

## MINUTES

# REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.

CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080

## I. CALL TO ORDER

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

## II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Samora asked Commissioner Torres to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

## III. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Samora, Vice Mayor Rumrell, Commissioner England, Commissioner George, and Commissioner Torres.

Also, present were City Manager Royle, City Attorney Taylor, Police Chief Carswell, Police Commander Harrell, City Clerk Raddatz, Finance Director Douylliez, Building Official Law, and Public Works Director Tredik.

## IV. SWEARING IN OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR 2022

City Attorney Taylor swore in Donald Samora as Mayor and Dylan Rumrell as Vice Mayor.

Mayor Samora thanked the Commission for allowing him this opportunity to serve as mayor. He thanked Commissioner England for her very successful two-year term as mayor. He remarked that he is looking forward to having the opportunity to service this community. He also said that he was looking forward to working with City Manager Royle, Police Chief Carswell and all the staff. He also thanked his family for supporting him through all this and the residents and business owners of St. Augustine Beach. He encouraged everyone to reach out to him.

## V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING ON DECEMBER 6, 2021, AND COMMISSION SHADE MEETING, DECEMBER 6, 2021

Mayor Samora asked if there were any discussions regarding the minutes. Being none, Mayor Samora asked for a motion.

**Motion:** to approve the Regular Commission meeting on December 6, 2021, and Commission Shade meeting on December 6, 2021. **Moved by** Vice Mayor Rumrell, **Seconded by** Commissioner Torres. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved to Item VI.

## VI. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Samora asked if there were any additions or deletions of the agenda. Being none, Mayor Samora moved on to Item VII.

## VII. CHANGES TO THE ORDER OF TOPICS ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Samora asked if there were any changes to the order of topics on the agenda. Being none, Mayor Samora moved forward with Item VIII.

#### VIII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation to Support Awareness of Human Trafficking (Presenter: Ms. Cathie Altman of the American Association of University Women)

Mayor Samora introduced Item VIII.A. and then asked Ms. Altman to come to the podium.

Ms. Altman thanked staff and the Commission for recognizing this important topic. She then read the proclamation.

Mayor Samora advised that he was speaking with Ms. Altman before the meeting about this topic. He explained that he was on the Board of the Florida Restaurants and Lodging Association and human trafficking is their number one initiative every year. It is a huge problem that does not get a lot of awareness.

Mayor Samora asked for a motion to approve the Proclamation to Support Awareness of Human Trafficking.

Motion: to approve the proclamation to support awareness of human trafficking. Moved by Commissioner George, Seconded by Commissioner England. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item IX.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Samora opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Roger Wentz, 117 Spanish Oaks Lane, St. Augustine Beach, FL, advised that in the Spanish Oaks Homeowner Associations there are odd number homes that back up to the City's retention pond on 11<sup>th</sup> Street. He explained there is a park bench on the right-of-way behind the pond. Down the right-of-way there was a 3 x 5 size wooden target that had been made and nailed up to a tree. It had balloons on it, which had been burst by something. There was also another bench that was well made placed where it could not be seen by the residents. He advised that he came to the meeting tonight to commend City Manager Royle and Sergeant Gillespie from the Police Department for their responsiveness. Sergeant Gillespie explained that the Police Department will put this on a report status so it will be checked on throughout the year.

Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments section and then moved on to Item X.

#### X. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mayor Samora asked Commissioner Torres if he had any comments. Being none, Mayor Samora asked Commissioner George if she had any comments.

Commissioner George thanked St. Augustine Beach Police Department and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Department for putting on wonderful fireworks display event free. She then advised the Commission that she was appointed to serve as a Board member for the Friends of Iguana Matanzas Tolomato National Estuarine Reserves to research the waterways, and can bring to the Commission what the City's responsibilities are. She wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Commissioner England thanked the staff, especially Communications and Event Coordinator, Melinda Conlon, for all the work she did for putting on the City's great holiday season events. She thanked staff for their efforts as well. She commented that the Commission decided to have a workshop on February 9, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. She explained that one of the topics on that workshop will be an estimate to make the second floor safe at the old city hall. She explained that under staff comments tonight that staff will give an update on ARPA funding. She advised that ARPA funding has deadlines that are coming up.

Vice Mayor Rumrell thanked the Public Works Department and Police Department staff members, and Communications and Event Coordinator Conlon for their outstanding job they did for the holiday season.

Mayor Samora wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked the staff for making the holiday events so successful. He would like to hear from staff under the "Staff Comments" section about ARPA funding and recycling.

## XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

 Ordinance 21-15, Second Reading, Final Public Hearing: to Amend Sections of the Land Development Regulations to Add Definitions for Fences, Patio Covers, Screen Enclosures, Sheds, Stairs, Stairways; and to Provide Setback Requirements for Exterior Stairs, Pool Equipment, A/C Units, Generators, Decks, Sheds, and Other Accessory Structures (Presenter: Jennifer Thompson, Planner)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 1 and asked Planner Thompson for a staff report.

Planner Thompson advised at the December's Commission meeting, staff had added definitions, changes to the setback requirements, exterior stairs, air condition units, etc.

Mayor Samora asked if anything has been changed since the first hearing.

Planner Thompson advised no.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Hearing. Being none, Mayor Samora closed the Public Hearing and then if there were any further Commission discussion. Being none, Commissioner George made a motion to approve Ordinance 21-15, seconded by Vice Mayor Rumrell.

Mayor Samora asked City Attorney Taylor to read the preamble.

City Attorney Taylor read the preamble of Ordinance 21-15.

Mayor Samora explained that there was a motion and a second and then asked for the vote.

**Motion:** to approve Ordinance 21-1S. **Moved by** Commissioner George, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Rumrell. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item 2.

## XII. <u>CONSENT</u>

There were no Consent Agenda items.

## XIII. OLD BUSINESS

2. <u>Paternity/Maternity Leave for City Employees:</u> Consideration of Policies (Presenter: Travis Harrell, Police Commander)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 2 and asked Commander Harrell for a staff report.

Commander Harrell advised that there is no mechanism or policy that allows for paid parental leave for the birth or an adoption of a child. The current policy directs staff to use their sick and vacation leave for an upcoming birth or adoption. Once their vacation and sick time reaches zero, they will not be paid. The City adheres to federal guidance under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). He stated the employee under FMLA is entitled to 12 work weeks of leave in a 12-month period. He advised that this issue came to his attention when he noticed several employees not taking lunch breaks and coming in early and leaving late. When he asked why, he learned that employees are forced to use their sick and vacation leave for childbirth or adoption. The expecting mothers have a fear that they will not have enough time banked for the birth of their child. When the child is home, and the child gets sick, most of the employees' vacation and sick time are gone. They would have to go without pay. He explained that this requested leave time is not an unfunded liability. The budget has all employees receiving their salary throughout the year, so this proposal is already funded. Parental leave time is critical. He explained that the Police Department has three expecting mothers right now. He is asking the Commission to approve six weeks of paid parental leave immediately. He explained that an employee must work five years before they would have barely enough time to take off for a birth of a child or adoption, which he believes is horrible. He commented that this would affect the entire City staff, which is a good thing.

Commissioner George asked if these six paid weeks would be in addition to the federal standards for FMLA.

Commander Harrell said that FMLA would run concurrently with the six paid weeks. FMLA is to preserve the position of the employee. Once the employee uses their sick and vacation time, then they can start FMLA and receive six weeks of paid time.

City Clerk Raddatz advised that both the FMLA and the paid six weeks would start at the same time, so there will not be 12 weeks and then another six weeks paid.

Commissioner George advised that what is proposed is that FMLA would give 12 weeks and six weeks of that would be paid to the employee. The other six weeks the employee would have to use their sick and vacation leave.

Commander Harrell advised that if the Commission would give six weeks paid leave, then the employees probably would use their vacation and sick time. He commented that he would like the employee to have two weeks total of sick or vacation time banked in case their child is sick or the employee is sick. The paid six weeks will help all employees.

Commissioner England asked if the paid six weeks would apply to all FMLA qualifying events or just parental leave. Women are the caregivers, and they take care of a sick parent or sick child, so if the Commission approves up to four weeks of paid leave under FMLA and puts it in the FMLA policy for the City, it could be done easily. She explained that FMLA can be done

intermittently or all at once and advised that FMLA has all the criteria for employees, but the City could add that they will pay up to four weeks of leave with FMLA.

Commander Harrell agreed with Commissioner England.

Commissioner England advised that FMLA has regulations on qualifying event and the paid leave provided by the City could be added to the FMLA policy. She explained that employees could purchase short-term and long-term disability policies, which would be on the Cafeteria Plan as well.

Vice Mayor Rumrell listed several south Florida cities that do provide paid leave for their employees under the FMLA criteria. He advised that the Florida League of Cities now offers paternity and maternity leave now for their employees. He said that he was prepared to make a motion to pay for six weeks because it is consistent with other Florida cities across the board. He commented that it does not change the budget and he has discussed it with Commander Harrell several times. This is a policy issue, not a funding issue.

Commissioner England asked if Vice Mayor Rumrell agreed to include it in FMLA.

Vice Mayor Rumrell advised yes. If the federal government's Build Back Better Act is passed, then it would be eight weeks through FMLA. He said when it passes it would be mandatory.

Commissioner George asked what would happen if there were several qualified FMLA events that happens in one year to an employee. Will the positions be filled with temps?

Commander Harrell advised that in law enforcement there are no temps; however, there is a Memorandum of Understanding with other agencies that the City has to help law enforcement if an agency has employees out.

Discussion ensued regarding how much paid leave to give; a baby cannot go into a nursery until after six to eight weeks depending on the nursery; documents are needed to receive FMLA; and Build Back Better Act if passed would allow four weeks paid and is broader than the FMLA current policies and includes spouses, domestic partners, grandchildren, etc.

Commissioner Torres asked if the budget is being crafted that every position is filled 365 days with a built-in vacation.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that the budget is based on 2080 hours per year for each employee and some overtime for events.

Commissioner Torres advised that he would support this change if the funding for it was already in the budget.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Comments section. The following addressed the Commission:

Sgt. Natalie Gillespie, 2300 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL, advised that pregnancies should be an exciting time for families, but because of not enough leave, it causes stress to the employees; the City would be trailblazing on this and would help employees to stay; Publix is now paying for their employees maternity and paternity leave; this policy would give financial support to families; making a decision to have a family should not rest on whether the employee has enough sick and vacation time; Mayo Clinic advises that recovery time for a woman is between six to eight weeks; employees deserve more leave time for pregnancies,

sick spouse, illnesses, etc., and this policy would separate our City from other cities and show that the City wants to take care of their employees.

Jacqueline Parrish, 2300 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL, advised on June 7<sup>th</sup> she gave birth to her child. She explained that she has five years with the City and before the birth she only used one sick day and that was because of being exposed by COVID-19. After five years, she used her entire sick time and came back early to save some vacation time to take care of her son. She explained that since her child has been born, she has had to take her child three times to a medical facility and could not be in daycare for one week. She advised that she only has 20 hours left in sick time. She advised if this would have been passed, it would have helped her. It would have been a weight lifted off her shoulders. She shouldn't have to beg to work remotely to not burn all her leave time. She commented that she wants more children and with the current policy she would have to wait five more years before she could have one. Her spouse helped her because he had paternity leave.

Mallory Gambill, 2300 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL, advised that she has been working for the City patrolling for three years and found out that she was going to have a baby. She advised that it has not been exciting for her family, but it has been stressful. She explained that she has had complications with her pregnancy and has been hospitalized and depleted 72 hours of sick time. She works through lunches and stays late to make up for the doctor visits and to save up for when she has the baby. The Police Department has been very accommodating, but there is only so much the Police Department can do. She has six weeks on the books for vacation and sick leave currently. There are only five people with enough hours to donate and it would not seem fair to them. Please support the paternity / maternity leave.

Cynthia Aderhold, 2300 A1A South, St. Augustine, FL, explained that during the 2 1/2 years she has been with the City, she has only used one sick day. She has a total of 216 hours of sick leave totaling 5.4 weeks, which is not enough time for a birth of a child. She explained that she would exhaust all her leave when the baby is born. She commented that an employee would have to be employed for five years before the employee would have enough time for a birth. It forces the employee to choose to pay their bills or to bring another life into the world. It has been stressful during this time because there is not enough time for doctor visits, blood work to be done, so she works through lunches and stays late to make up for the appointments. She commented that she is due on March 19<sup>th</sup> and does not have enough time and her husband does not have the type of job that he could take off. She explained that she does not want to ask members of the Police Department to donate time repeatedly. She asked the Commission to please support this and thanked Commander Harrell for helping us through this.

Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments section and advised that it is heartwarming to see St. Augustine Beach family continuing to grow. He advised that this would be a policy change done through a resolution, which should come back at the February Commission meeting.

City Attorney Taylor suggested that the Commission give staff how they would like to change the policy, especially when putting the change in the FMLA policy. He requested the Commission to discuss how they would like to handle several qualifying events in one year.

Commissioner England advised that the FMLA gives up to 12 weeks per year. The paid leave would be four to six weeks depending on the decision of the Commission. All the FMLA rules, regulations, and eligibility would have to be met and the employer does have to approve.

Discussion ensued regarding military active duty FMLA benefits; what unintended consequences there might be; Public Works and Building Department would agree to what the Commission wants; an employee according to FMLA rules has to have worked for the City for one year; effective date would be in February if the Commission passes the resolution; what is a serious health condition for FMLA; 30-day requirement of notice and provide doctor's note if possible; and whether the accrued sick and vacation time be used before the City's benefit time would be used.

Commissioner England commented that she would want the employees' sick and vacation time used first and then the City would give them the four or six weeks of FMLA time. She also advised that she wants to discuss the amount of liability there is for sick and vacation time at another time.

Vice Mayor Rumrell advised that he wants the FMLA paid time to be used first and not the employees sick and vacation time.

Commissioner England advised that the City is very generous on sick and vacation time and basically has no cap on the amount on the books.

Vice Mayor Rumrell advised that this change in policy for the four- or six-weeks leave is so the employee does not have to deplete their sick and vacation leave.

Commander Harrell agreed with Vice Mayor Rumrell.

Commissioner England disagreed with using paid leave first and having exceptions for every type of illness.

Mayor Samora agreed with using the FMLA paid leave first and then having the employee use their sick and vacation leave.

Commissioner England advised that having exceptions to a regulatory point of view are very difficult to enforce fairly.

Mayor Samora asked Commissioner England if the Commission agrees to stay within the guidelines of the FMLA event, then would that alleviate her concerns.

Commissioner England advised that an employee could make up time for doctor's appointment.

Vice Mayor Rumrell advised that he has seen where employees use FMLA, and they never needed to use their sick or vacation time. He advised that FMLA only secures the employee's job. He explained that he supports having the six weeks up front and then using the employee's sick and vacation time. He advised that an employee could take FMLA unpaid as well.

City Clerk asked what the Commission wants for the number of paid leave so she could write a policy.

Discussion ensued regarding how many weeks should be paid leave under FMLA.

Mayor Samora asked for a motion.

Motion: to approve up to six weeks of paid FMLA under the terms, conditions, rules, and regulations of the City of St. Augustine Beach Personnel Manual and under the federal Family

Medical and Leave Act. This includes but not limited to eligibility, leave entitlement, notice and certification. **Moved by** Commissioner England, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Rumrell.

Mayor Samora asked for a roll call vote.

COMMISSIONER GEORGE Yes

COMMISSIONER TORRES Yes

MAYOR SAMORA Yes

VICE MAYOR RUMRELL Yes

COMMISSIONER ENGLAND Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney Taylor advised that he will draft a policy and bring it back to the Commission at the next February Commission meeting.

Commissioner England requested to place on the February Commission Regular agenda the accrued unused sick and vacation leave. She explained that this is a contingent liability on the City's books and is glad that the auditors brought it up. She asked staff to inform the Commission of this amount. She asked staff and City Attorney Taylor what could be done with the already accrued sick and vacation time and what would be a good financially solvent proposal going forward.

It was the consensus of the Commission to place the accrued unused sick and vacation leave on the next Commission meeting agenda.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item 3.

3. <u>Ocean Walk Subdivision Drainage Improvements:</u> Approval of Contract with Matthews Design Group (Presenter: Bill Tredik, Public Works Director)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 3 and then asked Public Works Director Tredik for his staff report.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that this to approve the contract with Matthews Design Group and to have City Manager Royle to complete the negotiations for the Ocean Walk drainage improvement project. He explained that this contractor has done previous work, but now needs to do additional design and permitting for the project. Staff feels that the proposed fees are appropriate for the work that needs to be done. City Attorney Taylor reviewed that contract and only suggested that a clause should be changed to say that since the City paid for the design, the City should own the design and will be able to keep the documents. He said that it really does apply to this type of project. He advised that the contract has been decreased for the project to make them consistent with the Department of Environmental Protection grant agreement. Public Works Director Tredik advised that he is about to submit billing for what was approved by the Commission in November.

Commissioner England asked about the non-functional swales within the neighborhood and whether the City could facilitate improving the swales by cleaning them out or encourage the homeowners to put flood mitigation in place.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that swales are challenging because they tend to fill in overtime and the City has to dig them out and put grass in, which is costly.

Commissioner England advised that the City of St. Augustine had a workshop for residents who could come and ask questions on what they could do to mitigate flooding and direct the flow of water differently.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that next year there would be public workshops on the master drainage study update. He advised that this project would have public workshops as well.

Mayor Samora advised that it is in the contract or to have workshops and present the design to the residents.

Vice Mayor Rumrell asked Public Works Director Tredik to see if the documentation can be the City's instead of the designers.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that he would look into that.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Comments section. Being none, Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments and asked for a motion.

Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments section and asked for any further Commission discussion.

Mayor Samora asked for a motion.

**Motion:** to approve Matthews Design Group's contract. **Moved by** Commissioner George, **Seconded by** Commissioner England. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item 4.

## XIV. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

 Street Sweeping Service: Approval of Interlocal Agreement with St. Augustine (Presenter: Bill Tredik, Public Works Director)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 4 and then asked Public Works Director Tredik to give his staff report.

Public Works Director Tredik explained that street sweeping is required on A1A Beach Boulevard monthly and is regulated by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). He advised that the street sweeper contract or that the City uses has not done a thorough and consistent job and he would like to change the contract to have the City of St. Augustine to sweep the street. He commented that they just got a new sweeper, and they would be monitoring how much is picked up by the sweeper, which is a requirement of FDEP.

Vice Mayor Rumrell asked if this work would be scheduled.

Public Works Director Tredik advised yes.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Comments section. Being none, Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments section and then asked for a motion.

Mayor Samora read through the interlocal agreement. He said that there are cancellation clauses and a cost-of-living escalator.

Motion: to approve the interlocal agreement. Moved by Commissioner George, Seconded by Vice Mayor Dylan. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item 5.

5. Ordinance 22-01, First Reading: to Adopt the School Board's Five-Year District Facilities Plan by Reference (Presenter: Brian Law, Building Official)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 5 and then asked Building Official Law to give his staff report.

Building Official Law advised that this is done every year in order for the City to apply for certain grants.

Mayor Samora commented under Section 3 of the ordinance is where a list of capital improvements is shown. He asked for next year to summarize the improvements that serve the students of the City of St. Augustine Beach.

Building Official Law will highlight the schools near the City of St. Augustine Beach.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Hearing. Being none, Mayor Samora closed the Public Hearing and asked City Attorney Taylor to read the preamble of Ordinance 22-01.

City Attorney Taylor read the preamble of Ordinance 22-01.

Mayor Samora asked for a motion.

Motion: to approve Ordinance 22-01. Moved by Vice Mayor Rumrell, Seconded by Commissioner George. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora moved on to Item 6.

6. Ocean Hammock Park: Review of Regulations (Presenter: Max Royle, City Manager)

Mayor Samora introduced Item 6 and then asked City Manager Royle for his report.

City Manager Royle explained that the Commission asked for the regulations for parks in the City of St. Augustine Beach. Deputy City Clerk Fitzgerald has provided for the Commission with the existing regulations and what other cities near us require. City Manager Royle advised that he spoke with Police Chief Carswell, and he did not recommend any changes.

Mayor Samora advised that he brought this up so before Ocean Hammock Park opens, that the regulations would be sufficient.

Police Chief Carswell advised that the regulations have everything is needed. He mainly was concerned over people staying past the hours of closing. He did research all the calls at the park and saw that 99.5% were generated by his officers checking on the park. He explained that there was very little contact with people there after it closed.

Mayor Samora suggested to prohibit the restrooms for bathing, to have only human powered bicycles in the trails, and to prohibit wading and swimming since there are wetlands in Ocean Hammock Park.

Discussion ensued regarding whether to allow bicycles at all in the trails because it is intended for conservation; providing bike racks; and trails intended for walking and hiking.

Mayor Samora opened the Public Comments section. Being none, Mayor Samora closed the Public Comments section and then asked for any further Commission discussion. Being none, Mayor Samora moved on to Item XV.

## XV. STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Samora asked City Clerk Raddatz for any staff comments.

City Clerk Raddatz wished everyone a Happy New Year and said that she was retiring on January 28, 2022. She thanked the Commission, City Manager Royle, and all the other staff members for the opportunity serving the residents of St. Augustine Beach. It was a pleasure and a privilege.

Finance Director Douylliez advised that she is still waiting for information on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) on what is allowable to spend the funding on. She also advised that she is in the middle of the audit and has sent the auditors a lot of their materials already.

Mayor Samora advised that he would be emailing Ms. Douylliez with some of his suggestions on projects that ARPA funding could be used for.

Police Chief Carswell thanked the Public Works staff and Communications and Event Coordinator Conlon for the Light Up the Night event. He commented that he has heard very good comments about the event. He informed the public and the Commission that the Ron Parker Park celebration will be next Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner England asked when the cars cleared out after the event.

Police Chief Carswell said by 9:30 p.m. it was almost normal traffic and by 10:00 p.m. everything was broken down and staff was gone.

Mayor Samora advised that the only thing to look at next year is more lighting on A Street because when the shuttle dropped people off it was dark.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that curbside recycling resumed today and there were not too many problems. Staff was picking up two days of garbage plus recycling, so it was very busy. He advised that a lot of bins were tagged because the residents had items that the City is not accepting. He hopes that residents will understand what the City will pick up and that will reduce the phone calls.

Vice Mayor Rumrell asked if there will be any educational workshops for residents on recycling. He suggested a Town Hall meeting since we just started recycling again.

Public Works Director Tredik advised staff could do that. He advised that he would like to wait a couple of weeks to see if there is more compliance so the Town Hall meeting would not be necessary. He advised that maybe in the future there could be an agreement with the City of St. Augustine to accept glass, but staff is not ready for that yet. He explained that staff has applied for three HMGP grants that were related to COVID-19, which the Commission approved last time. He advised the projects are the Windstorm Mitigation of City Hall, the Police Station and Building C, and Public Works critical facility emergency generator, and the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Street's drainage improvement project. He will inform the Commission when he receives any information. He has a grant agreement for Mayor Samora to sign for the HMGP grant for the backflow prevention of County Road A1A to Salt Run.

Mayor Samora asked about the nautical Christmas lights being used.

Public Works Director Tredik advised that he has them at the Public Works facility and he is going to try to use them eventually, but since they cannot be put on the utility poles they are being stored.

Vice Mayor Rumrell said that there were signs regarding the new crosswalks being put in.

Building Official Law said he had no comments.

City Manager Royle advised that he has a new title "Fixer of Everything" that City Clerk Raddatz gave him, and he will keep it on his desk and think of Ms. Raddatz when she has retired. He advised that the City has received some applications for the City Clerk / HR Director position and will be interviewing this week.

Mayor Samora reminded everyone that there will be a SEPAC meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup>. Ron Parker Celebration is on January 12<sup>th</sup> and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is January 17<sup>th</sup>, so the offices are closed. The Comprehensive Planning and Zoning Board is on January 18<sup>th</sup>. The next Commission meeting is February 7<sup>th</sup>, and the Commission Workshop will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

## XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** to adjourn. **Moved by** Commissioner George, **Seconded by** Vice Mayor Rumrell. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Samora adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Donald Samora, Mayor

Dariana Fitzgerald, City Clerk