



**City of Palm Coast  
Minutes  
COUNCIL BUSINESS  
MEETING**

City Hall  
160 Lake Avenue  
Palm Coast, FL 32164  
www.palmcoastgov.com

**Mayor David Alfin  
Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho  
Council Member Ed Danko  
Council Member John Fanelli III  
Council Member Nick Klufas**

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**Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

**COMMUNITY WING**

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**City Staff**

**Denise Bevan, City Manager  
Neysa Borkert, 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.
- City Council Meetings are streamed live on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/PalmCoastGovTV/live>.
- All pagers and cell phones are to remain OFF while City Council is in session.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Alfin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM*

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

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

**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Public Participation shall be held in accordance with Section 286.0114 Florida Statutes. And pursuant to the City Council's Meeting Policies and Procedures:

- (1) Each speaker shall at the podium, provide their name and may speak for up to 3 minutes.
- (2) The Public may provide comments to the City Council relative to matters not on the agenda at the times indicated in this Agenda. Following any comments from the public, there may be discussion by the City Council.
- (3) When addressing the City Council on specific, enumerated Agenda items, speakers shall:

- (a) direct all comments to the Mayor;
  - (b) make their comments concise and to the point;
  - (c) not speak more than once on the same subject;
  - (d) not, by speech or otherwise, delay or interrupt the proceedings or the peace of the City Council;
  - (e) obey the orders of the Mayor or the City Council; and
  - (f) not make any irrelevant, impertinent, or slanderous comments while addressing the City Council; which pursuant to Council rules, shall be considered disorderly.
- (4) Any person who becomes disorderly or who fails to confine his or her comments to the identified subject or business, shall be cautioned by the Mayor and thereafter must conclude his or her remarks on the subject within the remaining designated time limit.

Any speaker failing to comply, as cautioned, shall be barred from making any additional comments during the meeting and may be removed, as necessary, for the remainder of the meeting.

*Dave Billings-swale issues and palm trees.*

*Robert MacDonald-question on comments on items on the agenda.*

*Shanda Praeda-code enforcement issues. Why can't wheels of car be on grass? Fence at rear of property has overgrown on vacant lot.*

*Pat Borelli-code enforcement pamphlets. FCAR meeting and provide to realtors.*

*Mike Martin-start of petition to amend the Charter.*

*Kerry Purdy-swim team issues to build a proper pool.*

*Steve Carr-Florida Park Drive traffic issues.*

*James Vincent-affordable housing issues.*

*Donna Walsh-voted for a different Mayor due to real estate issues. How much real estate is going into the Mayor's pocket? Pools and clean water and great space to spread their arms.*

*Mr. DeSantis-look at all these people in this room. When are you going to start working for them. Tired of coming here to tell you to do your job.*

*Sims Jones-affordable housing*

*Jane Gilbert-pool issues-synchronized swimming; our team drives an hour away to Oveido to have a pool that is deep enough.*

*Monique-swale issues; turning lanes-Whiteview, Cypress Point, and Royal Palms traffic backs up due to no right turn lane. Old Kings Road needs to be widened.*

*Heidi Gerkin-aquatic center needed here in Palm Coast.*

*Emma LaChance-Airbnbs.*

*Tyrone Washington-code and tree issue; tree fell on power lines; put in claim with City and the League denied claim in part and paid in part.*

*Joel Davidson-encourage on the pool center.*

*Alan Lowe-update on salt water canals. Second-street solutions Florida Park, Blare Drive - suggesting speed bumps to speed hump. There are 10 speed humps in Town Center.*

*Claudia Dowd-expressed her opinion on how important it is to have a pool. Having two disabled children this is the way to help our special needs children.*

*Ilia Stockman-swim team and pool issues.*

*Ellie Yorkie-swim team and pool issues.*

*Lela Jacoli-swim team and pool issues.*

*Emma Pugliese-swim team.*

*Gabbie Spence-Synchro Bells would like a deeper pool.*

*Ms. Gilbert-Synchro Bells needs a deeper pool.*

*Steve Maroney-code enforcement; does not think we, the residents should have to sign a complaint. Growth-we need to slow it down and allow the Police and Fire and hospitals to catch up. What about our schools too?*

*Sheila Allen-elderly form of the swim team; we need heated pools for therapy.*

*Matt Spence-swim team issues-need an aquatic center with a pool deep enough for these teams.*

*Al Krier-safety on Cimmaron. Submitted survey and petition, which is attached to these minutes. Thanked the swim team members for coming too. Thanked Council for their assistance. Good place to live and I like living here.*

*Alex K-wants a bigger pool. Doesn't like driving to Jacksonville.*

*Responses to Public Comments:*

*VM Branquinho-I do not believe in special people but I believe in special situations. We owe it to all to look harder at the possibilities - swimming invests in our children. To Ms. Walsh-I doubt anyone on this dais is taking money from the realtors. I recused myself at one situation. To Mr. Simms-affordable and workforce housing are two different things; we cannot confuse the two. Affordable housing problem is when it is subsidized. I am concerned with the density. To Mr. Lowe-let's meet regarding the speed humps and speed zones.*

*CM Klufas-accolades to the swimmers for their representation; Seminole Woods drainage-it is indeed a need for an additional culvert. Old Kings Road-has to be*

*phased and broken into different pieces-funding is coming from FDOT. Speed bumps-there is a catch-22: install to slow traffic but pollution will increase. Short term rentals-thank you for your information on the swim locations.*

*CM Danko-wants to make sure the City Manager has the contact information.*

*CM Fanelli-thanked Mr. Washington for his service to the country. Thank you to Mr. Lowe on the traffic solution suggested. Requested all residents share their concerns and their possible solutions.*

## **E. MINUTES**

- 1. MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL:  
MARCH 15, 2022 BUSINESS MEETING  
MARCH 22, 2022 SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING  
MARCH 22, 2022 SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Branquinho and seconded by Council Member Danko**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli  
III**

## **F. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- 2. PRESENTATION-PUBLIC SAFETY RECOGNITION AWARDS**

*Chief Forte presented a public safety recognition award. Chief Berryhill presented awards to crews that provided Mutual Aid to those in Bay County.*

*Mayor Alfin provided the recognition to our Animal Control team for all their efforts in saving our local pets.*

- 3. PROCLAMATION-APRIL AS WATER CONSERVATION MONTH**

*VM Branquinho presented this Proclamation to Ms. Gretchen Smith of SJRWMD and Mr. Garann Hopkins, Environmental Specialist from the City's Utility Department.*

*Mayor Alfin encouraged everyone to take the pledge.*

## **G. ORDINANCES FIRST READ**

4. **ORDINANCE 2022-XX PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 6 OF THE CITY OF PALM COAST CHARTER, ADOPTING AN INCREASE TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMPENSATION**

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Council Member Danko and seconded by Council Member Klufas**

**Approved - 4 - Mayor David Alfin, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

**Denied - 1 - Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho**

*City Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Mayor Alfin presented on this item.*

*Comments on #1- Mayor Alfin requested Council's comments on #1.*

*VM Branquinho is not in favor of an increase in salary.*

*CM Klufas-thanked everyone for being here. Suggested phasing in the increases.*

*CM Danko-knocked on thousands of doors when he ran for office. I am fortunate enough to be retired. There are two seats open and we only have 3 candidates running for these seats. Supports this Ordinance.*

*CM Fanelli-one reason I believe I was selected is I bring a unique perspective. I knew this would be coming up on the agenda and one of the first big issues I would have to weigh in on. I knew it would be big but I also think it is a lot bigger than I thought. Has to take vacation leave from the School Board to represent the citizens of Palm Coast to be here at a 9am meeting. Sees a disproportionality but wants to hear what the residents have to say and Council before he makes his decision.*

*VM Branquinho-since inception, all Councils prior and this Council have worked for minimal wage. We have 0% municipal debt, we have best water, best town to retire. We were all happy to do it.*

*VM Branquinho-this raise will not raise taxes but it comes from our taxes; we will find that money even if we have organizational cuts; this is not a business career for me-I fill this job as a duty; I do not want to be a politician; I personally feel I do not deserve this raise. I do not think this size of a raise is warranted. Ballot or discuss a raise. With all due respect I do not agree with this raise.*

*CM Klufas-decisions on cataclysmic. We are stable. Must have stability as a Council.*

*CM Danko-I am the only one up here that voted against an increase in taxes; I will push for a rollback rate.*

*CM Fanelli-when you come up and share your comments, share what it is about the position do you feel warrants no increase.*

*CM Klufas-we have term limits in Palm Coast. County commission does not. With term limits it forces the turnover of the elected body.*

*Public Comment:*

*Vince Ligori-that is the most disgusting speech I have ever heard. Some reasonable level-in what universe is 365% reasonable. Quit, resign. Opposes the increase. Let it go to the ballot.*

*Robert MacDonald-what is the difference-an Ordinance to give Council a raise but yet we have a Resolution to elect the City Manager. Congratulates the new Councilman. I do not think he should be able to vote on the Ordinance or Resolution.*

*Mike Martin-quoting a President "Ask what not what your Country can do for you but what you can do for your Country." Opposes this increase. Phase step is ok but looking to take your power away from you. You work for us. Challenge you to change the language that it will not affect you, if you are truly looking for new better blood.*

*Alan Peterson-fully supports an increase. If you received an inflationary raise, it would be around 30% more than what you earn. Increase it by a 1/3. \$12K to Council and \$15K to the Mayor. The statement that it will not raise taxes is ludicrous. Taxes would be increased with any type of raise. Service to the public is the type of individual you want.*

*Cornelia Downing-Manfre-welcomed Council Member Fanelli. Asked all to be respectful in your agreements and disagreements. Believes the City Council should be paid as a constitutional officer. If it does not raise taxes, what can we trim for the justification of the raises. Would like the public to support this.*

*Mike Libarger- I have served on public committees. As Council president I easily spent at least 20-35 hours per week. We did our job at \$0 unless we got paid out of pocket expenses. We were not paid at all. It was our give back to the community we love. If any Council feels overworked, resign.*

*Janet Castaneda-protesting this increase. I say no to the pay increases without a vote of the people. You do not need to increase the salaries to attract qualified candidates. The proof was in the 8 applicants willing to serve. Residents want a civic minded Council-those that believe in service.*

*Donna Walsh-wanted to apologize that I miscommunicated that you were stealing. When I was voting I heard the Mayor was heavy in real estate. I care for the trees. I believe in a raise, I believe in dreams and visions; I believe in trimming; we need to continue to cleanse Palm Coast. Every dollar has an assignment.*

*Sims Jones-I have been approached by many people, what do you think about this raise? I tell them, if they are doing a good job then they deserve it. The people do not think City Council is not doing a good job. I hear what about 'the people,' we hired them to do a better job. We only hear what their agendas are. I listen to the people complain. I said I would come and speak for the people. I am for a raise but the people do not want you to have a raise. Maybe at a later time. They do not trust their government.*

*Steve Carr-my whole career, my merit was based on the job I did. I did not get to pick and choose the tasks I completed. Has come for 12 years complaining about traffic. It has been ignored for 12 years.*

*James Vincent-the raise should have been done over the years; it should have been kept up with.*

*Chantel-I say no to the increase. Health benefit package-maybe you need it. When I was working I never chose my increase. Opposes the increase.*

*Susan-welcomed CM Fanelli. What do you feel like you have done to feel you deserve the raise? Councilman Danko blocked me on social media.*

*Gerry-I will be brief, think of all the people that served this City pro-bono. Love the City. Put that first. Proposed increase most agree but the next proposal you may not.*

*Leslie Johnson-thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. You all called yourself stupid. Do you represent yourselves or the residents? You are not stupid. You should be compensated; will you quit your day time jobs and take this on as fulltime employment? I do not have a problem with that. A response from you when the residents ask would be good.*

*Lisa Perkins-father was a Mayor in his late 70's. He had a lot of experience under his belt. He felt it was an honor to serve. Doesn't understand. It takes time and experience to serve. Regarding the raise, it is not the time. Fix issues that we have around the City instead.*

*Alan Lowe-I think you deserve a raise but not sure it should be the amount you are proposing. I am insulted because I am qualified. I think you should take that back. The position deserves the raise but the wording you used is insulting. Put it out to a vote. Suggested a smaller increase to the salaries as it is deserved.*

*William D-it took a topic as contentious as this to get me out of the house and see democracy in action. If you take a pulse, does it persuade you to change your vote. Will you listen to the will of the people. Not in favor of the proposed increase but perhaps a smaller increase.*

*Sheila A-not so much of a raise as it is a philosophy. Opposes.*

*Council continued their discussion following public comment.*

*VM Branquinho-I am retired. My pension cannot afford a 2% increase. I will not get that. To Ms. Johnson-I think we are confused-I am confused we are*

*confusing service and honor with employment. It should be an honor to be here to do the job for the people, by the people. I love Palm Coast. If I move from Palm Coast, I want to move to Palm Coast. Being here at the dais is the easiest part.*

*CM Klufas-thank you for all the comments. The diversity was appreciated. The function of our Council is diversity. Being in this seat has educated me in how important it is to have diversity on the Council. To set up the future Council's and Palm Coast.*

*CM Danko-thank you Nick, I agree.*

*CM Fanelli-clarifying-I am done in November. This raise will not impact me in any way. I am not voting for myself for a raise. I understand this is a hard thing to do. To vote oneself a raise. That is how our system of government works here locally. I have listened with an open mind and an open heart. A lot of you feel additional compensation is warranted to manage that 250 million dollar budget and make good decisions.*

*Mayor Alfin provided closing comments on this issue. First thanked the community for coming out this evening. Complimented each of his fellow Council members that you have come together to collaborate for the good of our community. Spoke with original Mayor of Palm Coast and he commented on how his Council did not get along. Palm Coast has been voted the #1 retirement community.*

*VM Branquinho-motion to get a 30% raise to \$12K for Council and \$15K for Mayor. Second by CM Klufas for discussion. We should not push this down the road to the next Council. It will be continuously a problem.*

*CM Klufas withdrew motion after Council held a discussion. Motion died for a lack of a second.*

## **H. RESOLUTIONS**

### **5. RESOLUTION 2022-XX APPROVING THE NEWLY APPOINTED CITY MANAGER'S CONTRACT**

**R20220054**

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Council Member Danko and seconded by Vice Mayor Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

*City Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Mayor Alfin provided a brief overview to this item.*



*Public Comment*

*Robert MacDonald-when do we pass an Ordinance on first read? Attorney Borkert clarified there is a second read of the Ordinance. CM salary increase will be what? Mayor Alfin stated her contract is set at \$175K. I think she deserves it.*

**6. RESOLUTION 2022-XX AUTHORIZING A BANK LOAN WITH SOUTHSTATE BANK FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS**

**R20220049**

**Pass**

**Motion made to approve by Vice Mayor Branquinho and seconded by Council Member Danko**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

*City Attorney Borkert read the title into the record.*

*Ms. Helena Alves, Finance Director, Mr. Mark Galvin, Financial Consultant from Hilltop Securities and Mr. Carmelo Morales, Project Manager presented to Council on this item.*

*Council held a discussion on this item confirming with the City Attorney that their office reviewed all of these documents. Attorney Borkert confirmed the firm has reviewed all the documents.*

*Mayor Alfin-our theme at the City-Buy local Be Local-we are please SouthState Bank has been chosen. Congratulations to the Finance Department for obtaining these conservative transactions.*

*Public Comment*

*There were none.*

**I. CONSENT**

**7. RESOLUTION 2022-XX APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH RJ SULLIVAN CORPORATION; A WORK ORDER WITH CPH, INC., FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES AND AN INCREASE OF SRF LOAN AMOUNT FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY 2 EXPANSION PROJECT**

**R20220053**

**Pass**

**Motion made to be adopted on consent by CM Klufas and seconded by VM Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

- 8. RESOLUTION 2022-XX APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH TB LANDMARK CONSTRUCTION, INC., FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE L-SECTION PEP MAIN IMPROVEMENTS**

**R20220052**

**Pass**

**Motion made to be adopted on consent by CM Klufas and seconded by VM Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

- 9. RESOLUTION 2022-XX APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH PBM CONSTRUCTORS, INC., FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE RELOCATION OF CHEMICAL INJECTION AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT 2**

**R20220050**

**Pass**

**Motion made to be adopted on consent by CM Klufas and seconded by VM Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

- 10. RESOLUTION 2022-XXX APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT WITH MEDIQUICK WALK-IN EMPLOYEE CLINIC**

**R20220051**

**Pass**

**Motion made to be adopted on consent by CM Klufas and seconded by VM Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

- 11. RESOLUTION 2022-XX APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) FIRST PRODUCTS VC 60 3 POINT HITCH VERTICUTTERS/CARBIDE TIP BLADES**

**R20220048**

**Pass**

**Motion made to be adopted on consent by CM Klufas and seconded by VM Branquinho**

**Approved - 5 - Mayor David Alfin, Vice Mayor Eddie Branquinho, Council Member Ed Danko, Council Member Nick Klufas, Council Member John Fanelli III**

**J. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Remainder of Public Comments is limited to three (3) minutes each.

*Alan Peterson-trash collection out for bid again. When I was on Council we proposed once per week and we did a test with the big containers in the B section for about a month. It was well accepted by those residents who were part of the test but the issues were that the containers were very big and did not fit in their garages. Also because it was bigger it was hard to maneuver. We did test in February when school is in. If you could arrange a test it may be desirable by the residents. Also, found it did not save much money. It was not worth the potential aggravation. Charter section where the public was to vote on it. I do think the charter should give you flexibility. Something should go back in the charter regarding a major shift in Council's compensation.*

**K. DISCUSSION BY CITY COUNCIL OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*CM Danko-thanked FCSO, Code and Animal Control and the vets in their responses to the dog incident that occurred where the dog was shot due to tearing up a teddy bear or something like that.*

*CM Fanelli-Jericho Taylor-amazing and glad we were able to recognize him. I was able to attend the Small Business Expo last weekend. So many things to be thankful for in our community. I attend the Blue Knights ride and proud to be there and bring his children and see some of our real true super heroes in real life. Lastly, thanked all of our City staff that opened up our Customer Service Center during the inclement weather.*

*VM Branquinho-thanked everyone who spoke tonight. Thanked two of the candidate who spoke on the Council salary item. State of the City is being run in partnership with the City. Ms. Bevan requested clarification on "partnership" VM Branquinho-clarified.*

*The President of the Chamber would like to meet with me and a few members of the Chamber with no bullying. I will not attend the State of the City due to the partnership with the Chamber.*

*Mayor Alfin clarified there is no partnership for the "State of the City". There is an event after the "State of the City" that is open to the public. The State of the City is free.*

*CM Klufas-great job to the Palm Harbor Golf Team for the greens looking so good. Thanked Ms. Bevan for her quick response on the Seminole Woods issue.*

*Mayor Alfin-attended an event where we memorialized one founding member of Palm Coast-John Moden. His memory was memorialized with a live oak being planted at Waterfront Park. Very fitting that for a man that built this City from the ground up. RIP John Moden and his family and thanked him for his service.*

**L. DISCUSSION BY CITY ATTORNEY OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*Nothing at this time.*

**M. DISCUSSION BY CITY MANAGER OF MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*In spirit of recognizing our excellence in our City. Each department is outlining the succession planning. Great pride announcing the promotion of Chief of Staff Lauren Johnston to Assistant City Manager. Congratulations to Lauren Johnston, Assistant City Manager.*

*Ms. Johnston thanked Ms. Bevan and that she is honored and happy to carry the torch with Ms. Bevan.*

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM*

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

**12. WORKSHEET**