



City of Gulfport, Mississippi

Minutes City Council

2309 15th Street
Gulfport, MS 39501

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

1:30 PM

*Gulfport City Hall
Council Chambers*

1:30 P.M. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order

The Mayor and Members of Council met at City Hall at 1:30 P.M., on the above date, same being an adjourned meeting from a Regular Meeting on March 3, 2020 at 1:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Dr. John Kelly, General Counsel Hugh Keating, Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers, **Councilmembers:** Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines (in at 1:32 P.M.), Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, and Cara Pucheu.

The President announced a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Agenda Order

Motion to Accept the Agenda, with the following adjustments; add item 20 - A - Resolution - reconfirming and extending the status of a State of Emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 and potential associated impacts which threaten to affect areas within the City, and for related purposes. and add item 32 - A - Ratification - of proclaimed State of Emergency declared by the Mayor due to the threatened or existing Public Health Emergency (COVID-19) as proclaimed on March 15, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes., and delete Public Agenda, Moved By Myles Sharp, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Absent: Ella Holmes-Hines

Executive Session

Upon the advice of General Counsel, Motion to Enter Closed Session to make a preliminary determination of the necessity for Executive Session at 1:31 P.M., Moved By Ron Roland, Seconded by Rusty Walker

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Absent: Ella Holmes-Hines

The Council entered Closed Session at 1:31P.M. In attendance: Councilmembers: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, and Cara Pucheu, Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Dr. John Kelly, General Counsel Hugh Keating, Chief of Police Leonard Papania, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, and Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers.

Motion to Exit Closed Session at 1:33 P.M., Moved By Ron Roland, Seconded by Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

No official action was taken during Closed Session.

Upon hearing from General Counsel regarding the nature of the request for Executive Session, Motion to Enter Executive Session at 1:34P.M. for strategy discussion related to discussion of personnel matters related to job performance, Moved By R.Lee Flowers, Seconded by Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

The Council entered Executive Session at 1:34P.M. In attendance: Councilmembers: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, and Cara Pucheu, Mayor Billy Hewes, CAO Dr. John Kelly, General Counsel Hugh Keating, Chief of Police Leonard Papania, City Attorney Jeff Bruni, and Clerk of Council Brittany Rodgers.

Motion to Exit Executive Session at 1:48P.M., Moved By Ron Roland, Seconded by R.Lee Flowers

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

No official action was taken during Executive Session.

Presentation Agenda

- **Mayor's Report**
- **Memorial Update on COVID-19**

Policy Issues

Appointment

- 1 Ratification - of reappointment to the Gulfport School District Board of Trustees.

**Motion to Ratify reappointment to the Gulfport School District Board of Trustees,
Moved By** Cara Pucheu, **Seconded by** Kenneth Casey

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Randy Richardson Reappointment](#)

Code Enforcement / Planning

- 2 Code Enforcement Hearing - on resolution to declare that certain properties are in such a state of uncleanness as to be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare of the community and to authorize advertisements for bids and lot clean-ups and/or demolitions.

Motion to Approve Resolution, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Notification Letters - Code Enforcement Hearing
Resolution - authorizing advertisement for bids - Signed](#)

Resolutions

- 3 Resolution - approving and authorizing execution of an Interlocal Governmental Cooperation Agreement between Harrison County and the City of Gulfport to enable the two governing authorities to work together and share resources to provide Street and Drainage Improvements, Law Enforcement, Fire Protection, and Parks and Recreation Improvement Services and improve and maintain Infrastructure and Park and Recreational opportunities in Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Interlocal Agreement with HC - Signed](#)

- 4 Resolution - declaring the intent of the City to issue General Obligation Bonds to raise money in support of the City's Water and Sanitary Sewer System, and for related purposes.

The following item was taken after item 10.

*** Councilmember Flowers recused and removed himself from the Chambers during the discussion and vote on this item.**

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By The Following Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, Cara Pucheu

Absent: R.Lee Flowers (recused)

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - intent General Obligation Bonds - Signed](#)

- 5 Resolution - adopting findings concerning the Blue Economy Innovation District (BEID) as a redevelopment plan for downtown Gulfport, and for related purposes

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - SeaAhead Findings - Signed](#)

- 6 Resolution - approving Contract with Artisan Pyrotechnics, Inc., regarding July Fourth Fireworks Display, authorizing the Mayor to execute the same, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Artisan Pyrotechnics - July Forth Fireworks - Signed](#)

- 7 Resolution - approving Lease Agreement with the Boys & Girls Club of the Gulf Coast, authorizing the Mayor to execute said Agreement, and for related purposes.

This item was taken first.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Kenneth Casey, **Seconded by** Myles Sharp

The following Citizen(s) addressed the Council:

- Sandra Wyche
- Victoria Sharpe
- Gayle Tart
- Jerri Pryor

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Lease Agreement with BGCGC - Signed](#)

- 8 Resolution - approving Letter Agreement with Coast Electric Power Association, authorizing the Mayor and Director of Leisure Services to execute said Agreement, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Letter Agreement Coast Electric Power Association - Signed](#)

- 9 Resolution - approving LexisNexis Risk Solutions Government Application & Agreement, authorizing execution and submission of the same, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[LexisNexis Application & Agreement - Signed](#)

- 10** Resolution - approving Memorandum of Non-Exclusive License Agreement and Other Agreements with Uniti Fiber, authorizing the Mayor to execute said Agreements, and for related purposes.

This item was taken after the Memorial Update on COVID-19

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Non Exclusive License Agreement - Southern Light, LLC - Signed](#)

- 11** Resolution - approving Addendum to the Wireless Communications Management Agreement between the City of Gulfport and Utility Service Communications Co., Inc., recognizing the removal of the Water Tank at 49 51st Street and the replacement of that Tank with a new Tank at 57 51st Street, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Addendum with Utility Service Communications Co., Inc - Signed](#)

- 12** Resolution - approving Third Amendment to License Agreement between Utility Service Communications Co., Inc. (Licensor) and Cellular South Real Estate, Inc. (Licensee), allowing for relocation of equipment from one tank to another (49 51st Street to 57 51st Street) and addition of certain and various pieces of equipment on Gulfport's Water Tank located on 51st Street, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Third Amendment 51st Street Cellular South - Signed](#)

- 13** Resolution - approving Fifth Amendment to License Agreement between Utility Service Communications Co., Inc. (Licensor) and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Licensee) allowing for relocation of equipment from one tank to another (49 51st Street to 57 51st Street) and addition of certain and various pieces of equipment on Gulfport's water tank located on 51st Street, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Fifth Amendment 51st Street Verizon - Signed](#)

- 14** Resolution - approving Field Rental Discounts for large Tournaments at the Gulfport Sportsplex and Goldin Park, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Field Rental Discount for Large Tournaments - Signed](#)

- 15** Resolution - accepting Grant Funding and Approving Grant Agreements for Fiscal Year 2019 for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, authorizing the Mayor to execute said Agreements, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - GDBG and HOME Grant Agreements for FY19 - Signed](#)

- 16** Resolution - authorizing an expenditure in support of the City of Gulfport's share of the FY 2020 MDA Military Consulting Contract to help protect our military facilities, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - FY2020 MDA Military Consulting Contract Share Expenditure - Signed](#)

- 17** Resolution - authorizing an expenditure of monies to the Mississippi Coast Transit Authority for advertising and bringing into favorable notice the opportunities, possibilities and resources of the City of Gulfport, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By The Following Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Nay: Ella Holmes-Hines

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - CTA Expenditure - Signed](#)

- 18** Resolution - authorizing the City of Gulfport to purchase Infrastructure required for Meter Reading via Harmony Cloud from Master Meter, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Harmony Cloud from Master Meter Infrastructure - Signed](#)

- 19** Resolution - approving Project Request for eCrash/Mississippi Interactive Services, authorizing the Mayor to execute the same, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Ecrash and Mississippi Interactive Purchase Request - Signed](#)

- 20** Resolution - approving public display of fireworks as a part of the City's Independence Day Celebration, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - City's Independence Day Celebration Fireworks Display - Signed](#)

- 20 – A** Resolution - reconfirming and extending the status of a State of Emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 and potentials associated impacts which threaten to affect areas within the City, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Reconfirming and Extending SOE - COVID-19 - Signed](#)

Budget Amendments / Docket of Claims

- 21** Budget Amendment #47 - internal transfer to fund Traffic Department Toughbook Laptop purchase.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #47, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[BAPW - TRANSFER FUNDS FOR TOUGHBOOK PURCHASE - 2-28-2020](#)

[Budget Amendments - FYE 2020 - 47](#)

- 22 Budget Amendment #48 - to increase Guns/Ammo 213 with funds received from PropertyRoom.com.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #48, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[February 24th \(213 Guns\)](#)

[Budget Amendments - FYE 2020 - 48](#)

- 23 Budget Amendment #49 - to increase line item 286 (Capital) from restitution.

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #49, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[March 6th \(restitution\)](#)

[Budget Amendments - FYE 2020 - 49](#)

- 24 Budget Amendment #50 - to transfer funds from Contractual to Personnel (VAWA Grant).

Motion to Approve Budget Amendment #50, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Budget amendment for VAWA Grant - 3.9.20 final](#)

[Budget Amendments - FYE 2020 - 50](#)

- 25 Docket of Claims - to be approved through March 18, 2020.

Motion to Approve Docket of Claims, in the amount of \$2,122,080.38, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Docket of Claims - Signed](#)
[Docket](#)
[Docket by Vendor](#)
[Docket by Org-Obj-Proj](#)

Routine Agenda

Motion to Approve Routine Agenda, as presented, Moved By Myles Sharp, **Seconded by** Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

- 26 Resolution - awarding bids for lot clean-ups and/or demolitions.

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - Awarding-Rejecting Bids - Signed](#)

- 27 Associated Adjusters Check Registers - for workers' comp and general liability claims paid during February, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Memorandum - Associated Adjusters](#)
[Associated Adjusters Check Registers - February, 2020](#)

- 28 Privilege License Report - for the month of February, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Privilege License Report - February 2020](#)

- 29 Public Records Requests - for the month of February, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Public Records Requests - February 2020](#)

- 30 Year-To-Date Budget Report - for the month of February, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Year-To-Date Budget Report - February 2020](#)

- 31** Acceptance - of North Swan Place Water and Sewer Only.

Attachment(s):

[Recommendation to Accept - North Swan Place Water and Sewer Only](#)

- 32** Approval - of Blue Economy Report from the SeaAhead Consulting Team - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Blue Economy Final Report](#)

- 33** Request - to change a Marina Assistant position from Part-Time Plus to Full-Time - Leisure Services Department.

Attachment(s):

[Request to change Marina Assistant PT to FT 2](#)
[Marina Assistant Job Description Updated 2 7 19 \(002\)](#)

- 33 – A** Ratification - of proclaimed State of Emergency declared by the Mayor due to the threatened or existing Public Health Emergency (COVID-19) as proclaimed on March 15, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.

Attachment(s):

[Proclamation of State of Emergency - COVID-19 March 15, 2020](#)

Council Comments

Memorial Adjournment

[Ms. Brenda Joyce McGrew](#)

[Dr. Bernard F. Podlin, DDS](#)

[Mr. Ronnie Blacklidge, Jr.](#)

[Mrs. Rubye Watts Bradshaw](#)

Setting of Next Meeting and Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Motion to Adjourn in memory of Mrs. Rubye Watts Bradshaw, Dr. Bernard F. Podlin, DDS, Ms. Brenda Joyce McGrew and Mr. Ronnie Blackledge, Jr., until April 7, 2020 at 1:30 P.M. for a Regular Council Meeting, Moved By Myles Sharp, Seconded by Cara Pucheu

Vote: Motion Carried By Unanimous Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Ella Holmes-Hines, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

City Clerk

Mayor

Agenda Adjustments

- 20 – A** Resolution - reconfirming and extending the status of a State of Emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 and potentials associated impacts which threaten to affect areas within the City, and for related purposes.
- 33 – A** Ratification - of proclaimed State of Emergency declared by the Mayor due to the threatened or existing Public Health Emergency (COVID-19) as proclaimed on March 15, 2020 - to be made a part of the minutes.
- New** Resolution - memorializing the Legislature of the State of Mississippi to adopt Local and Private Legislation to authorize the Governing Authorities of the City of Gulfport, Mississippi, to levy an additional 1% Sales Tax upon the gross proceeds sales or gross income of business of for the purpose of generating revenue to enhance tourism, economic development, infrastructure, parks and recreation, and for related purposes.

Motion to Approve, Moved By Myles Sharp, Seconded by Ron Roland

Vote: Motion Carried By The Following Roll Call Vote

Aye: Kenneth Casey, Ron Roland, Rusty Walker, Myles Sharp, R.Lee Flowers, Cara Pucheu

Nay: Ella Holmes-Hines

Attachment(s):

[Resolution - 1% LP - Signed](#)