



MINUTES

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2022 6:00 P.M.

The City of Madeira Beach Board of Commissioners held a regular workshop meeting at 6:00 p.m. on November 16, 2022, in the Patricia Shontz Commission Chambers at City Hall, located at 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT: John B. Hendricks, Mayor
Doug Andrews, Vice Mayor/Commissioner District 3 – Via telephone
David Tagliarini, Commissioner District 1
Ray Kerr, Commissioner District 2
Dave Hutson, Commissioner District 4

MEMBERS ABSENT:

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Robin Gomez, City Manager
Clara VanBlargan, City Clerk
Attorney Rob Eschenfelder, Trask Daigneault, L.L.P.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hendricks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Clara VanBlargan called the roll.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

John B. Hendricks, 569 Normandy Road, said traffic is bad coming onto Madeira Beach at 150th Avenue and Madeira Way. Bigger digital signs were ordered for that area to advertise the closing of Madeira Way for the Market on Wednesdays.

4. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Reporting the Final Results of the November 8, 2022 General Election - Two City of Madeira Beach Charter Amendments (final certified elections results to be provided before the meeting)**

The City Clerk reported on the update of the Unofficial Results of the General Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. The results were still unofficial.

TWO CHARTER AMENDMENTS PASSED BY THE VOTERS (Effective Immediately when the Pinellas County Canvassing Board certifies the Final Election Results)

CHARTER AMENDMENT #1 - Qualification and Term of Office

The City of Madeira Beach voters approved an amendment to Section 2.2 B of the Charter to provide that the term of each newly elected member of Board of Commissioners will begin upon induction into office at the first Board of Commissioners meeting following the election.

Unofficial Results:

Yes – 1,705 votes

No – 233 votes

CHARTER AMENDMENT #2 - Induction of Newly Elected Member of Board of Commissioners

The City of Madeira Beach voters approved an amendment to Section 4.8 of the Charter to provide that the first meeting of each newly elected member of the Board of Commissioners for induction into office shall be held at a meeting on or before the last day of the month in which the election was held.

Unofficial Results:

Yes – 1,668 votes

No – 256 votes

Mayor Hendricks said it was amazing that over 1,900 people voted.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment. There were no public comments.

B. Deployment of Engine 25 and MBFD crew members as part of the Engine Strike Team assisting communities in SW Florida impacted by Hurricane Ian.

Fire Chief Clint Belk reported on the item and recognized the following Firefighters for their deployment during Hurricane Ian and presented them with the Meritorious Service Award:

- Driver – Engineer Dominic Bueller, seven days deployment
- Lieutenant Andy Childers, seven days deployment
- Firefighter John Sleppy, twenty days deployment
- Firefighter Erick Ubiles, seven days deployment

Mayor Hendricks said he and Mayor Kennedy from Indian Rocks Beach would be taking another load to SW Florida on Monday. If anyone wanted to donate items, bring them to City Hall before Friday.

C. Planned Development Training/Updates to BOC

Mayor Hendricks suggested the item be rescheduled to a meeting specifically for the training. It was not something they could properly do at a regular workshop.

The consensus of the Board was to postpone the item and schedule a separate workshop meeting with Community Development Director Linda Portal in the future.

D. Madeira Beach Complaint and Whistleblower Ordinance

Attorney Eschenfelder said there was a specific request for an amendment to the City's Code Code to address when an employment complaint is brought directly against the City Manager. Under the current policy, complaints are brought to the City Manager. There was an instance in the past where a complaint was brought against a former City Manager, and it did not fit the process that was in place at the time. He recommended the following:

- Whistleblower process by ordinance.
- Improvements that could be made in terms of specifying the role and responsibilities of the Civil Service Commission.

He responded to questions and comments from the Board.

Mayor Hendricks said he was Chair of the Civil Service Commission when they had hearings and is familiar with what happened. He reviewed the Ordinance and was very happy with it. They have not had anything in place addressing it.

Commissioner Kerr asked if the Civil Service Commission reviewed it. The City Manager said it would go before them at their next meeting on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Hutson asked if the staff reviewed it and were comfortable with it. The City Manager said it would be provided to all department heads for them to look at, and he supported it.

Commissioner Hutson said if the Civil Service Commission was happy with it, then he was happy with it.

Vice Mayor Andrews agreed with the Mayor. It needed to be in place to protect them all.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comments. There were no public comments.

The consensus of the Board was to move it forward to the Civil Service Commission. It would come back to the Board in January.

E. Proposed Sanitation Fee Increase

Finance Director Andrew Laflin reviewed the item and said costs continue to increase. Staff recommended an increase in sanitation fees that would be commensurate with the increase in waste disposal fees and recycling costs. Further decisions could be made after they see the results from 2023.

Mayor Hendricks said he calculated a 17.5% increase and they had increases last year. He said there was a \$294,000 surplus in the account and did not like the idea of putting residents' money in an account when they did not need it. The City Manager said approximately \$100,000 of that money would be used to purchase the toters if they chose to proceed. If they did not approve the

rate increase, the fund balance would absorb the costs making the balance closer to zero. The Mayor said they could let the fund drawdown with the purchase and raise it next year if they needed to. The City Manager said they could because there would be at least a 6.8% increase for the next three years.

Mr. Laflin said they needed to take action or defer until next year.

Commissioner Tagliarini said the residents he surveyed were concerned about costs, and he would like to postpone the increase for a little while. The City Manager said there was not an increase for seven years and that it would be better to slowly increase the fees over the years than to have one big increase in a year. They are in a much better position this year and could wait until next year.

Vice Mayor Andrews asked what the negative burn rate would be monthly if they did not increase the fees and could they change the fee schedule if they found they were burning it faster than they thought. Mr. Laflin said they could change the fee schedule, and he would do an in-depth analysis to determine the monthly rate. Vice Mayor Andrews said he agreed with Commissioner Tagliarini and the Mayor. The City Manager said they would not hit a deficit in this fiscal year, and the revenues would be slightly above the expenditures. Vice Mayor Andrews said he would like to figure out the bottom line after they figured out what was going on with the new equipment.

Mr. Laflin said they would be in a deficit position by the end of FY 2023, but it would not be significant. When they go through the Fiscal Year 2024 budgeting process, he could give a monthly analysis and re-address it in the budget process if they needed to.

Commissioner Kerr said he thought they needed to recover the five dollar recycling increase and look at the rest of it as they proceeded. Commissioner Hutson and the Mayor agreed.

Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment.

Chuck Dillon, 529 Lillian Drive, said the money was already allocated for recycling. The residents would have time to decide if they wanted to recycle or not since it would not come back until January for a vote.

The consensus of the Board was to increase the recycling fee by five dollars, hold off on the waste disposal fee increase, and bring it back to the January 11, 2023, regular meeting for first reading of the Ordinance.

F. Refuse Truck Modifications and Container Purchase

The City Manager reviewed the item and said the quote for a 48-gallon container was included in the packet.

Public Works Director Megan Wepfer said the purpose of the item was as follows:

- The containers would make the City look unified and prettier.
- It would help control the number of containers at the street.

- It would help control the condition of the containers at the street.
- The lids would help eliminate the amount of rainwater in the garbage and help reduce tipping fees.
- It would help reduce some of the overtime.
- It would help prevent liabilities.

Commissioner Tagliarini asked if they would still pick up yard waste, bulk items, and loose bags sitting beside the container. Director Wepfer said yes, and their service would not change.

Commissioner Tagliarini said most people he surveyed wanted the 64-gallon container. The Mayor said if anyone needed additional containers, they could purchase one. Commissioner Kerr asked if a two-man crew could pick up two of the smaller residential containers in addition to the 64-gallon container. Director Wepfer said they would, but if it were recurring, there would be an extra can fee. Each additional container pick-up would be fourteen dollars. The toter would be used for household garbage only, and the other cans would be for brush.

Commissioner Hutson said the 96-gallon container makes more sense if they were going to charge residents for multiple cans. The Mayor said they would be difficult for people to handle and store. The City Manager said the 96-gallon containers were ideal, but they would make the 64-gallon work. Commissioner Tagliarini said the majority of the residents prefer the 64-gallon container.

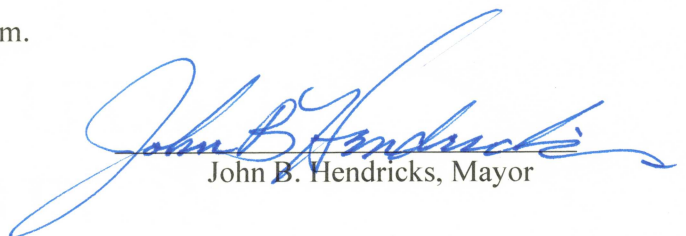
Mayor Hendricks opened to public comment. There were no public comments.

Chuck Dillon, 529 Lillian Drive, said to go with the 64-gallon containers and charge more for the 96-gallon containers as an upgrade.

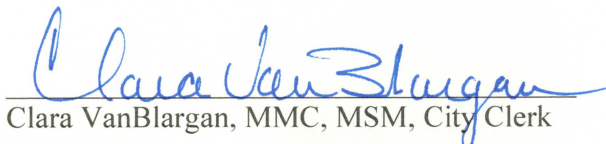
The consensus of the Board was to move forward with the tippers and bring the 64-gallon containers back to the December 14, 2022, regular meeting for a vote.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hendricks adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.


John B. Hendricks, Mayor

ATTEST:


Clara VanBlargan, MMC, MSM, City Clerk

