



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Council Meeting - 6:30 PM
CENTER POINT CITY HALL

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

B. Invocation

Mayor Bobby Scott led the invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

D. Roll Call

Councilwoman Copeland, Councilwoman Jones, Councilwoman Moore, Councilman Williams, President Collins

E. Public Hearing

President Collins opened the public hearing for the demolition of Woodside Condos. She read the list of units considered for demolition. No one was present to speak for or against the demolishing of the properties. President Collins closed the hearing.

E.1. Demolish Woodside Condominiums

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-A

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-B

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-C

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-D

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-E

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-F

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-G

22 Shadowood Circle Unit 22-H

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-A

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-B

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-C

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-D

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-E

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-F

All items designated as "Consent" are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. NO separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a Councilmember, the Mayor, or citizen interested in further discussion or hearing so requests, if so, such item (s) will revert to its normal place on the Agenda Order of Business.

26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-G
26 Shadowood Circle Unit 26-H

F. Public Comment

G. Approval of Agenda

President Collins presented the agenda for consideration. Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilwoman Jones seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the agenda was adopted unanimously.

H. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt the previous meeting minutes. Councilwoman Jones seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted unanimously.

- H.1.** August 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

I. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. President Collins- All items designated as "Consent" are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will be permitted unless a councilmember, the mayor, or a citizen is interested in further discussion or hearing so requests, if so, such item(s) will revert to its normal place on the Agenda Order of Business. President Collins called for a roll call vote:

Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore, Williams, Collins

No: None

The motion was adopted unanimously.

- I.1.** Resolutions No. 2023-76- Resolution No. 2023-91 Ordering the Demolition of 22 Shadowood Circle Units 22 & 26 A-H

J. Presentation

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K. Discussion/Action

K.1. Sheriff Agreement

Councilman Williams made a motion to consider the Jefferson County Sheriff's Enhanced Agreement. Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. President Collins then opened the floor for discussion. Councilman Williams asked, "How many officers are included in the contract?" Councilwoman Moore responded, "Four officers are included in the contract for a monthly cost of \$35,749.98." Councilman Williams further inquired about the city's plans to hire additional public safety officers, given the reduction in the number of sheriff's deputies. The mayor explained that the city intends to expand the Public Safety Department by adding more officers and vehicles at a later date, but this plan must be carefully managed within the budget constraints. President Collins concluded by calling for a roll call vote.

Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore, Williams, Collins

No: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to accept the Sheriff's Agreement. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

President Collins emphasized that it is important for the public to understand the key alterations in the contract, which include a reduction in the number of deputies from six to four and a decrease in the contract amount from \$51,000 to \$35,749.98.

K.2. Resolution No. 2023-92 Adopting the General Fund & Public Safety Budget

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-92, Adopting the General Fund & Public Safety Budget. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. President Collins opened the floor for discussion. President Collins- I want to express my gratitude to Mayor Scott for taking the time to address some of the concerns that I communicated regarding the FY 2023-2023 budget and the steps taken to improve various aspects of the budget. It is through constructive, sometimes hard, but professional conversations that we can collectively work towards creating a budget that truly reflects the best interests of our city as a whole and its citizens. I must respectfully state that while progress has been made, I still hold reservations about certain aspects of the budget. There are areas where I believe there is unnecessary spending that could be reallocated to benefit our citizens better. For

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example, it is my opinion that while it is essential to fairly and fully compensate employees for their hard work, it is equally important to recognize that this is employment. We should not pay fuel costs for every department head to go to and from work. Some departments may have more employees than needed for effective operation. There are certain building costs and usage that could be eliminated to create funds for other community investment opportunities.

Furthermore, in my opinion, we established a full debris management program after a thorough assessment revealed that we lacked the necessary funds to establish an entirely new department. The fee for this service does not fully offset the actual cost of the service. However, when we turn that same attention to the development of the Public Safety Department, the reluctance is primarily rooted in the concern that the traffic camera ticket revenue does not fully fund the department. We must consider if the growth of our Public Safety Department is what we want and must explore alternative means of supporting the growth through our general funds, recognizing that the current revenue model may no longer work. Again, it is simply my opinion and calls for better allocation of funds. Please know and hear me when I say this is not a critique of the hard work put into creating the budget but rather a call for better optimization of our financial resources.

President Collins called for a roll call vote:

Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore, Williams, Collins

No: None

The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Moore made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-92 General Fund & Public Safety Budget. President Collins called for a roll call vote:

Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore, Williams, Collins

No: None

The motion passed unanimously.

K.3. Ordinance No. 2023-4 Amend the Zoning Ordinance to rezone property at 100 20th Ave NW from Commercial to Institutional 2

Councilman Williams made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-4.
Councilwoman Moore seconded the motion. President Collins called for a roll call vote:

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Yes: Copeland, Jones, Moore, Williams, Collins

No: None

The motion passed unanimously.

L. Reports- Mayor & Committee Chairs

Mayor- the dog park is closed temporarily for fence repairs. Polly Reed Road is still closed; please adhere to the detour instructions.

L.1. Economic Development/Public Safety- President D.M. Collins

National Night Out is scheduled for October 3, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. The Sheriff Dept, Fire Dept., Public Safety Dept., and Refresh Church will be there. We will have free hot dogs, games and entertainment.

The Economic Development Committee will meet this Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

L.2. Park & Recreation- Councilman Glenn Williams, Sr.

No report

L.3. Public Works- Councilwoman Tiffany Moore

No report

L.4. Education & Library- Councilwoman Sharon Jones

No report

L.5. Finance Report-Councilwoman Ebonee Copeland, Chair

No report

M. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned.

Tameeka Vann, City Clerk

Approved:

D.M. Collins, President

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Date: _____

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