

CITY OF LARGO CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

May 1, 2018
Minutes

COMMISSION PRESENT: Mayor Brown, Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll

COMMISSION ABSENT: None

PARTICIPATING STAFF PRESENT: City Mgr. Schubert, City Attorney Zimmet, Asst. City Mgr. Staffopoulos, City Clerk Bruner, Dep. City Clerk Fogarty, Asst. PW Dir./Facilities Mgr. Jordan, Economic Dev. Coor Nunez, Mgmt. Analyst Payne, Planning Mgr. Perez, Planner Leong-Sharp, Asst. HR Dir. Sassone, Asst. Finance Dir. Spuhler, OMB Mgr. Semones, Police Chief Undestad, Rec., Parks and Arts Dir. Byrne

Mayor Brown called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Invocation was given by Reverend Joe Glymph, Pastor, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

CEREMONIAL

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Since President John F. Kennedy signed the first Presidential Proclamation in 1962, National Public Works Week is observed each year during the third full week of May. It is the goal of such recognition to raise public awareness of public works issues and to increase confidence in public works employees who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for present and future generations. National Public Works Week calls attention to the importance of public works in community life, and this year the American Public Works Association has adopted a theme of "*The Power of Public Works*". This week is intended to represent the power that Public Works holds in maintaining our community's health, safety and quality of life.

The City of Largo Public Works Department includes the following divisions: Administration, Streets and Stormwater, Solid Waste, Facilities Management, and Fleet Management.

This Proclamation is being presented to support National Public Works Week in the City of Largo.

Ms. Bruner read the Proclamation aloud. Mr. Jordan thanked the City Commission for the Proclamation and spoke about the work done by Public Works and Engineering Services, Environmental Services and Parks Division staffs.

WORLD FACILITY MANAGEMENT DAY PROCLAMATION

Initiated in 2008 by Global FM, a worldwide conglomerate of facility management professional organizations, World Facility Management (FM) Day aims to raise the profile of the FM profession anywhere that Facility Management Professionals (FMs) influence the health, safety, productivity and well-being of people who utilize the built environment. World FM Day will be held this year on May 16, 2018.

The 2018 theme, "*Enabling Positive Experiences*," is about highlighting how FM enables exceptional spaces that enhance life.

The City of Largo's Facilities Management Division employs a custodial nighttime cleaning staff of 19.9 FTEs, a Maintenance staff of 10.8 FTEs and a project management staff of 2.8 FTEs. It is responsible for the cleaning, maintenance and construction or renovation of the City's seventy-three buildings and over 565,000 square feet

of space.

The attached Proclamation is being presented to support World FM Day and to appreciate the men and women that take care of our City buildings each and every day.

Ms. Bruner read the Proclamation aloud. Mr. Jordan thanked the City Commission for the Proclamation. He stated that there are over 35 staff members in Facilities Management.

MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Municipal Clerks Week extends appreciation to all Municipal and Deputy Clerks for the services they provide their communities. The Clerk serves as the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels. The Clerk continually strives to improve the administration of their duties through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and annual meetings of their state, county, and professional organizations.

Ms. Diane Bruner has served as the City of Largo's City Clerk since 1997. She is a member of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and is currently the President of the Pinellas County Municipal Clerks Association. Courtney Fogarty has served as Deputy City Clerk since July 2017. It is appropriate that we take this opportunity to recognize the vital service Ms. Bruner and Ms. Fogarty provide and their exemplary dedication to the Largo community.

Mayor Brown introduced Ms. Bruner and Ms. Fogarty and read the Proclamation aloud. Ms. Fogarty accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the City Clerk's Office.

CITIZEN COMMENT

1. Amanda O'Connor stated that she represented residents of 7th and 8th Avenue SW, near the Clean Living facility. She stated that she attended the Clean Living open house and learned that the facility will be expanding. She stated that residents in the area did not approve of changing the zoning of any residential property nor did they approve of the facility being for 30 day inpatient treatment.

2. Geoff Moakley stated his concern for the City applying for the Community Planning Technical Assistance grant and the development of the triangle property as a plaza. He also stated that the proposed appointee to the Finance Advisory Board only applied for the Recreation, Parks and Arts Advisory Board.

AGENDA – APPROVED AS AMENDED

Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting agenda of May 1, 2017.

Discussion:

Commissioner Holmes requested that Item 7 be removed from the Consent Docket.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Carroll, to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2018.

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

MINUTES – APPROVED

Approval of the Regular City Commission Meeting minutes of April 17, 2018 as on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Discussion:

None

Motion was made by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Holck, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2018.

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

CONSENT DOCKET – APPROVED AS AMENDED

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR FY 2017 AMBIENT WATER QUALITY MONITORING SERVICES TO THE PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$52,986.28

This item is for approval of funding to reimburse Pinellas County for FY 2017 stormwater permit sampling costs in the amount of \$52,986.28. These costs are incurred by the County first, and then reimbursed by the co-permittees after the fact.

The City Commission approved an interlocal agreement for the design, implementation and operation of a surface water quality monitoring program on October 1, 2013, and approved an amendment extending the agreement until December 31, 2020 on December 5, 2017. The agreement is between Pinellas County, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and 23 cities located within Pinellas County. The purpose of the agreement is to set forth the relationships and responsibilities of the County, FDOT and the cities in implementing and continuing a water quality monitoring program. The agreement includes a biological monitoring program as required by Pinellas County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program Municipal Stormwater Permit, of which the City is a co-permittee.

The City's participation in the Municipal Stormwater Permit is mandated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the Federal Clean Water Act, which is administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The permit requires the City to implement projects and programs to reduce pollution levels to waters of the United States. The interlocal agreement was initially entered into in 2003 and provides for implementation and cost sharing of the monitoring program. Under the agreement, Pinellas County conducts the monitoring program and each co-permittee reimburses the County for the costs of the program in proportion to each jurisdiction's percentage of total county land acreage. The previous payment of \$54,116.50 for FY 2016 was approved by the City Commission on May 2, 2017.

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (DEO) REQUESTING \$40,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING FOR FY 2018-2019

The Florida Legislature has appropriated funding to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for Community Planning Technical Assistance Grants. The grants provide communities the opportunity to develop innovative planning and development strategies to promote a diverse economy, vibrant rural and

suburban areas and meet the requirements of the Community Planning Act, while protecting environmentally sensitive areas. Typical grant awards will be \$25,000 - \$40,000. The application requires staff to submit a letter of request for grant funding and a proposed scope of work to DEO.

Staff is requesting approval to apply for \$40,000 to support preparation of the Largo Town Center Special Area Plan. The City of Largo is preparing to proceed with the development of a "master plan" for the Largo Town Center area. The plan will align with Largo's Strategic Plan, the Forwarding Our Future 2040 Comprehensive Plan and the Countywide Plan Rules. Furthermore, it will align with the Gateway/Mid-County Area Master Planning effort led by Forward Pinellas. If selected to receive funding, the Planning and Development Services Division hopes to produce a master plan that invokes economic growth and development, placemaking and inclusiveness, mixed-use and activity centers, partnership and collaboration, accessibility and connectivity, sustainability and resiliency within the major activity center that is comprised of the area surrounding the intersection of East Bay Drive/Roosevelt Blvd and US 19. The plan is estimated to cost approximately \$120,000.

Grant requests must be submitted to the DEO by Monday, May 7, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. No matching funds are required.

APPOINTMENT OF KATHLEEN A. MORTENSEN AS A MEMBER OF THE FINANCE ADVISORY BOARD

The Finance Advisory Board is comprised of seven (7) residents of the City of Largo. The Mayor and each Commissioner shall appoint one (1) resident to serve as a member of the Board to run concurrently with the term of office of the Mayor or Commissioner who appointed the member.

Ms. Kathleen A. Mortensen is being recommended for appointment by Vice Mayor Michael Smith to serve the remainder of a four year term which will expire in November 2018. Ms. Mortensen will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mrs. Lindsey Funair, who moved out of state.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve the Consent Docket without City Commission discussion and including staff background provided in the Commission packets.

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Mortensen for volunteering to serve on the Finance Advisory Board.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT DOCKET

APPROVAL TO COVER THE FULL COST OF THE SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION CHARGE FOR NINETEEN (19) PROPERTY OWNERS AT A TOTAL COST OF \$3,533 – APPROVED

The City entered into annexation agreements (AAs) in 2016 and 2017 that included an obligation for the City to pay the sanitary sewer connection charge incurred by the property owners when they connected their properties to the City's sewer system. Nineteen (19) of these agreements are for properties that will be required to connect to the City's sewer system with the completion of Lift Stations 1 and 54. Those nineteen agreements specifically referenced the amount of the sanitary sewer connection charge in effect at the time those agreements were executed. Since these agreements were entered into, the City Commission approved an increase in the sanitary sewer connection charges. The agreements do not address the payment of the increase

in the connection charge. Staff is asking that the City Commission approve the future payment of the increased sanitary sewer connection charge for these 19 properties, which were promised a full reimbursement of the sanitary sewer connection charge.

The connection charges for these 19 properties are as follows:

- Eighteen (18) AAs have the in-City sanitary sewer connection charge for a 3/4" meter of \$1,835. The new connection charge is \$1,992 (a \$157 difference).
- One AA has the in-City sanitary sewer connection charge for a 1" meter of \$4,590. The new connection charge is \$4,983 (a \$393 difference).

The total difference for all 19 properties is \$3,533.

To avoid this situation in the future, the City Attorney developed new language that is being used in all annexation agreements. The new language references the meter size on the property instead of the dollar amount of the sanitary sewer connection charge.

Questions:

Commissioner Holmes questioned when the payments will be made. Ms. Nunez stated that it will be a future expense once the lift station projects for this area are completed and that the properties will not be annexed until after the lift station work is complete. She stated that property owners will have one year in which to connect once they are notified of sewer availability. Mr. Schubert stated that staff believed it to be more efficient to bring the reimbursement for approval now as one item rather than 19 separate requests.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, to approve covering the full cost of the sanitary sewer connection charge for nineteen (19) property owners at a total cost of \$3,533.

Discussion:

None

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-19 – SECOND READING – READOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT CODE AS AMENDED - ADOPTED

The Comprehensive Development Code (CDC) was adopted in 2015 after a major rewrite to modernize the performance standards to align with current planning and development trends and practice. Since the adoption, staff has identified omissions, deficiencies and errors. Further analysis of the overall performance of the CDC revealed the need to clarify the intent and applicability of specific sections throughout the document. These amendments are needed to codify implementation of the standards, ensure a high level of consistent customer service with permit and development applicants, and support other City functions such as Code Enforcement. Staff made a presentation to the City Commission at a Work Session on February 13, 2018. Staff also made a presentation to the Planning Board on April 5, 2018 with a recommendation for approval to the City Commission.

The following list summarizes some of the substantial changes proposed by chapter:

Chapter 2: Administration

-Include the Special Magistrate reference.

Chapter 3: The Development Review Process

- Update the review time frame according to present review practices from ten working days to fifteen working days for Level I and II Development Review.
- Clarify the type of new structures that do not need to be reviewed under Level II, Full Scale Review (accessory buildings that do not exceed level I requirements), according to present review practices.

Chapter 4: Hearing Procedures

-Clarifications for Appeal of Administrative Decisions.

Chapter 6: Allowable Uses

-Changes made to Table 6-1:

- Update/Correction to Allowable Use descriptions:

- Single Family Detached and Single Family Attached are separated into two different categories and Townhome is specified under the Single Family Attached category as an example.
- Gym is included under the Indoor Recreation category for clarification based on current practice.

- New Categories:

- Animal Grooming is broken out as a separate category from Kennel.
- Retail, stand alone was not a category that was placed in the previous CDC and is now placed as a new category for clarification from inquiries.

- Omissions from CDC:

- Warehouse was a category that was listed in the previous CDC and is now added.
- Dormitory was a category that was listed in the previous CDC and is now added

Chapter 7: Special Designations and Overlays

- Include section for outdoor displays of merchandise in the Clearwater-Largo Rd CRD that was omitted from the updated CDC.
- Revise the overall objective for the Largo Mall Activity Center (LMAC) District to match the LMAC Plan for consistency and add bonus density provisions of the plan with regards to the required design standards set forth in this chapter.

Chapter 8: General Development Standards and Impact Fees

-Update the provisions for the Parkland and Recreational Impact Fee per Ordinance 2016-91.

Chapter 9: Access Management, Traffic Circulation, and Parking Standards

-Clarify the placement of compact vehicle parking spaces.

Chapter 10: Landscape Standards

- Correction of section to allow stormwater ponds be located within the landscape buffer provided that the slope of the pond meets the minimum grade to allow for plantings within the pond.
- Update the land stabilization requirement after site clearing based on current practice standards by removing mulching as a method to stabilize the land.

Chapter 12: Sign Standards

- Include two-faced sign to be allowed for residential developments per current practice and provide visibility for the applicant's development.
- Clarification for Alternate Master Signage Plan:
 - Reformat and revise the bonus height provision to clarify the intent of the program.

Chapter 14: Affordable Housing

-Include procedure on how to obtain density bonus for an affordable housing project.

Chapter 15: Supplemental Standards

-Addition of New Supplemental Standards: Kennels and Animal Grooming to match the County Standards.

Chapter 16: Accessory Uses

-Clarifications for detached storage buildings:

-Applicability to include carports, garages, gazebos and pergolas.

-Include provisions for properties with 2 acres or more based on current practice.

-Clarifications for swimming pools:

-Include the language to be inclusive of spas, decorative attachments, plumbing and other pool equipment features regarding setbacks.

Chapter 17: Nonconforming Lots, Uses, and Structures

-Clarify the provisions for continued existence of a nonconforming structure and nonconforming use.

Chapter 18: Construction Standards and Property Maintenance

-Update Building Code Edition reference (6th Edition, 2017).

-Update the extension of time for permits to 90 days to reflect current practice and remove the provision for request of additional time extensions to reflect current practice.

Chapter 20: Definitions and Acronyms

-Include the definition of dormitory which was left out from previous CDC.

-Include the definition of townhouse to clarify the specific housing type for the CDC.

Staff will provide an overview of the proposed amendments.

Due to the size of the document, the proposed amendments will be posted to the City's [website](#) and two hard copies will be available in the City Commission work room for review.

City Clerk Bruner read Ordinance No. 2018-19 by title only.

Public Hearing/Questions:

None

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-19 on second and final reading.

Discussion:

None

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

**REVIEW OF CITY ATTORNEY PERFORMANCE AND COMPENSATION AND APPROVAL OF
FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT TO THE CITY ATTORNEY'S AGREEMENT – APPROVED**

Alan Zimmet serves as the City Attorney in accordance with an Agreement dated June 6, 2000, which has been subsequently amended thirteen times to adjust compensation. The most recent amendment (number 13), approved on July 11, 2017 for FY 2018, established the monthly retainer fee at \$11,108.58 per month (\$133,302.96 per year). The hourly rate for work outside that provided by the retainer increased to \$205.

During the past year, Mr. Zimmet has continued to provide excellent legal services to the City Commission and staff. The most significant was the favorable decision by the Florida Supreme Court regarding the validity of a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with the owners of Brittany Bay Apartments and the subsequent recovery of all funds owed under the agreement.

The attached Fourteenth Amendment to his contract would increase the monthly retainer by 3% (the same increase as non-represented City employees) to \$11,441.84 (\$137,302.08 per year). The hourly rate for additional services is currently \$205. This amendment would increase the hourly rate to \$235 for shareholders (currently Alan Zimmet and Nikki Nate) and \$210 for attorneys who are firm associates. Based on 2017 billings, this would represent an estimated annual increase of \$18,000. The effective date of the amendment is October 1, 2018.

Staff from Mr. Zimmet's firm are currently covering for a vacancy in the Assistant City Attorney position, the cost of which is being funded through existing budgeted resources. Administration is monitoring the success of this arrangement and will make a decision prior to the second City Commission meeting in July as to whether it is in the best interest of the City to hire a City employee for this position or propose to the City Commission an amendment to Mr. Zimmet's agreement to continue this staffing from his firm.

Public Input:

1. Geoff Moakley complimented Mr. Zimmet on the Brittany Bay settlement. He questioned the payments made to his firm in 2017 for additional services, as well as any payments anticipated in 2019.

Questions:

Commissioner Holmes suggested that Mr. Moakley review the semi annual report of cases. He stated that Mr. Zimmet has been able to save money for the City as well as bring money back.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve the fourteenth amendment to the City Attorney's agreement.

Discussion:

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Zimmet for his service.

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2214 – ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE PERSONNEL RULES AND REGULATIONS -
APPROVED**

Periodically, the City of Largo Personnel Rules and Regulations require updates to ensure the relevance of the

policies to current work practices and to ensure efficient and effective operations.

The following modifications to the Personnel Rules and Regulations are being recommended:

1. Amending Section IV, Probationary Periods and Types of Appointments, to provide that probationary employees may only apply for a different position within their current department.
2. Amending Section VI, Pay and Classification Plan, to redefine reclassification of a position, revise the process for deleting/adding a position and revise regulations governing employees during declared emergencies.
3. Amending Section XV, Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Guidelines, to add to the Code of Conduct #4 (page 51) the employees' duty to report the use of medication which may restrict the employee's performance of duties.

Attached is the underlined and stricken-through copy of the final recommendations as described above. The CWA, IAFF, and PBA have reviewed and concurred with these recommendations as presented.

Ms. Bruner read Resolution No. 2214 by title only.

Questions:

None

Motion was made by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, to approve Resolution No. 2214.

Discussion:

None

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-29 – FIRST READING - AMENDING THE FY 2018 POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL FUND BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$233,200 FOR THE ADDITION OF 9.00 POLICE OFFICER FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS, AND AMENDING THE PAY PLAN TO ADD A RESERVE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER CLASSIFICATION - DISAPPROVED

In response to the Parkland, FL mass shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School, on March 9, 2018 the governor signed into law the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act-SB7026. Section 26 of SB 7026 mandates that a Safe School Officer (SSO) be assigned to each public school, which includes charter schools. A SSO is defined as a sheriff or police department employed law enforcement officer, or a school guardian (armed school personnel). The Pinellas County School Board (PCSB) voted on March 13, 2018 not to authorize the school guardian part of the program, therefore, there must be a law enforcement officer assigned to each public school. To implement the new Safe School Program outlined in the law, it will require an additional 101 new SRO positions county-wide, which is more than double the current 46 SRO positions. Additionally, all new SRO positions are required to be in place by July 1, 2018 so that the proper training is completed before the start of the new school year on August 13, 2018.

The City of Largo currently provides a total of five School Resource Officers (SRO) at: Largo High School (2); Largo Middle School (1); and Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy (2). Four of these positions are partially reimbursed by PCSB in the amount of \$58,000 per officer. In order to place one SRO at each public school in Largo City limits, an additional 9 officers are required. Recruiting, on-boarding and training 9 additional police officers is not possible between now and July 1, so the Police Department (PD) is taking a dual approach to comply with these mandates. First, PD is requesting to establish a Reserve SRO position in the pay plan, whereby retired (Largo or other agency) police officers can be employed by the City as SROs on a part-time, hourly basis. These positions would only receive the benefit of pro-rated health insurance, but not accrue retirement, sick or vacation leave. This program is in-line with the programs that many other departments across the state have in place (Coral Springs, Coconut Creek, Hallandale Beach).

The alternative to adding positions is to pull from or shut-down the City's two specialty policing units: Problem Oriented Policing (POP) and the Traffic Safety Unit (TSU). This approach would maintain minimum patrol staffing, and not compromise any on-going investigations in the Investigative Services Division.

SRO Program Costs:

County-wide, the new total program cost for both new and existing SROs is \$20.1 million. The total revenue from the State for the Safe School Program is \$6.1 million, of which \$2.9 million is new money for the expanded program. The current contribution by the sheriff's office and police departments is \$1.6 million for a total of \$7.7 million. This means the additional annual funding needed to implement the law is \$12.4 million (\$20.1 million minus \$7.7 million).

For Largo, the estimated new costs of the SRO program are outlined in the table below. Note, the City's position is that the program should be funded 100% by the state and/or PCSB, but the PCSB has only verbally committed to the current reimbursement rate of \$58,000 per Officer.

As represented in the cost table below, this budget amendment is authorizing the addition of 9.00 FTE Police Officer positions to PD, and associated personnel and operating costs (salaries, benefits, uniforms, equipment, etc.) from July 1 – September 30, as well as amending the pay plan to add the Reserve SRO classification. The Police Chief and the City Manager will administratively manage recruitment and authorize the hiring of a Reserve SRO or a Police Officer as deemed necessary. It is important to note that the costs for this program do not include the purchase of additional vehicles. PD will be holding back 9 vehicles due for replacement this year to be used for the program. These vehicles are primarily parked at the schools during the day, and not used for regular patrol duties.

The FY 2019 column in the cost table below represents the amount that will be included in the FY 2019 Proposed Budget to fund 9.00 FTE Police Officer Positions for the entire year. The estimated revenue that may off-set costs in FY 2019 is approximately \$525,000, if PCSB funds the program at the current rate of \$58,000/officer. The City of Largo has not received a contract or Memorandum of Understanding containing funding commitments from PCSB at this time.

Costs:	FY 2018	FY 2019
New Personnel	\$173,500	\$713,700
New Operating	\$59,700	\$15,000
Total	\$233,200	\$728,700

City Manager Analysis and Recommendation

The Florida Legislature and Governor have mandated that school districts establish a SRO within every public school (including charter schools) starting with the upcoming school year. In Pinellas County, all middle and high schools already have SRO's assigned to each school; therefore, the impact of this legislation is the

additional SROs for the elementary and charter schools. While the State appropriated substantial funds for this program, they did not appropriate sufficient funds. This is now a significant unfunded mandate on the school districts throughout the state. The PCSB has sought to partially recoup this unfunded mandate by only offering to fund new SRO positions provided by municipal police departments or the sheriff in the amount of \$58,000 each, which is far less than our cost of \$86,000 for a new Police Officer position (not including a vehicle). The City Attorney's opinion is that the SRO mandate is on the school district and not the municipalities or sheriff. The PCSB has the option of either contracting for these services or increasing the staffing of their own police department.

The proposed increase in the homestead exemption, if approved by voter referendum, will take effect in FY 2020. It would apply to municipalities and counties, but not to school districts. If it passes, I am certain that the PCSB would not be willing to assist us by assuming part or all of the cost of school crossing guards currently fully funded by the City of Largo.

The policy question to be decided by the City Commission is whether we should subsidize the cost for the PCSB to provide SROs within the elementary and charter schools. It is my recommendation that the City only provide SROs for the elementary and charter schools if we are reimbursed the full cost of providing the service. In lieu of the City of Largo providing the service, the PCSB can either contract with the Sheriff or expand their own police department. We should continue to provide SROs for the middle school and high schools, with the goal of receiving full funding for these in the future. These positions serve a public purpose in that they are an extension of our community policing efforts.

City Clerk Bruner read Ordinance No. 2018-29 by title only.

Public Input:

1. Geoff Moakley stated that the state mandate was a knee jerk reaction. He recommended authorizing a Reserve School Resource Officer tonight and discussing the issue further at a Work Session. He stated that the Police Department can reorganize before July 1st if necessary.

Questions:

Mayor Brown questioned whether the Sheriff intended to provide SRO's at schools in incorporated areas. Mr. Schubert stated that the Sheriff wanted full funding for these positions. Mayor Brown questioned whether the initial year's cost included any costs that are only for the first year, to which Ms. Semones stated that it did, however there would also be recurring costs. Commissioner Carroll stated that the entire City Commission is concerned about the safety of children in school. He stated that the legislation was put together in the weeks after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting and that the SRO's were meant to be a deterrent. He asked whether elementary schools had large call volumes normally. Chief Undestad stated that generally they had very low call volume and that SRO's would serve as security staff for the schools. Commissioner Carroll stated that the mandate seemed like a knee jerk reaction and that he did not support paying the cost of the additional officers without full funding.

Mayor Brown questioned the cost difference between regular Officers and Reserve Officer/SRO program. Ms. Semones stated that the Reserve SRO position would have the same salary and benefits, without a pension benefit). Mr. Schubert stated that it has been City policy to offer health insurance to employees working 30 or more hours per week. He stated that the PBA would not be representing these employees, as they would be seasonal. Commissioner Holmes stated that the School Board turned down the guardian program, which would be a fraction of the cost of the subject request. He stated that he could not support the City participating in the program. Commissioner Fenger stated that she was not in favor of moving any Officers from their current assignments and that she would support the City Manager's and City Attorney's recommendation. Commissioner Robinson stated his agreement. He stated that the City should let the School Board provide the SRO's. Commissioner Holck stated that she agreed with the other Commissioners, however she expressed

concern for any repercussions. Mr. Schubert stated that he did not believe there were any. Vice Mayor Smith stated that he was disappointed that no one from the School Board or Legislature attended tonight's meeting to address these issues. Mayor Brown stated that there were other ways to make the schools safer. Commissioner Carroll stated that it may be worth discussing part time or reserve Officers for other events. Commissioner Holmes questioned whether the City has been contacted by the School Board, to which Mr. Schubert stated that it has not.

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Fenger, to disapprove Ordinance No. 2018-29 on first reading and decline to participate in funding of the School Security Program as it would represent an unfunded mandate from the State to the Pinellas County School Board.

Discussion:

None

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-30 – FIRST READING - AMENDING THE FY 2018 RECREATION, PARKS AND ARTS DEPARTMENT GENERAL FUND BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000 FOR ONE ADDITIONAL WEEK OF SUMMER CAMP CHILD CARE SERVICES - APPROVED

In February, the Pinellas County School Board approved their calendar for the upcoming school year. The start date of the 2018-2019 school year is Monday August 13, 2018. Initially the tentative start of school was to be one week prior. This has expanded the summer session from 10 to 11 weeks. The City's Recreation, Parks and Arts Department provides child care programs to assist working families when school is not in session. The RPA budget includes programming and staffing for 10 weeks. Staff is requesting a budget amendment to add the expenses and revenue associated with an additional week of summer camp. Total expenses are estimated at \$40,000, and include staffing with temporary employees as well as funding for the additional busing and field trips associated with the program. This is a revenue generating program with fees for service covering the cost of the program. Staff estimate 560 youth will be registered for a full day camp per week.

City Clerk Bruner read Ordinance No. 2018-30 by title only.

Questions:

None

Motion was made by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, to approve Ordinance No. 2018-30 on first reading and schedule a second reading and public hearing on May 15, 2018.

Discussion:

Vice Mayor Smith pointed out that the camps covered 100% of their costs.

Vote:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Smith, Fenger, Holmes, Robinson, Holck, Carroll, Mayor Brown

Motion carried 7-0.

STAFF REPORTS

None

ITEMS FROM CITY ATTORNEY, COMMISSION, MAYOR, CITY MANAGER

Mr. Zimmet thanked the City Commission for their support and also thanked Mr. Schubert and his staff.

Commissioner Holck wished her husband a Happy Anniversary.

Commissioner Carroll questioned the status of two injured Firefighters, to which Mr. Schubert confirmed that they were fine. Commissioner Carroll stated that he attended the Code Enforcement Board last week. He stated that there is a scheduling conflict for the City Commission regarding ethics training and that he would communicate any schedule change to Ms. Frick.

Vice Mayor Smith stated that, regarding his appointee to the Finance Advisory Board, Ms. Mortensen met with Mr. Adams, who found her to be suited to the position and that she is a former Belleair Beach Commissioner. He asked that staff reach out to Ms. O'Connor and keep her updated on information regarding the rehab facility and also monitor any additional property purchases. Mr. Schubert stated that the facility owners have been put on notice that they cannot expand into residential properties without the City's approval. He thanked Commissioner Robinson, Ms. McPhee and Ms. Byrne for the Youth Summit.

Commissioner Holmes stated that he was present at the mobile home park fire while he was out on his bike and suggested that the mobile home parks get additional fire hydrants.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

1. Request by Vice Mayor Smith that staff reach out to Amanda O'Connor and keep her updated on information regarding the rehab facility in her neighborhood and also that staff monitor any additional property purchases by the owners of the rehab facility.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Diane L. Bruner, CMC, City Clerk