Volusia Growth Management Commission

MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD
Wednesday, February 26, 2020

Daytona Beach City Hall
City Commission Chambers
301 S. Ridgewood Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sid Vihlen, Jr., Chair
Debbie Connors, Vice Chair
Christy Gillis, Secretary
Doug Gutierrez
Larry Saffer
Mary Swiderski
Teresa Pope
Joseph Hammett
Robert Storke
Harold Briley
Paul Manning
Jon Greene
Daniel Robins
John Samuelson
Jack Surrette
Thomas Wright

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Loretta Arthur, Secretary
Sandy Lou Gallagher

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Saralee Morrissey (not present)
Steven Fitzgibbons (not present)

OTHERS PRESENT

Merry Chris Smith, VGMC Operations Manager
Heather Ramos, GrayRobinson, VGMC General Counsel

REPRESENTING

DeBary
Port Orange
South Daytona
Daytona Beach
Daytona Beach Shores
DeLand
Edgewater
Lake Helen
Orange City
Ormond Beach
Ponce Inlet
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County
Volusia County

Holly Hill
Deltona

Volusia County School Board
SJRWMD
CALL TO ORDER

VGMC Chairman Sid Vihlen, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and it was determined there was a quorum present.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizens present who wished to speak at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Smith pointed out that the January 22, 2020 draft minutes list Loretta Arthur both present and not present. She stated Ms. Arthur was not in attendance at the January meeting and the minutes will be corrected to reflect that. Harold Briley made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2020 meeting as amended; seconded by Mary Swiderski. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Vihlen stated there were no items scheduled for public hearing.

REPORT FROM PLANNING CONSULTANT

Mr. Dougherty was not present at the meeting.

REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL

Heather Ramos, VGMC legal counsel, stated there were no legal updates at this time. She also commented on the amount of work and coordination efforts of Mr. Dougherty and the City of Daytona Beach relating to several current pending Daytona Beach applications.

REPORT FROM COMMISSION OPERATIONS MANAGER

Ms. Smith stated the commission continues to receive a steady flow of new amendment applications. She also reported that the two of the three pending Daytona Beach applications Mr. Dougherty spoke of at the January meeting have been resolved through the RAI process and certified. The third, in which we received petitions for hearing from both Ormond Beach and Volusia County, is presently planned for public hearing at the April 22, 2020 VGMC meeting.
REPORT FROM COMMISSION CHAIR

Chair Vihlen spoke of the commitment and work of former VGMC Chair Debbie Connors. He presented Ms. Connors with a plaque on behalf of the commission in appreciation of her contributions and service.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

POP Report: POP Committee Chair Debbie Connors stated the committee met prior to the regular meeting and discussed whether or not there was a need to put out a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RSQ) for any of the consultant contracts. She stated Ms. Ramos was also part of the discussion, and the committee decided not to issue an RSQ for any of the contracts.

Mr. Vihlen commented that GrayRobinson and both planning firms do an outstanding job for the commission and their rates are very competitive. Ms. Connors added that GrayRobinson has represented the commission since the inception of the VGMC, and they do not have conflicts representing others on comprehensive plan issues in Volusia County. She also stated that a question was raised as to whether the commission is required to solicit bids on the contracts, and it was determined the commission can set its’ own policy. Additionally, Ms. Connors added that each of the contracts contains a cancellation clause that the commission could exercise any time.

Budget Report: Budget Committee Chair Christy Gillis stated the Budget Committee met prior to the regular meeting. She stated the 2019-20 budget expenses are in line with the budget. Additionally, the committee reviewed the 2020-21 proposed budget and bring forward in the form of a motion a recommendation to the full commission to approve the 2020-21 budget as presented. Mr. Vihlen stated the proposed 2020-21 budget was brought before the commission at the January meeting and also was circulated in the current agenda package. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the commission members. There being no questions, Ms. Connors seconded the motion to approve the 2020-21 proposed budget as presented and the motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMISSIONER REQUESTS OR REMARKS

None
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.