MINUTES
City of Cocoa
Regular Meeting of The City Council

August 26, 2020

A Regular City Council Meeting was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, in Cocoa City Hall, in City Council Chambers, located at 65 Stone Street, in Cocoa, Florida, 32922, as publicly noticed.

I. Opening Matters:

Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Goins provided the invocation and Councilmember Boisvert led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Councilmember Koss read a poem by Margaret Widdemer.

The City Clerk took the roll.

PRESENT:	Jake Williams, Jr.	Mayor
	James Goins	Deputy Mayor
	Don Boisvert	Councilmember
	Lorraine Koss	Councilmember
	Brenda Warner	Councilmember
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney
	Matt Fuhrer	Interim City Manager
	Carie Shealy	City Clerk

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tammy Gemmati, Administrative Services Director; Jack Walsh, Utilities Director; John Hankins, Commander; Samuel Byrd, Deputy Fire Chief; Bryant Smith, Public Works Director; Nancy Bunt, Community Services Director; LeShawn Hinton, Helpdesk Support Tech; Samantha Senger, Assistant to the City Manager/PR Specialist; and Tom Redmond, Fire Lieutenant.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

1. **Agenda:** Regular Meeting of August 26, 2020 (20-540)

2. **Minutes:** N/A

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to approve the agenda as amended for the Regular meeting of August 26, 2020 with the following amendments, which were to remove Public Hearing Items VII.1 & VII.2.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

III. Awards and Presentations:

1. Presentation by the Cocoa Village Playhouse. (20-541). (Dr. Hawkins-Smith)

Dr. Hawkins-Smith from the Playhouse announced that on July 31st they held their very first virtual announcement party. There were about 2,000 who tuned in and responded to them online. They felt it was very successful. She provided each member of Council an envelope that contained information regarding upcoming productions and season pass information. This Friday, the production of "9 to 5" will begin and the cast is very excited as they have been waiting since March for this. She pointed out that they are trying to keep the theater alive while also trying to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Councilmember Koss asked if they had received any CARES money. In response, Dr. Hawkins-Smith advised they had applied but had not heard anything yet. They received PPE money but are currently on their own with ticket sales and donations.

Councilmember Warner thanked her for the extra effort that she and her staff have done. She has heard from many people that go to the Playhouse and they are happy to see it back up and running.

Dr. Hawkins-Smith thanked Council for their support.

IV. Delegations:

Aleck Greenwood, 640 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa, was thrilled with the extra painting on the steamboat. He gifted three framed photos to the City and explained in detail what each of them was.

Rev. JB Dennis, 3710 Catalina Drive, Cocoa, spoke about systemic policing, the makeup of the Cocoa Police Department, and that a solution to fix issues was to promote Sgt. Stephenson to Lieutenant. He further asked that the deadly force policy be modified to use bean bag rounds. Lastly, he requested the removal of Michael Klug from the Police Community Relations Advisory Board.

Marisol Lanza, 436 Satsuma St., Cocoa, mentioned that drug dealers were taking over Cocoa and people are passing through her property and knocking down lights. She needs a fence and feels that will help, however, there is a pole being used by FPL that is inside her property and she does not know what to do when installing the fence.

Mayor Williams asked her to get with the Planning Department regarding the fence and Commander Hankins and the Interim City Manager assured her they were taking notes on the other issues.

V. Reports:

Mr. Smith provided an update on the Coventry issue and explained what had been done per Council's direction at the last meeting. He sent a response via email as well.

He advised that Public Works was about two weeks out on finalizing the asphalt on Pineda St. and then striping on Washington St. and the other areas would be completed.

Mr. Smith spoke in regards to a petition received regarding paving on Gray Road and assured Council that this project was in the works for the upcoming fiscal year.

Councilmember Koss questioned the landscaping on US 1 and if we had a new contract. In response, Mr. Smith advised that they have a contract but have lost an inmate crew so they have been pushing overtime in order to get done what they can.

Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Smith for the response to the Gray Road and Coventry issues. The residents were very thankful.

Mayor Williams further asked what was happening on Pineda. Mr. Smith noted that maintenance is being done and they are removing palm trees, etc.

Ms. Bowman announced the City received the Distinguished Budget Award for the second year in a row. Last year, a video was shown but due to COVID-19-19 they

are all working remotely, however, they received notification that they received the award.

At the last meeting it was mentioned that a representative from the company that the City contracts with for water meters will come and provide a presentation. Due to timing, they will not be able to come, but they provided information and Ms. Senger is working on getting information on the website on how meters work.

Commander Byrd provided an update on COVID-19. As of this morning, there are 608,722 cases in the State and 10,733 deaths. In Brevard County there are 7,040 with 200 deaths. In Cocoa there are 765 with 33 in the City limits.

Ms. Bunt provided an update on the Brevard County CARES Act. The County has received 689 applications and has awarded $2.8 million so far. A listing of Cocoa businesses that applied was provided to the City, four have withdrawn or closed, and about eighty have applied.

She spoke in reference to the CRF funds that the City has and advised that applications would be available Friday for rent, mortgage, or utility assistance.

Lastly, Ms. Bunt provided an update regarding the Intregra project, pointing out that at the last Diamond Square CRA meeting the RFP was approved. She explained the next steps in the process.

PPE packets would be offered tomorrow at the Central Brevard Public Library. These include masks, sanitizer, etc. Ms. Essing and Ms. Senger both sent out information. They are being given to anyone.

Interim City Manager Fuhrer updated Council on the submission of a small matching grant for the Jewel and Leon Collins Museum. Our submission was 31 out of 58, so it was right in the middle for eligibility for funding.
He further announced that at the next meeting they would be bringing back the ordinance in regards to face coverings as it needs to be reviewed every thirty days. Staff will also be bringing in a professional to speak on the issue.

Councilmember Warner noted that she has received a few emails from Ms. Nellie Williams on Aurora Street. There is an oak tree in her yard that she is not comfortable with on windy days or going to her mailbox due to branches that have fallen and hang over the mailbox. She asked if the tree could be looked at.

Councilmember Warner congratulated Ms. Bowman and Finance on the designation.

Councilmember Koss thanked Mr. Smith for the help in Coventry.

She advised that she wanted to clarify the motion that was made at the last meeting regarding the waiving of the fee for the Cocoa High School Chorus. She pointed out that this was an emergency situation.

Additionally, she knew that Rotary fees had been waived a few weeks before and felt that this was for a good use.

She explained that she met Dr. Martinez and the mother who was organizing the event and filled out the paperwork for the City. The manager asked for the fees due and Councilmember Koss provided her credit card. When she had asked for the fee to be waived and reimbursed it was to reimburse her (Councilmember Koss) credit card. She asked Council if they supported that.

Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Goins, and Councilmember Warner all supported the request.

Councilmember Koss believed that is was an interesting issue which brought up other issues. There are public spaces and meeting rooms not being used. She spoke with Dr. Martinez and they are looking into and hoping to do concerts in some of our outside spaces. Councilmember Koss was concerned that such a small and minor expense became such a big deal and that the Interim City Manager did not feel comfortable managing that. She felt that the executor should be more empowered. A few weeks prior fees were waived for Rotary and staff felt empowered enough with that to meet prior to Council voting.

She felt it was in the City's best interest to support the youth. That is very important and there is no price that can be put on that. Supporting them will attract people to move here and she hoped that we could utilize public spaces in the best ways possible.

Attorney Garganese understood the explanation and clarified that she paid on her credit card. He recommended that Council rescind the previous motion and revote on the issue.

He explained that the reimbursement would be to reimburse Councilmember Koss although the event was for the high school. He reiterated that Councilmember Koss should abstain from the vote as it would be a voting conflict.

* **MOTION by Mayor Williams; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to rescind the previous vote made at the August 12, 2020 City Council meeting regarding waiver of fees and reimbursement to the Cocoa High School Chorus.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Warner
ABSTAIN: Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

* **MOTION by Mayor Williams; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to reimburse Councilmember Koss and to waive the fees for the Cocoa High School Chorus' use of the Porcher House.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Warner
ABSTAIN: Koss

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4-0)

Councilmember Koss advised that she was told that there would be no additional fees.

Councilmember Warner suggested that we look into some of the City's policies. She knows that staff does not have the discretion to ignore those policies, but there was a time when fees were able to be waived without Council's direction. She reiterated that it maybe be a good time to readdress those.
Deputy Mayor Goins announced that this past weekend was his son's first birthday.

He advised that on October 10th a food distribution would take place and asked Mr. Smith if the use of two fork lifts and employees could be done on that day.

Deputy Mayor Goins spoke about the paving on Pineda and that several citizens have reached out regarding speed bumps on Bristol Drive and A and B Streets. There is also a lot of speeding on Rosa L. Jones.

He asked what the process was for the Police Department to access the Housing Authority cameras when there are speeding issues. In response, Commander Hankins pointed out that they cannot access those cameras to identify the person driving but possibly to identify the vehicle. In order to issue a citation you must witness the incident. He stated it could be looked into.

Deputy Mayor Goins further mentioned speed bumps and in response, Mr. Smith explained that there was a policy in regards to that and they could contact Public Works for that information.

Lastly, Deputy Mayor Goins provided kudos to Diamond Square CRA as they are being proactive and he appreciates them.

Mayor Williams noted that the same issue that is happening on Bristol is happening on Prospect.

Mayor Williams thanked the Cocoa Police Department and BCSO and all others involved in identifying the person who took the life of Mr. Wallen. His thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

He thanked Mr. Smith and Public Works for all of the work that they have been doing and also thanked whoever cleaned up the mess on Fiske Blvd. and SR 520.

He sees a better Cocoa and knows we are getting there. He has received a number of calls regarding speeding and hopefully those issues would be addressed.

In closing, he invited all to the State of the City on September 1st at the Cocoa Civic Center. It will start at 6 p.m.

VI. Consent Agenda:

1. Approve a Resolution Waiving the Competitive Bidding Process for the Purpose of Making a Sole Source Purchase of Engineering Design Services and Submittals Along with Authorizing the Necessary Meetings for the Design and Upgrades of Future Equipment from Xylem Water Solutions USA, Inc., Charlotte, North Carolina, for the Dyal Water Treatment Plant. (20-480). (Utilities Director)

2. Approve Task Order 2020-12 with Jacobs Engineering Group (JACOBS) to Update the Water, Wastewater and Reclaimed Water Fixed Assets and Systems Data, Project No. WS21FA; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY20 Budget, BAF # 20-099-P. (20-486). (Utilities Director)

3. Approval for the City of Cocoa to accept the donation of a Belgian Malinois from John Solek to be used as a patrol K-9 for tracking, narcotics searches, and apprehensions by the Cocoa Police Department, to allow the City Manager to sign the Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement between the City of Cocoa and John Solek and to approve a Resolution amending the FY2020 budget, BAF# 20-092-A. (20-487). (Chief of Police)

4. Approve Task Order 2020-11 with Jacobs Engineering Group (Jacobs) to Assist the Dyal Water Treatment Plant with the Development of a Standard Operating Procedures Manual Describing the Operations of the Dyal Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Facilities and Systems; To Approve Change Order #1 to P.O. 76256 in the amount of $143,094; To Approve a Resolution Amending the FY20 Budget, BAF# 20-098-P. (20-505). (Utilities Director)

5. Authorize the Interim City Manager to Execute Amendment #2 to the Master Service Agreement with Wharton-Smith, Inc. for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Services. (20-515). (Utilities Director)

6. Approve the revised policy for Workers' Compensation Specific Excess Insurance with Safety National Casualty Corporation for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, with an estimated annual premium of $178,005, pending approval of the FY2021 budget. (20-523). (Administrative Services Director)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve the Consent agenda.**
AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VII. Public Hearings:

~~1. APPROVAL OF A TREE REMOVAL for an oak tree in the right-of-way adjacent to 3009 Dunhill Dr. with a replacement tree to be planted. (20-491). (Community Services Director)~~

~~2. APPROVAL OF A TREE REMOVAL for an oak tree in the right of way adjacent to 2009 Ivy Dr. with a replacement tree to be planted. (20-492). (Community Services Director)~~

3. Pass on Second Reading: Ordinance No. 09-2020, amending Chapter 3, Section 3-22.5, of the City Code, regarding temporary signs. (20-535). (Community Services Director)

Attorney Garganese read Ordinance No. 09-2020 into the record by title only as follows. He noted that this was second and final reading with no changes since first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 09-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 3-22.5 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING TEMPORARY ON-PREMISE SIGNS; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Williams opened the hearing to the public. There being no response, the public portion of the hearing was closed.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Deputy Mayor Goins, to approve Ordinance No. 09-2020 on Second and Final Reading.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

4. Pass on Second Reading: Ordinance No. 12-2020, amending Appendix A. Zoning, Article XIII, Section 22, Landscaping Requirements, of the city code; amending land clearing and tree protection and replacement standards; and creating an arbor mitigation fund. (20-536). (Community Services Director)

Attorney Garganese read Ordinance No. 12-2020 into the record by title only as follows. He noted that this was second and final reading with no changes since first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING APPENDIX A, ZONING, ARTICLE

XIII, SECTION 22, LANDSCAPING REQUIREMENTS, OF THE CITY CODE; AMENDING LAND CLEARING AND TREE PROTECTION AND REPLACEMENT STANDARDS; CREATING AN ARBOR MITIGATION FUND; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Williams opened the hearing to the public. There being no response, the public portion of the hearing was closed.

Ms. Bunt noted that any arbor mitigation fund is in a special fund not the general fund.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve Ordinance No. 12-2020 on Second and Final Reading.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

5. Pass on Second Reading: Ordinance 10-2020, amending Appendix A. Zoning, Article XIII of the City Code, to authorize the operation of mobile vending units and providing locations and regulations for the use. (20-537). (Community Services Director)

Attorney Garganese read Ordinance No. 10-2020 into the record by title only as follows. He noted that this was second and final reading with no changes since first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 10-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING APPENDIX A, ZONING, ARTICLE XIII, OF THE CITY CODE TO AUTHORIZE THE OPERATION OF MOBILE VENDORS IN THE CITY; PROVIDING STANDARDS FOR OPERATING MOBILE VENDING UNITS; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Williams opened the hearing to the public. There being no response, the public portion of the hearing was closed.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Warner; Seconded by Councilmember Boisvert, to approve Ordinance No. 10-2020 on Second and Final Reading.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

6. Pass on Second Reading: Ordinance No. 11-2020, amending Appendix A, Zoning, Article XI, Section 17 of the City Code relating to the Planned Unit Development district regulations with the change provided by staff. (20-538). (Community Services Director)

Attorney Garganese read Ordinance No. 11-2020 into the record by title only as follows. He noted that this was second and final reading with no changes since first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COCOA, BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING APPENDIX A, ZONING, ARTICLE XI, SECTION 17 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, INCORPORATION INTO THE CODE, SEVERABILITY, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Williams opened the hearing to the public. There being no response, the public portion of the hearing was closed.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve Ordinance No. 11-2020 on Second and Final Reading.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

VIII. Council Business:

1. Seek Council direction on permitting upcoming special events at City facilities. (20-526). (Assistant to the City Manager/PR Specialist)

Ms. Senger presented the item and noted there are three special events requesting approval to still hold their events due to COVID-19. She advised that all of them have plans in place.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert to approve. The motion was opened for discussion.**

Councilmember Koss liked the plans and mentioned that she felt like things were getting better, although they were still waiting to see what happens with school. She asked if there would be contact tracing if needed. In response, Ms. Senger mentioned for events were people were registered there would be, but for public events there would not be.

* **The Motion was Seconded by Councilmember Koss.**

' **AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner**

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

IX. City Business:

1. Approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-193 for Fire Protection, for Fiscal Year 2021. (20-524). (Finance Director)

Ms. Bowman presented the item and provided a brief history on the fire assessment.

She noted that per the ordinance, Council must approve the preliminary assessment and the final will be brought back as a public hearing on September 9, 2020.

Mayor Williams felt that with COVID-19, there were a lot of people struggling, including businesses and in 2006 when he was on Council and when this was first approved, it was under the premise that it would be a three-year assessment due to the condition of some of the fire equipment.

Councilmember Koss mentioned that she has heard from a number of her constituents that they are not for this. They were told when they were trying to pass the stormwater assessment they were concerned being told one thing but the fee continues. She believed that something should be said for the cutoff date when the assessment was originally done.

Attorney Garganese explained that in the way the fire assessment was set up, the City pledged the revenue regarding the fire assessment. There are now bond covenants that come in to play and that are attached to the assessment.

Mayor Williams stated that he would have liked to know that information and explained his reasoning as to why.

Councilmember Warner further noted that this fee came about as it was a voter referendum in 2004 and about 60% of the voters voted to institute the fee. She does not believe that the original assessment had an end date. She has not had any calls but felt that maybe it was time to go back and look to see if there was an end date.

Mayor Williams agreed that there was not an end date but at the time it was used to replace outdated equipment.

Attorney Garganese provided more background on the assessment and pointed out that it has changed a bit since originally passed.

Ms. Bowman explained that there was some information in the agenda but agreed that it was not clarified that there were bond covenants tied to the assessment.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-193 for Fire Protection, for Fiscal Year 2021.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

2. Approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-194 for Stormwater Utility Services, Fiscal Year 2021. (20-525). (Finance Director)

Ms. Bowman provided information on this item including a brief history of the stormwater utility fee. She reminded Council that a study was done and adopted last year. There will be a public hearing on September 9, 2020 for final adoption.

This assessment includes a 9% increase which will help to fund Public Work's stormwater projects. The consultant reviewed the projects and determined that it was necessary in order to get these projects done.

Mayor Williams asked Ms. Bowman to explain the tier structure. Ms. Bowman explained what the increases would be in regards to each tier.

Ms. Gemmati read an E-comment from Jeri Blanco, Cocoa[1].

Deputy Mayor Goins asked what would happen to the scheduled projects if this was not approved. In response, Mr. Smith advised that they would have to re-assess what the true needs were and go from there.

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[1] EXHIBIT A: E-Comment from J. Blanco

Deputy Mayor Goins was not a fan of increases but understands the need in the community. Personally, he was willing to pay a little more to make sure issues go away.

Councilmember Koss believed that we need a stormwater plan in place and pointed out that these rainfalls were not going to get less and being prepared is important to everyone.

She responded to an email sent in by Mr. Stoll regarding stormwater fees. She agreed that you are paying into a fund that helps the whole community to not be flooded. This is whether or not you live on a piece of land that floods or not. The assessment is not perfect but it was what is in place right now. She asked about the stormwater pond that was supposed to go in by the fire station and in response, Mr. Smith stated they are re-evaluating the list annually to see what projects need done.

Councilmember Koss would also like to see the opportunity for the average citizen to see where the money was going and if they had any input. Mr. Smith advised that they were working on a GIS map and will include signage which will explain what is going on with some of the projects.

Councilmember Boisvert is not a fan of increases but in his area most are okay with it.

Councilmember Warner believed that no one was a fan of increases but you can pay a little more to a fee or a lot more to your insurance deductible and have to replace items in your home if you flood. She has seen what happened on Strafford Drive and does not want that to happen to other residents because of the County refusing to invest in stormwater.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Warner; Seconded by Councilmember Boisvert, to approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-194 for Stormwater Utility Services, Fiscal Year 2021.**

Greg Stoll, asked if the increase could be tied to the bond and Ms. Bowman explained the reasonings as to why the increase was needed. He spoke in furtherance about the mitigation and flooding problems in Cocoa.

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

3. Approve the three-year contract between the City of Cocoa and the Teamsters Local Union 769 Cocoa Fire District Chiefs for the contract term of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023. (20-531). (Administrative Services Director)

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve the item.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

4. Approval to Participate in the Duke Energy Solar Power Initiative Program. (20-532). (Utilities Director)

Mr. Walsh explained what this program would entail and pointed out that Duke Energy has come up with this cost share program for the future capitol investments for solar energy and that they need Council's endorsement.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Councilmember Koss, to approve the item, for discussion.**

Councilmember Koss asked where this would be located. In response, Mr. Walsh explained that they do not have a site yet as they are just getting people up in order to see the type of capitol they have.

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Multi-Year Contracts:

5. Award Bid # B 20-17-COC to the lowest and responsive bidder Bayhead Ecological Solutions, LLC for the City of Cocoa Tree Inventory in the amount of $37,400 as a multi-year award. Authorize the City Manager to sign the form of agreement and to issue the purchase order for the Year 1 - Tree Inventory for $33,300. Pending future Year 2 grant funding authorization from the U.S. Forest Service, Authorize the City Manager to issue the purchase order for the Year 2 - Tree Care Management Plan for $4,100. (20-521). (Public Works Director)

Mr. Smith noted that this was a three year grant and explained the steps in the process.

* **MOTION by Councilmember Koss; Seconded by Councilmember Warner, to approve the item.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

Mayor Williams asked if anything has been done at the Cocoa Conservation area. In response, Mr. Smith pointed out that the restrooms get damaged beyond repair every time they are unlocked. If gates are unlocked they have issues with people joy-riding in the park. This is also the same for restrooms at Riverfront Park.

Councilmember Koss does not understand why restrooms are being locked and facilities are not being used. It was further noted that cameras have been stolen as well at the various facilities.

Interim City Manager Fuhrer added that Mr. Smith is working on an access agreement as some of the neighbors have expressed an interest in helping with the Cocoa Conservation area.

X. Informational Agenda:

1. Fire Incident Summary Report for July 2020. (20-509). (Fire Chief)

2. Cumulative purchase approvals over $35,000 and under $50,000 for period 10/01/2019 to 07/31/2020. (20-513). (Finance Director)

3. Data showing the relation between the estimated and actual income and expenses to date. (20-517). (Finance Director)

4. Approved change orders to construction contracts that the City Council has authorized the City Manager, by resolution, to approve in excess of the City Manager's spending authority. (20-518). (Finance Director)

5. FY 2020 Budget Adjustment Report. (20-519). (Finance Director)

XI. Adjournment:

* **MOTION by Councilmember Boisvert; Seconded by Mayor Williams, to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting on August 26, 2020.**

AYES: Williams, Goins, Boisvert, Koss, Warner

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Jake Williams, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Carie E. Shealy, MMC, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A: E-Commnet from J. Blanco

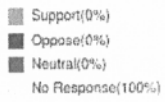
City Council
08-26-20 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
IX.2 20-525 Approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-194 for Stormwater Utility Services, Fiscal Year 2021.(Finance Director)	1	0	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

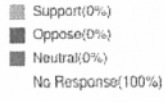
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for IX.2 20-525 Approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-194 for Stormwater Utility Services, Fiscal Year 2021.(Finance Director)

Overall Sentiment



Guest User
Location:
Submitted At: 5:59pm 08-26-20

Good evening Mayor and City Council Members,

My comments tonight are in regards to Agenda Item IX.2 20-525 to Approve the Preliminary Assessment Resolution 2020-194 for Stormwater Utility Services. In 2019 the council approved a stormwater assessment fee for properties located within the City of Cocoa. A tiered fee was formulated and added to the non-Valorum portion of the tax bill that replaced the flat fee of $7.00 a month. Previously each residential household was paying $84.00 a year. At the tiered rate the average property owner is now paying $120.67 annually. That difference of $36.67 was considered acceptable by most property owners including myself. At last years District 4 Townhall Meeting I specifically asked the Assistant City Manger if these was a built in increase in the rate schedule. I was told no, there was not. Now, not quite a year later the council is being asked to vote on an increase of 9%. That brings the total annual increase to 73.06. That is quite a leap from for a property owner previously paying $84.00 a year to the proposed increase of $157.06. A large percentage of the cities property owners are seniors on a

fixed income. These increases in fees adds a burden to the tight budget they already exist on. I urge the council to vote no on this item. The majority of residents in Cocoa cannot afford another increase.

Respectfully,

Jeri Blanco
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