

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
October 10, 2023
3000 Bellemead Drive, Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118

1. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR

Present: Mayor Nancy Miller, Commissioner Mel Lindauer, Commissioner Richard Bryan, Vice Mayor Michael Politis, Commissioner Chris Conomos

Staff: City Manager Kurt Swartzlander, City Clerk Cheri Schwab, City Attorney Paul Waters, Community Services Director Stewart Cruz, Finance Director Lory Irwin, Economic Development and Public Affairs Director Nancy Maddox, and Public Safety Director Michael Fowler.

2. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK

3. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Port Orange Wholesale Agreement for Sewer Rates

John McKinney, Deputy City Manager and Finance Director for the City of Port Orange, spoke to the commission regarding a wholesale sewer rate increase. He explained that there had been no major change to the rates since 2014. Port Orange had a utility rate study performed in Sept. 2022 by Raftelis. Their final report was submitted in July 2023 which caused them to miss the contract deadline of July 1 to notify the city of an increase. Study details were shown in a PPT and its impact on future rates. An increase of 5.75% is proposed for the next 4 years that would begin on January 1, 2024. The rate would go from \$3.46 to \$4.05 per thousand gallons. Comm. Lindauer wanted to ensure that the DBS rate was not more than what a PO resident would pay. Mr. McKinney felt the rates should be similar. He noted that going forward, the city would do an every other year review of their rate structure.

City Manager Kurt Swartzlander spoke to the commission. He explained that the existing contract with the City of Port Orange states that notice must be given by July 1 for any rate increase. The city missed their deadline. It was his opinion, If the commission were to reject the increase beginning in 2024, the increase could double or more beginning in 2025 to make up for it. He felt the request was reasonable and showed examples of the increase for both residential and commercial properties. A consensus from the commission was requested.

After a brief discussion, the commission gave consensus to move forward with the requested increase from the City of Port Orange beginning January 2024 and to place items on the next agenda to begin the process.

Mayor Miller briefly spoke about a few bills that were recently discussed at a roundtable meeting. They are: the live local bill (SB 102) and SB 4D for condo engineering reserves. She also explained that the municipal administration committee has been discussing public safety incentives, additional exemptions for public records and short-term rentals.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting ended at 5:49 pm.

**MAYOR
NANCY MILLER**

**CITY MANAGER
KURT D. SWARTZLANDER**

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK, CHERI SCHWAB