

# City of Port St. Lucie

## City Council

### Meeting Minutes

121 SW Port St. Lucie  
Blvd.  
Port St. Lucie, Florida  
34984

Gregory J. Oravec, Mayor

Stephanie Morgan, Councilwoman, District I  
Dave Pickett, Councilman, District II  
Shannon Martin, Vice Mayor, District III  
Jolien Caraballo, Councilwoman, District IV

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**Monday, March 22, 2021**

**6:30 PM**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

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#### **Meeting to follow the 5:30 PM CRA**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

A Regular Meeting of the CITY COUNCIL of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Mayor Oravec on March 23, 2021, at 6:51 p.m., at Port St. Lucie City Hall, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

**2. Roll Call**

Council Members

Present: Mayor Gregory J. Oravec  
Vice Mayor Shannon Martin  
Councilwoman Jolien Caraballo  
Councilman Dave Pickett

Council Members

Not Present: Councilwoman Stephanie Morgan

**3. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance**

This item was conducted at the previous Community Redevelopment Agency meeting.

**4. Proclamations and Special Presentations**

- 4.a** "Our Water" video series presentation [2021-229](#)

(Clerk's Note: A Video was shown at this time.)

Sarah Prohaska, Communications Director, gave a presentation on the "Our Water" video series and stated that the videos would be available on the City's website.

- 4.b** Hear a presentation proposing an expansion of the Small Business Plan and related support services. [2021-246](#)

(Clerk's Note: This presentation did not take place.)

- 4.c** Discuss the 2021 State Legislative Update - Week 2 [2021-258](#)

Jim Stokes, City Attorney, stated that Deputy City Attorney Gilbert was unable to attend the meeting and that if the Council had any concerns they would be addressed. Councilwoman Caraballo stated that she would like an update on the Design Bill and short-term rentals.

**5. Public to be Heard**

**SPEEDING COMPLAINT FOR S.W. SUNGLOW STREET**

Michael Stabile spoke regarding the excessive speeding on S.W. Sunglow Street and asked for another Traffic Study.

Mark Salvanger spoke regarding the excessive speeding on S.W. Sunglow Street and asked for another Traffic Study.

Shelia Salvanger spoke regarding the excessive speeding on S.W. Sunglow Street and asked for another Traffic Study.

Mayor Oravec stated that he was very proud of the Council for establishing a Traffic Calming Program and explained that they were unable to install speed bumps, but they were allowed to install speed table. Mayor Oravec stated that he would like the Traffic Study to be repeated by placing the devices at problem areas and requested that results be brought back to a future Special City Council meeting.

Mayor Oravec stated that traffic behavior was a problem in the City and explained that the City Council had expressed support in changing the speed limit on all residential roads from 30 mph to 25 mph. Mayor Oravec and Vice Mayor Martin stated that they would like Traffic Enforcement Units located in each District.

Councilwoman Caraballo stated that they needed to address the speeding carefully through the Traffic Calming Program and suggested capturing speeding data in a

stealth manner. Councilman Pickett stated that most of the emails he received were related to speeding and that they needed to become more aggressive before it got worse. Mayor Oravec suggested having a reverse 9-1-1 call for the neighborhood and asked how much it would cost, to which the City Manager responded that he was unsure but that it was not that expensive. Mayor Oravec also requested that Neighborhood Services and N.I.C.E bring back a neighborhood beautification project, which goes along with traffic calming.

#### **6. Additions or Deletions to Agenda and Approval of Agenda**

Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve the Agenda with Item 13 b) removed at the request of staff. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **7. Approval of Consent Agenda**

This item was Approved.

- 7.a** February 8, 2021 Regular Council and February 22, 2021 [2021-222](#)  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes

This item was Approved.

- 7.b** Approve Staff's Recommendation for Improvements to the [2021-210](#)  
Becker Road Roundabout.

This Consent item was Approved.

- 7.c** Request Approval to Disburse Payment of Ten (10) Days of [2021-264](#)  
Accrued Vacation Leave to the City Manager

This item was Approved.

- 7.d** Approve Shortlisted Firms and Begin Negotiations for the [2021-209](#)  
Request for Proposals (eRFP) # 20210032 for Construction  
Engineering and Inspection (CEI) & Geotechnical (GEO)  
Services for the Port St. Lucie Boulevard North Project

Councilwoman Caraballo stated that she had a family member who was an employee of the company and she was abstaining from the vote, as she has done in the past.

Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Item 7 d). Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote with Mayor Oravec, Vice Mayor Martin, and Councilman Pickett voting in favor, and Councilwoman Caraballo abstaining from the vote.

(Clerk's Note: A voting conflict form is attached to the minutes.)

- 7.e** Approve a Major Site Plan for Vitas-Tradition (P21-003) [2021-240](#)

This item was Approved.

- 7.f** Motion to Approve the Disposition of Surplus City-Owned real property described as LTC Ranch PUD# 1 Parcel 3 as recorded in Plat Book, Page 40, Page 1 in the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida, as per City Policy #18-01ccd. [2021-244](#)

Councilwoman Caraballo stated that she would like the Council to consider delaying the potential surplus of the property until they knew what Project Midway would be and explained that it was the only property left in that area. Mayor Oravec stated that it may not be sold right away, and it was a good time to solicit, to which Councilwoman Caraballo responded that the market could change and the City Manager informed her that it couldn't hurt to hold off for a little bit, if Council supported it. Vice Mayor Martin stated that she was not aware of any issues and didn't understand why they would delay it. The City Manager explained that they have only had inquiries but no offers and at this point, they have not surplused the property to make it available. Mayor Oravec stated that he would be in favor of completing an appraisal after Project Midway was announced.

Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Item 7 f). Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 7.g** Approve Planning and Zoning Board Recommendation to Remove a Board Member Due to Absenteeism [2021-260](#)

This item was Approved.

- 7.h** Approve a Major Site Plan Amendment Application for Riverland Sports and Racquet Club Phase 3 (P20-068-A2) [2021-249](#)

This item was Approved.

## **8. Second Reading of Ordinances, Public Hearings**

- 8.a** Ordinance 21-19, Quasi-Judicial, Public Hearing, An Ordinance Rezoning Property Located South of Discovery Way and West of Community Boulevard from St. Lucie County AG-5 (Agricultural - One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) Zoning District to a MPUD (Master Planned Unit Development) Zoning District for a Project Known as Riverland/Kennedy Parcel B (P20-175). [2021-055](#)

The City Attorney read the Quasi-Judicial Procedures into the record

and stated that they pertained to Item 8 a). The Assistant City Clerk administered the Oath of Testimony to staff and other interested parties and read Ordinance 21-19 aloud by title only. Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and asked if there were any ex-parte communications, to which Councilman Pickett and Councilwoman Caraballo stated that they received a text but did not respond. (Clerk's Note: A copy of the text message was provided for the record.)

Mayor Oravec requested that the testimony from the Special City Council meeting held on March 8, 2021, be referenced, and entered into the record. He asked the City Attorney if there was any verbiage to be added, to which the City Attorney responded in the negative. Mayor Oravec requested that the text message be entered into the record along with the letter dated March 22, 2021 from Mr. Akel to the City Council.

Mayor Oravec asked Daniel Robinson, Planner, to limit his comments to only new testimony, as they did not need to hear the old testimony or relitigate any grievances, to which Mr. Robinson responded that he was sworn in and did not have any new testimony to provide.

Diana Spriggs, Regulatory Division Director, provided a brief summary of the Traffic Study.

Gary Hunter, Riverland Kennedy, thanked Mayor Oravec for entering the testimony from the First Reading into the record and stated that he agreed with Ms. Spriggs presentation. Mr. Hunter stated that the Simmons and White report related to the NOPC for the DRI, which was approved at the last hearing. He stated that Ms. Troutman completed the study using the MPUD and rezoning, which was currently before the Council. Mr. Hunter stated that Ms. Troutman's study was the focus of the MPUD, as required by the DRI Order and that the Site Plan submittal required a trip analysis. Mr. Hunter stated that he read Mr. Akel's letter and requested that the Council not delay the item. He added that they would proceed with the commitments that they made to the City Council two weeks ago.

Alfred Malefatto, Esq., stated that they were opposing Riverland's application and stated that Riverland made a commitment to fund the construction of Becker Road, to which there has been no action. Mr. Malefatto stated that on March 8th, the Council mentioned that they were going to declare a default on the Annexation Agreement, which

was also not completed and by approving the Ordinance it would render any future default declaration meaningless. (Clerk's Note: At this time, Mr. Malefatto read Mr. Akel's letter into the record.)

Susan O'Rourke, Traffic Engineer, stated that she reviewed the Traffic Study from Simmons and White and explained that it was a buildout study, which only included the final product 20 years from now. Ms. O'Rourke asked for the piece to include between now and full build out, as it was very important and missing from the analysis.

Horacio Moncada, Akel Homes, stated that it was important to look at what is not being said, which was the methodologies being applied would leave McCarty Ranch with no access. He explained that the bottom line was that a WATT was not completed, and it should have been. Mr. Moncada stated that the Council needed to direct staff to evaluate the studies properly and the remodeling of the WATT, then decide.

Gary Hunter, Riverland Kennedy, stated that they were ready to fund their portion of Becker and they were working with City staff. He explained that their project was in excess of 11,000 units and in excess of 2 million non-residential square feet within the Riverland Project and added that the City had the opportunity to secure compliance. Mr. Hunter explained that the Simmons and White Study dealt with the issue two weeks ago and Ms. Troutman's study pertained to the MPUD, which required a trip generation analysis related to a Site Plan approval.

Mayor Oravec asked the City Attorney if he had any advice for the Council, to which Mr. Stokes responded that the litigation counsel was on ZOOM if there needed to be any intervention and explained that they had litigation pending and they did not want to impact that.

Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Ordinance 21-19. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. Under discussion, Councilwoman Caraballo stated that in the future they would be looking at FDOT grades, not trip counts. She added that Ms. Spriggs' summary explained the impact and the potential outcome. Councilwoman Caraballo stated that she would love to have a side-by-side comparison of the impacts when the Annexation Agreement or Development Order are changed. Mayor Oravec requested that staff give an update at the Winter or Summer Retreat on WATTS, traffic counts, and traffic

models. Councilman Pickett asked how the vote affected the ongoing litigation, to which Mr. Stokes responded that it was a complex issue and it was hard to say what impact it would have and he believed Council's direction regarding the Annexation Agreement may be an issue driving the settlement negotiations. Mr. Stokes stated that he did not think this issue alone would move things along or deter things. Councilman Pickett confirmed that GL Homes would keep their commitment regarding the section on Becker Road, to which Kevin Ratterree, GL Homes, responded in the affirmative and stated that when the City approached them for funding, they would cut the check. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Ordinance 21-19. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 8.b** Ordinance 21-20, Public Hearing, An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 71.1 - Speed Zones [2021-166](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-20 aloud by title only. Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing.

There being no discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Councilman Pickett moved to approve Ordinance 21-20. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Ordinance 21-20. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 8.c** Ordinance 21-21, Public Hearing, Abandoning a Portion of a Twenty (20) foot Utility and Drainage Easement affecting Lot 14, Block 548, Port St. Lucie Section Thirteen, recorded in Plat Book 13, Page(s) 4, 4A to 4M, of the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida. [2021-178](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-21 aloud by title only. Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and asked the Council if they had any questions, to which there were none.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Ordinance 21-21. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Ordinance 21-21. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 8.d** Ordinance 21-22, Public Hearing, Abandoning a Portion of a Twenty (20) foot Utility and Drainage Easement affecting Lot 20, Block 1689, Port St. Lucie Section Thirty-One, recorded in Plat Book 14, Page(s) 22, 22A to 2G, of the Public Records of [2021-189](#)

St. Lucie County, Florida.

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-22 aloud by title only. Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and asked the Council if they had any questions, to which there were none.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Ordinance 21-22. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Ordinance 21-22. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 8.e** Ordinance 21-23, Public Hearing, Abandoning a Portion of a Twenty (20) foot Utility and Drainage Easement affecting Lot 12, Block 2374, Port St. Lucie Section Thirty Four, recorded in Plat Book 15, Page(s) 9, 9A to 9W, of the Public Records of St. Lucie County, Florida.

[2021-190](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-23 aloud by title only. Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and asked the Council if they had any questions, to which there were none.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Ordinance 21-23. Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Ordinance 21-23. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**9. Other Public Hearings**

- 9.a** Public Hearing for Public Input on the City's Pre-Application for the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Grant Round 2 and to Approve the Submittal of the Pre-Application

[2021-221](#)

Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and asked the City Manager to have staff present on all three items.

Alessandra Tasca, Community Programs Administrator, provided an overview of all applications being amended for CDBG funding. She explained that the Public Hearings were standard protocol for the CDBG Program and under the Department of Housing and Urban Development to allow the public to comment on the additions and amendments of previous action plans based on new funding.

Mayor Oravec asked how long it would be before they could start helping residents, to which Ms. Tasca responded that the funding for Small Business Assistance was funneled through the State via the Department of Economic Opportunity and they did not have a date certain. She added that there would be another Public Hearing before they submit the final applications and would provide more details. Mayor Oravec inquired as to if they had a plan on how they would help the small businesses in Port St. Lucie, to which Ms. Tasca responded that Elijah Wooten, Business Navigator and the Small Business Development Council had a draft proposal, which would be included with the application and available online for public viewing. Councilman Pickett asked if the grant funding was only available for businesses in existence pre-COVID, to which the City Manager responded that there were different criteria's being discussed and requested that Councilman Pickett provide the resident's name, so they can contact her if she is eligible for assistance.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Item 9 a). Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Item 9 a). The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**9.b** Public Hearing for Public Input on the Amendment of the  
2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action  
Plan & Funding Allocations

[2021-255](#)

The City Manager stated that the item was to increase the annual CDBG for one year.

Alessandra Tasca, Community Programs Administrator, explained that the Government rolled out the two separate CARES ACT in three rounds. She stated that the first round automatically went to all of the municipality's entitlement communities, which included the City. The second round did not go directly to the municipalities, as it was funneled through the State. The third round came towards the end of the year, and they were opening the public comment period in order to incorporate the funding. Ms. Tasca added that the first and third round were clearly dedicated to individual assistance through rental and mortgage programs.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Item 9 b). Councilwoman Caraballo

seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Item 9 b). The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 9.c** Public Hearing for the Amendment of the 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan - Mobile tutoring and education program with the Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie County [2021-256](#)

Mayor Oravec opened the Public Hearing and explained that staff was proposing to utilize some of the additional funding from the allocations to support a strategic goal and to address the education gap resulting from the pandemic.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing was closed. Councilman Pickett moved to approve Item 9 c). Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: For approval of Item 9 c). The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**10. First Reading of Ordinances**

- 10.a** Ordinance 21-24, Authorizing the Conveyance of Previously Designated Road Right-of-Way for Paar Drive, from Village Parkway to Interstate 95, to the Port St. Lucie Governmental Finance Corporation. [2021-242](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-24 aloud by title only. There being no discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Ordinance 21-24. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 10.b** Ordinance 21-25, An Ordinance to Rezone 36 Acres of Property Located Directly North of Becker Road, East of SW Village Parkway, West of Interstate 95, and North and South of the Paar Road Right-of-Way From the Zoning Designation of AG-5 (SLC Agricultural-5) to the the City's MPUD (Master Planned Unit Development) Zoning District; to Include the 36 Acres in the Tradition Regional Business Park @ Southern Grove MPUD and to Amend the MPUD Conceptual Master Plan and Regulation Document for a project known as Tradition Regional Business Park MPUD Amendment No. 1 (P21-032) [2021-248](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-25 aloud by title only.

There being no discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Ordinance 21-25. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 10.c** Ordinance 21-26, An Ordinance Amending Title III, [2021-245](#)  
“Administration”, Chapter 32, “Departments, Boards, and  
Committees”, Article VII, “Planning and Zoning Board” of the  
Code of Ordinances of the City of Port St. Lucie.

The Assistant City Clerk read Ordinance 21-26 aloud by title only.  
There being no discussion, Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Ordinance 21-26. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

## 11. Resolutions

- 11.a** Resolution 21-R29, Approve a Resolution to Revise City [2021-211](#)  
Council Directed Policy #19-06 Investment Policy.

The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 21-R29 aloud by title only.

The City Manager stated that the item was to increase the percentage of the City’s investments that are withheld in treasuries or similar vehicles for investments. Mayor Oravec asked if the Council had any questions for the City Manager, to which there were none.

There being no further discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Resolution 21-R29. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: for approval of Resolution 21-R29. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 11.b** Resolution 21-R30, Authorizing the City Manager, or his [2021-241](#)  
designee, to Enter into and Execute a Construction  
Agreement with the State of Florida Department of  
Transportation for the Purpose of Constructing Boardwalk  
Improvements within the Right-of-Way of State Road 716  
(Port St. Lucie Boulevard).

The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 21-R30 aloud by title only.

The City Manager explained that the FDOT permit was part of the item, but they would also need to obtain a FDEP permit. He added that FDOT needed to get their permit for the work to be completed on the bulkheads under the bridge, which was estimated to be completed within the next three months. The City Manager stated that the City’s

work was only four months or less.

There being no further discussion, Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Resolution 21-R30. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: for approval of Resolution 21-R30. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 11.c** Resolution 21-R31, Authorizing the Mayor to execute the State of Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) State-Funded Grant Agreement for the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (“TRIP”) necessary for the FDOT’s participation in improving Port St. Lucie Boulevard from Darwin Boulevard to Gatlin Boulevard.

[2021-196](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 21-R31 aloud by title only.

The City Manager explained that a large portion of Port St. Lucie Boulevard was funded by a Transportation Regional Incentive Program, which means it could potentially impact Martin County and St. Lucie County. Regarding any Port St. Lucie Boulevard South items, Mayor Oravec asked that the City Manager provide the graphic that was provided at the Retreat, which showed the different segments and the start and ends dates.

There being no further discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Resolution 21-R31. Councilwoman Caraballo seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: for approval of Resolution 21-R31. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 11.d** Resolution 21-R32, A Resolution Approving a Corrective Plat for Southern Grove Plat No. 28 on the Request of Baron Shoppes Tradition, LLC (P20-006)

[2021-236](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 21-R32 aloud by title only.

There being no discussion, Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Resolution 21-R32. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: for approval of Resolution 21-R32. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

- 11.e** Resolution 21-R33, A Resolution Approving and Accepting the Final Plat and Construction Plans for Telaro at Southern Grove, Phase I (P21-013).

[2021-233](#)

The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 21-R33 aloud by title only.

There being no discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Resolution 21-R33. Councilman Pickett seconded the motion. The Assistant City Clerk restated the motion as follows: for approval of Resolution 21-R33. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

**12. Unfinished Business**

There was nothing scheduled for this item

**13. New Business**

- 13.a** Request for an Attorney/Client session with the City Council to discuss pending litigation in the matter of ACR Acquisition, LLC v. City of Port St. Lucie, et al., Case No. 56-2015-CA-000337. [2021-227](#)

There being no discussion, Vice Mayor Martin moved to approve Item 13 a). Councilman Pickett seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

- 13.b** Request for Funding Partnership with St. Lucie County to Support Environmental Lands and Construction of an Observation Tower at Walton Scrub Preserve [2021-218](#)

(Clerk's Note: This Item was removed from the Agenda.)

- 13.c** Approval to Waive the Bidding for Good Cause Shown, Pursuant to Section 35.04(c) of the Code of Ordinances, and Negotiate the Renewal and Amended Terms to Contract No. 20100076 between the City of Port St. Lucie and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida, Inc. d/b/a Florida Blue [2021-235](#)

The City Manager stated that the City was self-insured and the administrator for the contract was Blue Cross Blue Shield. He stated that staff reviewed the contract and there was a representative available to provide a presentation, if desired.

Councilwoman Caraballo inquired as to why Florida Blue was not accepted by the Fire District. Dustin Kuehn, Gehring Group, responded that Florida Blue has had conversations with the Fire District, but they have not been successful. He added that they were continuing discussions and hopefully they would come to terms within the next few weeks. Mr. Kuehn explained that Florida Blue had very low reimbursement rates in St. Lucie and Martin County, which actually

kept the City's costs low, but the flip side is that some providers do not want to participate because they are being reimbursed at a lower rate. He added that another reason may be that Florida Blue is not contacting the correct avenue with the Fire District.

Councilwoman Caraballo requested that staff research why the St. Lucie Fire District would not sign on with Blue Cross Blue Shield and report back. Vice Mayor Martin state that she would talk to Chief Spera and the City Attorney.

There being no further discussion, Councilwoman Caraballo moved to approve Item 13 a). Vice Mayor Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **14. City Manager's Report**

The City Manager stated that St. Lucie County opened rental assistance applications on behalf of the County and the City. He stated that it was being promoted County-wide and around 600 residents applied for assistance and 65% were Port St. Lucie residents. The City Manager stated that they expected to receive \$27 million from the American Recovery Act and there were a number of questions regarding how the funds were to be used, so they were attending webinars for further direction. Vice Mayor Martin stated that she appreciated the City Manager's information, as residents were unaware that there were specific guidelines on what the funds could be used for and being able to educate was important. The City Manager stated that the City was hosting its first point-of-distribution for the vaccination at Kings Isle, which was considered a closed pod event. He explained that the second round of COVID funding provided \$600,000 for pods within the CDBG area. Vice Mayor Martin stated that she would like to see vaccine administration done in a CDBG area where it is walkable for residents, such as Minsky Gym. Councilwoman Caraballo suggested aligning the sites with bus stops and added that they needed innovative ways, outside of the internet, to reach residents. Mayor Oravec suggested hiring temps to make phone calls and reach out to residents.

#### **15. Councilmembers Report on Committee Assignments**

Mayor Oravec - Congratulated the City Manager and Kelly Tiger for putting on a great St. Patrick's Day event. He also congratulated the Port St. Lucie Running Club on their 5k event at the Crosstown Bridge. Mayor Oravec added that he was impressed by the Southwest Little League Clubhouse.

Councilman Pickett - Thanked the City Manager for helping him with getting the Kings Isle resident's their vaccine. He attended the St. Patrick's Day event and congratulated staff. He also attended the Southwest Little League opening day at

Whispering Pines Park.

Councilwoman Caraballo – Attended the Florida League of Cities Virtual Conference and thanked everyone who reached out to pray for her son, who left for basic training.

Vice Mayor Martin – Attended the Gold Star Dedication.

**16. Public to be Heard - (if necessary as determined by City Council at conclusion of public to be heard)**

There was nothing heard under this item.

**17. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

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Karen A. Phillips, City Clerk

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Calleigh N. Myers, Deputy City Clerk