

CITY OF PALM COAST
COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
HYBRID MEETING
160 LAKE AVENUE
PALM COAST, FL 32164
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

Acting Mayor Eddie Branquinho
Council Member Victor Barbosa
Council Member Ed Danko
Council Member Nick Klufas

MINUTES

City Staff

Matthew Morton, City Manager
William Reischmann, City Attorney
Virginia A. Smith, City Clerk

Public Participation shall be in accordance with Section 286.0114 Florida Statutes.

Other matters of concern may be discussed as determined by City Council.

If you wish to obtain more information regarding the City Council's agenda, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 386-986-3713.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk at 386-986-3713, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

All pagers and cell phones are to remain OFF while City Council is in session.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Branquinho called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Virginia Smith called the roll. All members were present.

Mr. Morton provided an explanation of upcoming scheduled absences and need for the special meeting.

Acting Mayor Branquinho passed the gavel to Council Member Klufas and made a motion to appoint Council Member Klufas as acting Vice Mayor.

Council Member Klufas passed the gavel to Council Member Barbosa to second the motion.

City Attorney Reischmann provided description of Council rules and procedures.

Council Member Danko motioned to table the item until the special election date is determined. Council Member Barbosa seconded the motion.

The motion to table appointment of Acting Vice Mayor failed 2-2.
The motion to appoint Council Member Nick Klufas as acting Vice Mayor failed 2-2.

Council Member Danko returned the gavel to acting Mayor Branquinho.

Acting Mayor Branquinho stated that Council will continue without an acting Vice Mayor.

D. ORDINANCES

1. EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2021-08 RELATING TO CONDUCTING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE VACANT SEAT OF MAYOR

City Attorney Bill Reischmann read the title into the record.

City Clerk Virginia Smith presented 3 options to Council.

Council Member Klufas stated that he would like to go with option 3, which does not waive any qualifications.

The Council Members concurred.

Motion by Council Member Danko, seconded by Council Member Barbosa, to adopt the Ordinance as presented in option 3. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Alan Lowe shared support for Ordinance option 3 as presented.

E. RESOLUTION 2021-82 CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR A VACANT MAYOR SEAT

2. City Attorney Bill Reischmann read the title into the record.

City Attorney Bill Reischmann and City Clerk Virginia Smith thanked the Supervisor of Elections Office for their expedient assistance with the special election.

City Clerk Virginia Smith provided a description of the resolution options and since Council adopted Option 3 for the Ordinance, then Council should approve the equivalent resolution (Option 3).

Council Member Danko asked for the date of the special election and early voting.

City Clerk Virginia Smith provided the dates.

Council Member Barbosa asked how much the special election will cost.

City Clerk Virginia Smith provided an estimate.

Discussion was held on mail in ballots.

Council Member Danko asked if the special election will be funded from the General Fund.

Mr. Morton responded yes.

Public Comment:

Megan Rizzo shared concern for the cost of the special election and asked how much the 21,000 mail in ballots will contribute to the cost.

Mr. Da Silva explained that he had chosen a mail in ballot previously, but no longer needs it and suggested that the Supervisor of Elections Office ask residents for their preference with the special election. Mr. Da Silva asked if it is recommended that residents contact the Supervisor of Elections Office to update their voting preference.

City Clerk Virginia Smith responded to public comments to explain that residents must contact the Supervisor of Elections Office to make any changes to voting preference. In regards to the cost, Ms. Smith stated that the deposit will be due in mid-June for \$25,000, and the total price is still being determined.

Discussion was held on in-person, absentee, and mail-in ballot voting.

City Attorney Reischmann explained that questions regarding voting should be directed to the Supervisor Of Elections Office.

Motion by Council Member Klufas, seconded by Council Member Danko, to approve the resolution-Option 3. The motion carried unanimously.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Virginia A. Smith, MMC
City Clerk