activities are considered permitted uses or structures but may be approved as a Special Exception.

City Attorney Levin read the Special Exception request.

Mayor Keesling outlined the procedures for quasi-judicial public hearings.

Ms. Lisa Hannon, Zoning Official, displayed an overhead of the subject property, as delineated in the agenda material, and read the staff report dated January 17, 2018, into the record, including technical clarifications regarding legal ownership of the property. She stated the applicant had eliminated a prior request for a jetty, pointing out the specific area of the cut-through on the overhead. She recommended approval with the following conditions: (1) the lease or sale of slips within the boat basin was prohibited to anyone but a Punta Gorda Isles (PGI) Property Owners Association (POA) Inc. owner or resident; (2) approval of private boat slips was subject to approval of a Canal Construction Special Permit (CCSP), all docks requiring a separate permit through the Building Division prior to construction; (3) construction of private boat slips not permitted along undeveloped multi-family lots until property was developed and Certificate of Occupancy issued; (4) boat slips for individual properties abutting the lake along Colony Point Drive required separate permits through the Building Division prior to installation; (5) additional permitting through the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, National Marine Fisheries Service, United States Fish & Wildlife Service and Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation was required (permitting process ongoing under the full responsibility of the owner). She concluded the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

Mr. Robert Berntsson, Big W Law Firm, applicant's representative, confirmed Ms. Hannon was recognized as an expert witness.

Ms. Hannon provided a brief review of her background and experience, attesting to her qualifications as an expert witness in planning and development.

Mr. Berntsson then introduced his first expert witness, Mr. Hans Wilson of Hans Wilson & Associates, licensed professional engineer.

Mr. Wilson displayed a PowerPoint presentation, as delineated in the agenda material, stating this project was proposed to provide access to the Peace River along the shoreline. He contended this Special Exception application was the last option available to the applicant to provide a navigable path out of the Vivante basin. He stated the current proposed location of the cut-through would incur the least amount of dredging and resource impact.

Mr. Berntsson confirmed City Council accepted Mr. Wilson as an expert witness.

Mr. Dan DeLisi then attested to his qualifications as an expert planning witness and reviewed at length the project's adherence to the Special Exception criteria depicted in City Code, as delineated in the agenda material.

City Attorney Levin clarified the proposal was not for a marina but rather a docking facility, pointing out the site could not be utilized as the former.

Mr. Berntsson confirmed City Council accepted Mr. DeLisi as an expert witness. He opined the application met the criteria for granting a Special Exception. He noted creation of the docking facilities would expand boating access and increase property values. He stated it would take years to obtain State and Federal permits, acknowledging a Special Exception could be granted for a maximum of two years; therefore, the applicant would likely seek an extension.

Councilmember Matthews inquired as to the plans for the currently vacant Vivante property.

Mr. Berntsson replied there were plans for future development of condominiums; however, no docks could be constructed along vacant land.

Councilmember Matthews asked if construction was anticipated only along West Marion Court or on West Marion Avenue.

Mr. Berntsson responded with uncertainty.

Councilmember Matthews confirmed the subject property would not be part of the PGI Canal Maintenance Assessment District (CMAD), asking if the City's Police and Fire Departments would be responsible for public safety.

Mr. Berntsson replied he saw no reason why not.

Councilmember Matthews questioned the possibility of extending the cut-through west.

Mr. Berntsson replied specifying a direction did not fall within Council's purview, stating the regulatory agencies would determine same as part of the permitting.

Councilmember Matthews confirmed the channel markers would be day markers.

Mayor Keesling asked if only Vivante residents paid into the Section 24 POA.

Mr. Berntsson replied in the negative, explaining the property owners on the west side of Colony Point Drive were also members.

Mayor Keesling stated there appeared to be a few properties at the end of the right-of-way (ROW) on the left which did not abut the lake.

Mr. Berntsson clarified those properties above the proposed cut-through location were not members of the Section 24 POA. He noted the properties on the east side of Colony Point Drive had no rights on the west side of the road, acknowledging one of those property owners was represented this date and had alleged same. He explained

the plat ran down the center of the Colony Point Drive, and the west side of the ROW was not included in their plat.

Mayor Keesling then commented on the proposed flushing channel, as delineated in Detail C in Mr. Wilson's presentation, asking if same was naturally occurring.

Mr. Wilson replied the area highlighted in blue represented the natural tidal creek which occurred within the mangrove system, explaining the area directly impacted by the project, depicted in green, would connect an artificial channel outside of the mangrove fringe to the tidal creek.

Councilmember Wein inquired as to Councilmembers' thoughts relative to an ordinance amendment which allowed an extension of the two-year Special Exception limitation.

Consensus of Council was to have the City Attorney draft possible criteria for consideration in granting such extensions.

Councilmember Cummings inquired why the proposed channel direction was chosen as opposed to other alternatives

Mr. Wilson replied the proposal was the most desirable from the regulatory agencies' standpoint, adding other considerations included resource impacts and cost.

Mr. Derek Rooney, attorney for Colony Point Condominiums Homeowners Association (CPCHOA), intervenor, clarified Messrs. Wilson and DeLisi had been accepted as expert witnesses in marine engineering/design and planning, respectively. He voiced opposition to the request on the basis of inconsistency with the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations (LDRs), inadequate consideration of impacts on adjacent riparian rights and the application's failure to show adequate ownership, the latter two issues being the subject of a lawsuit against the applicant and the City. He proffered Mr. Max Forgey as an expert witness in planning and then introduced Ms. Sherry Robinson, CPCHOA President. He acknowledged the ownership issue should be addressed in Court; however, the testimony presented this date compelled him to address certain items such as the declarations which were mentioned throughout the staff report. He asserted the declarations did not override the Comprehensive Plan or LDRs and, in fact, expired in 2014.

City Attorney Levin announced at 4:40 p.m. the previous day, Colony Point Inc. filed a complaint for declaratory judgment with the Charlotte County Circuit Court; however, the allegations set forth within same had no effect on moving forward with the Special Exception application.

Mr. Forgey reviewed his qualifications and submitted his expert report into the record. He provided a PowerPoint presentation, as delineated in the agenda material, detailing

his client's opposition to the application based on incompatibility with the Comprehensive Plan and LDRs, particularly as same related to water quality, conservation, infrastructure and permitted uses. He concluded the applicant had failed to provide competent, substantial evidence showing consistency with the Comprehensive Plan; thus, the application should be denied by City Council.

Mr. Rooney confirmed Council accepted Mr. Forgey as an expert witness.

Ms. Robinson voiced concern the proposed channel would adversely affect the CPCHOA's riparian rights, including the ability to construct their own docks in the future on the western and northern shores. She stated there was also concern among residents regarding a negative effect on their property values.

Mr. Michael Haymans, attorney for Mr. Robert Pollack and Ms. Theresa Pollack, interveners, attested to his experience relative to land use. He asserted the City had not adequately discussed the issue of ownership, stating the Section 24 POA declarations were no longer valid and had died due to a lack of attention. He announced he had petitioned the Circuit Court, acknowledging no injunction had been filed which prevented Council from moving forward; however, he opined the City should not do so but rather should make a finding of the application's inadequacy due to the ownership issue. He then stated certain riparian rights were impacted, specifically with regard to the project's effect on surrounding property owners. He commented at length on littoral rights, contending this project took away his clients' ability to have proper access to navigable waters.

City Attorney Levin inquired which riparian/littoral rights Mr. Haymans was alleging were implicated by the City's action.

Mr. Haymans replied he believed the channel implicated his clients unimpeded right of access to the waters.

City Attorney Levin inquired if such access was irrespective of the ability to construct a dock or included within same.

Mr. Haymans replied the former. He opined there should be a 45 degree angle as opposed to crossing in front of his clients' property.

Note: A short recess was called at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Wilson pointed out if the CPCHOA sought the ability to construct boat docks, creation of the subject channel would provide the necessary minus four foot water depth required by the Florida Administrative Code.

Discussion ensued with regard to riparian/littoral rights.

Mr. Berntsson concluded the application was legally sufficient, and all criteria necessary for the granting of a Special Except had been met, requesting Council's approval of SE-04-16.

Mr. Aaron Wagner, PGI Civic Association President, stated the Civic Association's Board of Directors had no objection to the request.

Mr. Charlie Cheek, Section 24 POA Board President, expressed support of the application on behalf of approximately 70 POA members. He advised approximately 185 docks would be constructed initially if the application was approved. He spoke briefly on the opposing comments, requesting Council's approval.

Mr. Mark Hoskins disagreed with comments made by Messrs. Haymans and Forgey, asserting mangroves had been destroyed to create the Colony Point Drive property, the owners of which were now objecting to the impact on mangroves.

Mr. Ron Kruse spoke regarding the need for dock facilities.

Mr. Bill Stephens opined the project was beneficial for the entire City.

Mr. Steve Nelson, Vivante Condominium Association President, stated he was a co-signer on the subject application and Vice President of the Section 24 POA, expressing hope for a win/win situation for the residents of both Vivante Condominiums and Colony Point Drive.

Mr. Ian Campbell opined the project would benefit present and future property owners in the subject area as well as the City in general.

Mr. Bill Dick spoke in favor of the request.

Mr. Roger Neering displayed a graph depicting boating registration growth in Charlotte County and the State, asserting the former had grown twice as fast as the latter. He clarified the need for docking and storage increased along with the number of boats, adding this project would fulfill the needs generated through present and future growth.

Mr. Donald Corr stated the Vivante Condominium Association was made up of responsible boaters.

Ms. Marilyn Thomas voiced support for the cut-through and docking facilities, urging Council's support of same.

Mr. Bill Scully spoke in favor of the request.

Mr. Stanley Wybranski opined those in opposition were concerned about quality of life and the uncertainty of change, reiterating Vivante residents wished to be good neighbors. He opined completion of this project would result in an increase in property values.

Mr. Bill Kaufman stated it was important to respect the opinion of everyone, adding he had been informed all 63 property owners in the CPCHOA were opposed to the cut-through. He pointed out he also wished to be a good, respectful neighbor.

Ms. Gwenn Ladd opined the application was unclear with regard to dock size, noting the revised application referenced a General Multi-family designation rather than the previously used Marina. She displayed a photograph of a bald eagle on the grass near the lake, adding there was much wildlife in the area in addition to marine life.

Mr. Barry Ladd voiced opposition to the proposal, asserting the docks would obstruct the view of Colony Point Drive residents. He objected to the increased boat traffic and impact on area wildlife, requesting Council deny the request.

Ms. Deborah Lucks stated she purchased her Colony Point Drive property for the quiet, nature and view, opining the proposal would negatively impact same. She pointed out Vivante property owners purchased their properties knowing there was no boat access.

Mr. Shawn Lucks stressed the Special Exception criteria did not question who would benefit but rather required there be no adverse effect on neighboring properties, asserting Colony Point Drive property owners would be negatively affected.

Ms. Kathy Pullcari stated additional storage was needed for recreational vehicles, adding boats were utilizing much of the available storage.

Ms. Roseanne Cruz opined the cut-through would increase manatee access to the basin, adding there was already a significant amount of wild life in and around the canal. She requested approval of the request.

Mr. Terry Davison requested approval of the request.

Ms. Linda Kaufman opined the cut-through would negatively impact marine life, contending the Vivante development had done so already.

Mr. Mike Chapman spoke in favor of the request.

Mr. Jack Nicklyn commented favorably on the proposal.

Mr. Berntsson summarized no competent substantial testimony had been presented which precluded granting the Special Exception, requesting Council's approval of same.

Mayor Keesling called three times for anyone to speak on SE-04-16.

Councilmember Matthews **MOVED** to close the public hearing, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Prafke.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

City Attorney Levin commented briefly on the abovementioned allegations regarding ownership, stating same was for the Courts to decide.

Councilmember Matthews questioned the relevance of the mangrove issues raised this date with respect to the concept of a cut-through.

City Attorney Levin replied related impacts to the requested use were relevant; however, evaluation of the potential environmental impacts would be more appropriately addressed by regulatory agencies with the proper expertise.

Mayor Keesling opined the application met the Special Exception criteria. She reminded everyone the Strategic Plan included researching other opportunities for Charlotte Harbor access.

Councilmember Prafke opined the docking facility would not be disruptive or create sign pollution.

Councilmember Matthews clarified there would be no obstruction to view as had been the case with the previously proposed jetty wall.

Councilmember Wein **MOVED** to approve SE-04-16 based on the competent evidence and testimony presented, contingent upon adherence to the 6 conditions proposed in the staff report, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Matthews.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Note: A short recess was called at 12:32 p.m.

CCSP-24-17 – Petition by Hans Wilson, Agent, on behalf of PGI Section 24 Property Owners Association, Inc., Vent, LLC, Vivante at Punta Gorda Property Owner’s Association, Inc., and Palm Isles Condominium Development, LLC, jointly as property owners, for a Special Permit under the provisions of Section 6-6(j), Punta Gorda Code, to construct docking facilities with up to 255 private dock slips for the sole use of the residents of the Vivante development and to permit up to 41 private docking boat slips for properties along Colony Point Drive with lake frontage, for a total of 296 dock slips in a private waterway not dedicated to the public.

City Attorney Levin read the Special Permit request.

Mr. Bob Nikula, Project Manager, noted this application was submitted in conjunction with SE-04-16, and proposed construction of 255 private dock slips for the sole use of Vivante residents and up to 41 private docking boat slips for properties along Colony Point Drive with lake frontage. He recommended approval with the conditions detailed in the staff report provided in Council’s agenda material, strongly recommending floating concrete docks for the multi-family zoned properties. He further recommended the docks and other structures proposed for the single family properties be constructed in accordance with the requirements for single family homes along platted canals as described in Chapter 6, Punta Gorda Code.

Mayor Keesling clarified floating docks were proposed for the areas with deeper water.

Mr. Nikula noted the applicant proposed up to 41 docks on the single family property side; however, staff recommended up to 40 docks due to varying property size and the Code requirements specific to same.

City Attorney Levin clarified staff also recommended up to 295 instead of 296 private docks slips for Vivante residents.

Councilmember Matthews questioned the intended length of the long finger docks, stating it appeared some had four pilings while others had three.

Mr. Nikula replied the lengths of individual berthing slips varied between 30, 40 and 50 feet, adding the T-shape at the end of each dock allowed slips to be combined. He noted widths would be approximately 13 feet.

Councilmember Prafke commented on Area C on the west side, as depicted on Detail A1 in the agenda material, expressing concern with the close proximity of some of the docks.

Mr. Nikula confirmed the lay-out ensured safe navigation.

Mr. Berntsson then entered the sworn testimony presented during SE-04-16, requesting Council consider the application as presented with 41 docks.

Discussion ensued with a consensus to hold the number of docks in abeyance until after additional testimony from Mr. Wilson was heard.

Mr. Wilson provided a PowerPoint presentation, as delineated in the agenda material, explaining in detail the rationale behind the design and layout of docks. He pointed out the countless benefits of having access to your boat directly from your property. He estimated the number of boats exiting the docking facility on a weekly basis to be in the single percentages or approximately 18% on holiday weekends. He spoke regarding the importance of maximizing existing resources, reiterating approval of the proposed docks would have a positive impact on area boat ramps. He opined 41 docks should be permitted, basing same on engineered calculations.

Mayor Keesling noted any proposed configuration which fell outside of the restrictions of Chapter 6 would require a Special Permit which in turn would allow additional scrutiny by staff and City Council.

City Attorney Levin confirmed the applicant was amenable to staff's recommendation for floating concrete docks.

Mr. Haymans entered his testimony from the previous public hearing into the record. He stated the proposed construction had an effect on his clients, reiterating their objections based on the issue of ownership.

Mayor Keesling called three times for public comment.

Councilmember Prafke **MOVED** to close the public hearing, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Matthews.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Councilmember Matthews **MOVED** approval of CCSP-24-17 based on the evidence and testimony presented, with the conditions recommended by staff, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wein.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION

No Public Hearing Required

Citizen Comments – Ordinances/Resolution Items Only

Ms. Anna Callwood, Trabue Woods United Association President, requested any proposed change to a neighborhood's name or identity be brought before the Historic Preservation Advisory Board for written validation of the community's amenability toward same.

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, approving amended bylaws governing the function and procedures of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board.

City Attorney Levin read the resolution by title.

Councilmember Cummings **MOVED** approval, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wein.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, changing the dates of its regularly scheduled Council meetings for July and August 2018.

City Attorney Levin read the resolution by title.

Councilmember Wein **MOVED** approval, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Prafke.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Citizen Comments - Consent Agenda Items

There were none.

Councilmember Matthews **MOVED** approval of the Consent Agenda, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wein.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

B. City Clerk's Department

1. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of December 20, 2017
2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of January 3, 2018

C. Legal Department

1. Approval of Quit Claim Deed for any and all interest the City may have to 110 Harvey Street Unplatted Alley.

Citizen Comments – Regular Agenda Items Only

Mr. Norman Ashworth, Code Enforcement Board Chairman, spoke in opposition to reconsideration of the fine reduction for Winter Park Dodge, Inc.

BUDGET

Purchase of E-One Pumper Apparatus for the Fire Department from Hall-Mark RTC, Ocala, FL.

City Manager Kunik explained the pre-purchase would result in a cost savings.

Councilmember Prafke **MOVED** approval of the purchase, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Wein.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Oyster Reef Restoration at Trabue Harborwalk – 2 Years Post Installation Results.

Ms. Laura Geselbracht, The Nature Conservancy Senior Marine Scientist, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the oyster reef restoration project, as delineated in the agenda material, noting the importance of oyster reefs and briefly describing the subject area. She provided an overview of the results of the project, noting smalltooth sawfish were utilizing the restored reefs. She advised the next steps included continuing to monitor the reef, which could change as they matured.

Councilmember Cummings questioned the effect of the algae blooms which caused “red tide” on oysters.

Ms. Geselbracht replied oysters filtered up to 50 gallons of water per day and thus improved water quality.

Reconsideration of Lien Reduction – 1601 Tamiami Trail (Winter Park Dodge, Inc.).

Mr. Haymans voiced objection to the current fines imposed against the subject property, acknowledging the property owner/respondent, Mr. Doug Plattner, should have moved more quickly when the site was purchased; however, he had since invested more than \$100,000 into the property. He requested Council allow Mr. Plattner to operate a successful business in the City while employing approximately 20 people. He proposed payment of \$15,000 plus \$10,000 if the business was not open within 30 days and \$10,000 each month thereafter until the business opened or the fines were paid in full; however, Mr. Plattner intended to open by February 14, 2018.

Councilmember Prafke asked Mr. Plattner to comment, noting he had ignored an invitation approximately two years earlier to appear before Council.

Mr. Plattner apologized for ignoring Council's invitation, acknowledging he should have appeared much sooner. He maintained he was a good business person in an abnormal situation, requesting Council's mercy and the opportunity to rectify the situation.

Mayor Keesling clarified Mr. Plattner intended to open for business within 30 days, asking if an inventory of cars was available and permitting was in place.

Mr. Plattner replied affirmatively.

Councilmember Wein asked why Mr. Plattner believed this location would be successful in that there were other numerous reputable automobile dealerships in close proximity.

Mr. Plattner stated he saw an opportunity when the owner of the former Palm Auto Mall sold her business, adding he had done business in Charlotte County and Arcadia for many years.

Mayor Keesling opined the settlement offer was too low.

Councilmember Matthews stated she would not bend on lessening the fines as Mr. Plattner had failed to interface with City staff, the Code Enforcement Board and City Council on numerous occasions.

Mr. Plattner stated this was not his only business, adding he had been fined in the past; however, all other agencies had been willing to work with him.

Councilmember Matthews countered the Code Enforcement Board had given Mr. Plattner numerous opportunities, all of which were ignored.

Councilmember Cummings suggested accepting payment for half of the amount owed and a requirement for the business to open within 30 days.

Mayor Keesling stated she would be open to an initial payment of half of the amount owed and \$10,000 per month until fully paid if the business did not open. She clarified if the settlement agreement fell through, the foreclosure case would continue.

Mr. Plattner stated he could not abide by those terms.

City Attorney Levin stated to avoid the City having to pay any additional attorney's fees, he requested Mr. Haymans draft a settlement offer based on discussions this date.

Councilmember Matthews reiterated she was opposed to a settlement offer.

NEW BUSINESS

City Manager Re-employment Agreement.

Human Resources Manager Phil Wickstrom drew members' attention to the proposed re-employment agreement, as delineated in the agenda material, stating terms would be effective May 1, 2018, upon Council's approval.

Mayor Keesling stated she was amenable to the agreement; however, succession planning for the City Manager's Office was critical and must be discussed.

City Manager Kunik advised each Department was charged with succession planning.

Councilmember Prafke stated she would like to see a clear procedure in place.

City Manager Kunik confirmed he would gather information from the City's Departments, including the City Manager's Office, for future presentation to Council.

City Clerk Smith then requested Sections 7 and 8 be changed to show the Finance Department would track the City Manager's sick and vacation time.

Councilmember Matthews requested language be added to the contract requiring the City Manager to provide a four to six month notice of his retirement.

Mr. Wickstrom pointed out the contract did not take effect until May 2018, adding staff could devise an exit plan.

Councilmember Wein **MOVED** approval of the re-employment agreement with City Manager Kunik, including the stated changes to Sections 7 and 8, **SECONDED** by Councilmember Cummings.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Announcement of Vacancies

Building Board

Code Enforcement Board Alternate

Building Board Alternate

General Employees' Pension Board

City Clerk Smith announced the vacancies.

Nominations

Punta Gorda Housing Authority

Councilmember Matthews nominated all interested parties.

Planning Commission

Councilmember Matthews nominated all interested parties.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

WEIN: Announced the City's surplus laptops were donated to the GAP Program per Council's discussion at their previous meeting, adding the program organizers were working directly with the Charlotte County School Board to identify and work with recipients.

CUMMINGS: Commented favorably on the recent Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day breakfast, stating same was an excellent entrée for Police Chief Pam Davis.

Councilmember Matthews mentioned the PGI Civic Association was organizing a “meet and greet” for Chief Davis.

MATTHEWS: Confirmed no residents had submitted a permit application to replace their own seawall.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Mayor

City Clerk