

# **Pinellas County**

*Pinellas County Cooperative Extension  
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo*



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, February 23, 2021**

**2:00 P.M.**

**Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.**

**Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting**

### **Board of County Commissioners**

*Dave Eggers, Chair*

*Charlie Justice, Vice-Chair*

*Rene Flowers*

*Pat Gerard*

*Janet C. Long*

*Kathleen Peters*

*Karen Williams Seel*

**ROLL CALL - 2:05 P.M.**

**Present:** 7 - Chair Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair Charlie Justice, Rene Flowers, Pat Gerard, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, and Karen Williams Seel

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Katherine Carpenter, Board Records Manager; and Teresa Ribble, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION by Pastor Andy Oliver, Allendale United Methodist Church, St. Petersburg.****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Eggers related that a large group of family members, colleagues, and others gathered today at a funeral service in remembrance of Pinellas County Sheriff's Deputy Michael J. Magli, killed on February 17 in the line of duty. He thanked Officer Magli for his service and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.

**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Partner Presentation:  
- Mike Sutton, President & Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties

Mr. Sutton referred to a PowerPoint presentation and provided the annual update regarding Habitat's accomplishments and upcoming projects, noting that despite the pandemic, the organization had a record year, completing 61 homes of a total 663 built since the beginning of the program in 1985; and that development and transformation of the Greater Ridgecrest Area continues. He thanked the County for the partnership and assistance in obtaining over \$3.3 million in State Housing Initiative Partnership funding over the years; whereupon, he presented the Commissioners with a cardboard check for \$959,888, signifying the property taxes paid by Habitat homeowners in 2020, and brief discussion ensued.

2. Partner Presentation:  
- #PurePinellas by Commissioner Justice

Commissioner Justice introduced the item and the Clearwater Marine Aquarium representatives, CEO Frank Dame and Sea Turtle Conservation Program Supervisor Lindsey Flynn.

Mr. Dame expressed appreciation for the County's partnership and support; whereupon, he referred to a PowerPoint presentation and spoke about the aquarium's history and mission, the impact of Dolphin Tale films, featuring dolphins rehabilitated at the aquarium, on its visitation and its current programs, including whale rescue and monitoring, sea turtle conservation, research, and education.

Ms. Flynn referred to the PowerPoint presentation regarding the sea turtle conservation program and discussed the types of turtles nesting on the county beaches and the nesting process. She indicated that artificial light has a harmful effect on hatchlings and adult turtles, disorienting them from the water; and that the aquarium staff, in partnership with a non-profit Florida organization, is working with beachfront property owners to retrofit properties with sea turtle friendly light that does not attract turtles; whereupon, she demonstrated the difference between the artificial white light and the sea turtle friendly LED light, noting that the latter provides additional benefits of energy cost saving, improved visibility, and compliance with sea turtle lighting ordinances.

Commissioner Justice indicated that he joined the Mayors of St. Pete Beach and Madeira Beach this morning in receiving the Tripadvisor's Travelers' Choice Awards for the best beaches in the U.S., with St. Pete Beach ranking at the top and Madeira Beach, Treasure Island Beach, and Clearwater Beach in the top 20; whereupon, Chair Eggers commented on the importance of beach renourishment for tourism and other purposes.

## LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

### 3. Local State of Emergency.

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Director Dr. Ulyee Choe discussed current COVID-19 trends and statistics, indicating that overall, the case count and positivity rate numbers have been declining over the last two months; whereupon, he provided an update regarding the vaccination efforts, including supply, distribution, registration, vaccine administration sites, and numbers of vaccinated residents.

During discussion and responding to queries by the members, Dr. Choe, Mr. Burton, and Assistant County Administrator Lourdes Benedict provided further information on the following and related topics pertaining to vaccination:

- Registration for elderly residents without a mobile phone or an email
- Equity for minorities
- The need to register
- Johnson and Johnson vaccine
- Vaccine supply
- Distribution priorities and phases
- Public messaging
- Comparison to other counties
- Vaccine administration sites

Responding to Chair Eggers' call for public comment, the following individuals expressed their concerns:

David Happe, Tarpon Springs  
Dawn Bohler, St. Petersburg  
Greg Pound, Largo  
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor  
Mary Doyle, Safety Harbor  
Karen McKenney, Safety Harbor (representing Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center)  
Charrie Moscardini, Safety Harbor

During discussion and in response to concerns expressed by the citizens, Commissioner Long spoke on COVID-19 vaccination at Publix Super Markets. Chair Eggers and Mr. Burton noted the challenges relating to the vaccine supply issues and managing the distribution process, and Chair Eggers emphasized the need to continue community outreach efforts and seek alternative solutions.

Responding to queries and comments by the members, Mr. Burton indicated that a report by a group of local health professionals identifying a criteria for lifting the mask mandate was emailed to the Commissioners and posted on the County website. Dr. Choe clarified that while the overall trend for COVID-19 case count and percent positivity appear to decline, there was a minor increase over the last seven days, and Mr. Burton remarked that while the numbers are going down, the virus remains a concern for the community; and that a conversation regarding the mask mandate is welcome.

**A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the order extending the Local State of Emergency be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Resolution No. 21-13 adopted extending the Local State of Emergency established in Resolution No. 20-16 until 3:00 P.M. on March 5, 2021.

#### CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

#### 4. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Andy Oliver, St. Petersburg  
Greg Pound, Largo  
Mack Johnson, Largo  
Nancy Obarski, Indian Rocks Beach  
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor  
Amelia Bryant, Clearwater  
Kitty Rawson, St. Petersburg

Responding to concerns voiced by Ms. Rawson regarding the Commission not delivering on its promises of providing affordable housing detailed in a 2019 resolution, Mr. Burton reported on the current and upcoming projects and the expended funds, contending that the County is not in violation of the resolution; that many of the projects require other funding

sources outside of the County's control; and that every possible dollar is leveraged to get the maximum number of affordable housing units; whereupon, the members discussed the efforts undertaken by the County to provide housing and the challenges, such as generating developers' interest in the projects, varied needs of the community, and increasing costs of land, construction, and supplies.

**CONSENT AGENDA - Items 5 through 19 (Item 15 addressed under Regular Agenda)**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER**

5. Minutes of the in-person and virtual meeting held December 15, 2020.
6. Vouchers and bills paid from January 17 through January 23, 2021.

Period: January 17 through January 23, 2021

Accounts Payable - \$8,500,275.38

Payroll - \$4,084,908.84

Reports received for filing:

7. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2020-24 dated December 2, 2020 - Follow-Up Investigation of Misuse of County Purchasing Card.
8. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2021-02 dated February 3, 2021 - Follow-Up Investigation of Misuse of County Equipment.
9. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, 2021 Inspector General's Annual Audit Plan.
10. Juvenile Welfare Board Quarterly Financial Statements for the periods ended September 30 and December 31, 2020.
11. Quarterly Donation Listing of \$500 or More for the quarter ended December 31, 2020.
12. Dock Fee Report for the month of January 2021.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

13. Eastlake Oaks Community Development District minutes of the meeting held October 8, 2020.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

### Administrative Services

14. Award of bid to Dynamic Security, Inc. for security guard services; a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative contract.

Bid No. 21-0077-B for an average annual amount of \$948,433.66 for a 60-month term; total amount of \$4,742,168.30 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest. Bids of Alert Patrol, Inc., Blue Shield Security Protection, Centurion Security Group, LLC, Centurion Security Services, LLC, Empire Security Services, Inc., Safeguard Protection Services, LLC, and Swift Security, Inc. rejected for being non-responsive and/or not meeting minimum bid requirements.

### Development Review Services

16. Plat of North Point of Palm Harbor, a private residential subdivision.

Plat accepted and approved for recording.

17. Plat of Silver Ridge, a private residential subdivision.

Plat accepted and approved for recording.

### Public Works

18. Award of bid to Keystone Excavators, Inc. for the Jail Perimeter Road ditch modification project.

Contract No. 21-0039-CP (PID No. 003509A in the amount of \$1,485,019.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work to be completed within 270 consecutive calendar days. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

19. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Brian Oliver v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 20-004093-CI-15 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

County Administrator

15. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending January 31, 2021.

In response to a query by Commissioner Seel, Safety and Emergency Services Director Jim Fogarty clarified that the agreement with the American Heart Association is administrative in nature and provides for the cost of materials for ongoing training and recertifications of paramedics and emergency medical technicians; and that the agreement is not related to a physical location.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Seel, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**Absent:** 1 - Vice-Chair Justice

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

20. Ranking of firms and agreement with Starmark International, Inc. for requirements of promotional and marketing services for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 190-0613-P approved in the estimated annual amount of \$545,000.00, for a total contract value not to exceed \$2,725,000.00. The contract is for 60 months.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**Absent:** 1 - Vice-Chair Justice

21. Resolution authorizing continuation of a \$4.50 Passenger Facility Charge at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Resolution 21-14 adopted authorizing the Airport to submit Passenger Facility Charge Application No. 5 to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to allow continued collection of Passenger Facility Charge Fees to fund FAA projects. Total revenue to be collected in the new application is \$6.66 million.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Convention and Visitors Bureau

22. Production Agreement with Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, Inc. for the production of "Life's Rewards," an eight segment video series.

Agreement approved in the amount of \$275,000.00, with an equal amount funded by Visit Florida. Estimated advertising value for destination exposure is \$1,042,777.00.

Responding to comments and queries by the members, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater (VSPC) President and CEO Steve Hayes related that the video series will be viewable through various digital media outlets utilized by VSPC, such as YouTube; that Visit Florida has secured Amazon Prime as a platform for the series and is working to obtain additional outlets; and that the current budget of the Florida Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development is intact until June 30.

Commissioner Justice noted that following a conversation with Mr. Hayes and VSPC's Digital Communications Vice President Leroy Bridges, he has an increased comfort level with regard to the project and its potential for success.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Justice, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Human Services

23. Program recommendation for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant submission.

Public Safety Coordinating Council's recommendation for a Complex Case Reintegration Program approved for submission to the CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant. The grant funds up to \$1,200,000.00 over a three-year period. An in-kind match equal to the award match is required. There is no cash match.

In response to a query by Commissioner Seel, Interim Director of Human Services Karen Yatchum indicated that the grant submittal deadline dictated a quick turnaround; that no not-for-profit applications were received; and that due to a lack of applications, the Public Safety Coordinating Council proposed that Human Services lead the grant process.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel



Public Works

- 24.** Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for State Highway lighting, maintenance, and compensation.

(FDOT Contract No. ASJ68 and Financial Project No. 405604-1-78-45) Replacement agreement approved providing annual reimbursements to the County. Reimbursement for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 is an estimated amount of \$1,102,636.98. Agreement term is through June 30, 2028.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

## AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

- 25.** Appointment/reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the appointment and reappointments of the following individuals for two-year terms ending January 2023:

Appointment

Ms. Jo Dee Nicosia as National Alliance on Mental Illness representative

Reappointments

- Ms. Karen Mullins as citizen representative for Commission District 1
- Mr. Jorge Mercado as citizen representative for Commission District 7
- Ms. Denise Whitfield as National Alliance on Mental Illness alternate representative
- Commissioner Julie Peluso as Independent Fire Districts Elected Official representative
- Commissioner Kevin Kenney as Independent Fire Districts Elected Official alternate representative

**A motion was made by Commissioner Seel, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**26.** Reappointment to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the reappointments of the following individuals for two-year terms ending January 2023:

- Dr. Stephen Feilinger as Emergency Physician representative
- Dr. Matthew Nelson as Emergency Physician alternate representative

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

**27.** Proposed settlement in the case of Carlos Quesada and Sabrina Kremin v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 17-002734-CI.

Settlement approved in accordance with the confidential memorandum dated February 23, 2021.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**28.** Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. TTGC, LLC - action for injunctive relief.

Attorney White indicated that the item is a code enforcement case.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**29.** County Attorney Reports:  
- Redistricting Update

Attorney White discussed the redistricting process and potential issues with seating the Redistricting Board (Board) related to the delay of U.S. Census Bureau data, noting specific aspects of the BCC Charter with regard to Board timelines. She related that state law requires redistricting to be completed during odd-numbered years.

Discussion ensued regarding options for selecting the Board members given the current inability to finalize timelines; whereupon, Chair Eggers stated that confirmation of availability will be obtained from those whom have expressed an interest to serve; and that an update will be reported at a future BCC meeting.

Attorney White indicated that she will hire outside counsel to serve the Board so that she remains available to advise the BCC regarding redistricting matters.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

**30.** County Administrator Reports.

Mr. Burton reported that the Dunedin City Commission will be presented the acquisition of the Gladys Douglas Hackworth property at their meeting this evening, and that the County's agreement will be presented for ratification to the BCC at the March 9 meeting.

In response to queries by Chair Eggers and Commissioner Seel, Mr. Burton, with input by Deputy County Administrator Jill Silverboard, indicated that naming rights associated with the property have been resolved; that a copy of the agreement will be provided to the members; and that the County's agreement is with the City of Dunedin and details the County's participation regarding funding and management of projects on the property.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

**31.** County Commission New Business: Pertinent and Timely Committee/Board Updates, Policy Considerations, Administrative/Procedural Considerations, and Other New Business.

The members commented on various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Long

- Florida Association of Counties and proposed legislation
- Tampa Bay Regional Transit Authority

Commissioner Seel

- Condolences to Tim and Denise Closterman on the passing of their son
- Selection of Jeffery Lorick as Interim Director of the Office of Human Rights
- Forward Pinellas Complete Streets Awards
- 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares

Commissioner Gerard

- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- Request for an update regarding Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding related to housing

Mr. Burton indicated that the members have received an update from staff regarding CARES Act funding for housing; that several proposals have been received and are now being evaluated; and that staff is looking to start the process in March.

Commissioner Justice

- Tampa Bay Estuary Program

**Meeting recessed: 5:05 P.M.**

**Meeting reconvened: 6:04 P.M.**

**32. Pinellas County Youth Advisory Committee Update.**

Chair Eggers expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Peters and Executive Aide Ashley Overend for their work with the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and introduced YAC Chair and Vice-Chair, Madelyn Marcos and Dillon Vann, respectively. Ms. Marcos and Mr. Vann referred to a PowerPoint presentation titled *Presentation to the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners* and discussed the following topics:

- Operations and COVID-19
- Educational meetings with local officials and businesses, including the Supervisor of Elections Office, Sheriff's Office, and the Florida Dream Center
- Short-term community service projects, highlighting 4-H Farm Days Seeding the Future events and Wreaths Across America at the Bay Pines National Cemetery
- Youth mental health awareness long-term project focusing on education, awareness, and policy assessment
- Expansion of social media presence

Responding to a query by Commissioner Long, Mr. Vann and Ms. Marcos discussed their plans for college and their efforts regarding mental health advocacy within their high schools, noting that they have focused on reducing the stigma surrounding youth mental health and have sought peer feedback.

Commissioner Peters thanked the members for the presentation, commenting on the passion that they have shown for the mental health platform, noting that she believes their generation will be the one to remove the stigma surrounding mental health and no longer tolerate the lack of mental health services available to those in need, thereby moving mental health into the healthcare system mainstream. Discussion ensued; whereupon, she expressed her appreciation to Alyssa Bowers with 4-H and to Ms. Overend.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**All public hearings have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publication have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.**

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**33. Case No. ZON-21-01 (Katie Hodges)**

A request for a zoning change from R-A, Residential Agricultural to R-R, Rural Residential on approximately 1.59 acres located at 4720 Roberts Road in Palm Harbor.

Resolution No. 21-15 adopted approving the zoning change. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Principal Planner Michael Schoderbock referred to a PowerPoint presentation containing maps and photographs of the area, pointed out the location of the subject property, and described the surrounding land uses, indicating that the property is non-conforming as Residential Agricultural requires a minimum of two acres; whereupon, he noted that the applicant intends to construct two houses on the property.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**34. Case No. Q Z/LU-20-12 (Dushyant Gulati)**

A request for a zoning change from R-R, Rural Residential to R-3, Single Family Residential and a land use change from Residential Suburban to Residential Low on approximately 2.18 acres located at 1736 Winchester Road in unincorporated Largo.

Hearing continued until April 27, 2021. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. Sixty-two letters, 19 emails, and 13 voicemail messages in opposition have been received, along with two emails expressing concern and one email in support of a continuance.

Zoning Manager Glenn Bailey stated that the applicant has requested a continuance to April 27; and that the applicant is present.

Attorney White indicated that due to the case being quasi-judicial, the Board must allow public comment on any action taken; that if a continuance is approved, she recommends allowing comment solely regarding the continuance since changes could occur with the case; and that any motion made should include the continuance date of April 27 to negate the need to re-advertise.

Commissioner Justice moved, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the case be continued until April 27, 2021.

Chair Eggers reiterated that public comment would be limited to the continuance; whereupon, he called upon the applicant. Dushyant Gulati appeared and provided information regarding the request, indicating that it would allow him to continue working with concerned neighbors.

Upon call by the Chair for public comment, the following individuals appeared and expressed their concerns:

Clyde Poloska, Largo  
Leo Torres, Clearwater  
Karrie Meeks, Clearwater  
Jessica Junek, Clearwater  
Dan Leibe, Clearwater  
Salle Bell, Clearwater  
Jason Meeks, Clearwater  
Keith Farrington, Clearwater  
Jim Madden, Clearwater  
Jamie O'Neill-DiSanza, Clearwater

In response to comments by Mr. Torres, Attorney White stated that all materials submitted for the case will be included at the April 27 hearing.

**A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be continued until April 27, 2021. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

**35. Case No. LDR-21-01**

An Ordinance of Pinellas County, Florida, providing for the amendment of Chapters 138 - Zoning and 154 - Site Development, Right-of-Way Improvements, Subdivisions, and Platting of the Pinellas County Land Development Code and providing for the adoption of the Transportation Design Manual.

First public hearing. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard. Second public hearing to be held April 27, 2021.

Zoning Manager Glenn Bailey referred to a PowerPoint presentation and provided a brief overview of the proposed amendments, noting that they allow for additional clarifications, flexibilities, and streamlined and consolidated regulations; whereupon, Public Works Engineering Section Manager Tom Washburn related that the proposed Transportation Design Manual contains transportation and traffic facility dimensional requirements from the Land Development Code; and that it contains standards for use by County engineers and the development community, and discussion ensued.

Responding to the Chair's call for public comment, Joe Farrell, Clearwater, expressed his concerns.

**36.** Resolution addressing lien forgiveness. (Companion to Item Nos. 37, 38, & 39)

Resolution No. 21-16 adopted authorizing the Code Enforcement Division to partially forgive existing liens. Two emails from one individual expressing his opinions have been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Building and Development Review Services Director Blake Lyon indicated that Item Numbers 36 through 39 are companion items; whereupon, Attorney White recommended that the Clerk introduce each item concurrently so that staff can conduct a presentation to encompass all items, to which the Clerk complied; and that the Board take a separate vote for each item.

Mr. Lyon indicated that following consultation with the County Attorney's Office, the proposed ordinance under Item No. 39 is not needed; and that the desired outcomes related to this item can be achieved through the County Attorney.

Mr. Lyon provided an overview of the requests and provided information regarding the current lien and accrual process, noting that lien accruals can exceed the value of a property. He related that the proposed ordinances and resolution incorporate consistent methodology with the intent of increased likelihood of property reinvestment, improvement, and redevelopment by reducing the monetary barrier through partial lien forgiveness, lien capping, and demolition and condemnation of blighted properties; and that the demolition and condemnation ordinance will allow for quicker resolution of properties which pose life safety and blight conditions.

Responding to a query by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Lyon indicated that lien settlement amounts will equate to direct costs expended by the County, as opposed to property value; and that it is estimated the County will receive between \$10 million and \$30 million in lien settlements.

Commissioner Flowers commented that she is supportive of the proposals; and that for future consideration a noise abatement process may result in a quicker and more cost-efficient result in some cases.

Mr. Lyon further indicated that an additional aspect of the lien settlement program is the development of a hardship committee; that the committee will review cases involving unforeseen circumstances such as predatory lending or loss of employment; and that the committee can recommend a further reduced lien settlement.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

- 37. Ordinance amendment addressing capping of Code Enforcement liens. (Companion to Item Nos. 36, 38, & 39)

Ordinance No. 21-05 adopted approving the amendment. Two emails from one individual expressing his opinions have been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Item addressed under Item No. 36.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

- 38. Ordinance amendment addressing Code Enforcement demolitions and condemnations. (Companion to Item Nos. 36, 37, & 39)

Ordinance No. 21-06 adopted approving the amendment. Two emails from one individual expressing his opinions have been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Item addressed under Item No. 36.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

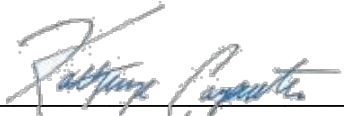
- 39. Ordinance amendment addressing the delegation of authority for litigation. (Companion to Item Nos. 36, 37, & 38)

Item addressed under Item No. 36. No action taken. Two emails from one individual expressing his opinions have been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Attorney White invited Assistant County Attorney Diriki Geuka to the podium, noting that he has been assisting Code Enforcement over the past two years. She stated that this is his last week with the Attorney's Office and commended him for his work with the County; whereupon, Attorney Geuka provided input.

**ADJOURNMENT - 7:21 P.M.**

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By   
Deputy Clerk



  
Chair