

MINUTES
WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING
PARKER CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 4, 2020
5:00 pm

Mayor Musgrave called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Present: Council Members Barrow, Galbreath, Haney, Jones and Mayor Musgrave.

Also Present: City Attorney Sloan, Police Chief Hutto, Fire Chief Pergande, Public Works Supervisor Summerlin, and City Clerk Griffin

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Policy and Procedures

Earlier in the year, the Council was distributed a copy of Pensacola's Human Resource (HR) Policy as an example to compare with the City of Parker's current policy dated from 2001. This city's manual was recommended at the City Managers' meeting because it was more closely related to the strong mayoral form of government as established by Parker's Charter.

The individual policies were displayed alongside each other so that the Council could make the decision of how they wanted the specific policy to be stated, changed, added, or deleted. Council Member Galbreath expressed concern using the manual as it was presented.

Mayor Musgrave recommended that instead of the Council making the detailed decisions and revisions, a mini task force would be established. This task force would include the four department heads plus the HR Specialist, Heather Carlson. This task force would meet on a periodic basis to develop the first draft and would bring back to the Council any concerns they are grappling with. The Council agreed.

2. Consequences of Starting a Construction Project Without a Permit

The Council recognized the problem of contractors not always obtaining permits prior to performing work for residents within the City. This has resulted in work being completed that is not in compliance with the Land Development Requirements, forcing the residents to pay for a variance request afterwards that may or may not be approved.

Through various discussions, the Council concluded there were three different areas of concerns:

- a. Absentee owners who do not obtain permits
- b. Resident owners who do not obtain permits
- c. Contractors who do not obtain permits

Possible solutions for these issues are as follows:

- a. Process it as a Code Enforcement violation
- b. Educate residents on how to properly deal with a contractor
- c. Pass an Ordinance to provide for penalties for any violations

Attorney Sloan will draft an ordinance that will provide for the following:

- a. Warning for the first offense
- b. Fine for the second offense
- c. Double fine for each additional offense

The Council also discussed the possibility of publishing a list of repeat offenders in the City's newsletter. Attorney Sloan also pointed out that Chapter 489 of the Florida Statutes provides for a criminal penalty in certain instances.

Discussion followed with all the different ways to try to communicate to residents the need for permits, the questions to ask the contractors, and the consequences for not complying with the permitting and Land Development Regulations. Although the permitting message has been included in the quarterly newsletters repeatedly, in social media, and on utility bills, the residents are still performing their own work or hiring contractors without obtaining the proper permits. Residents must submit the required application(s) at the Parker City Hall prior to obtaining construction permits from EPCI.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 pm.

Upcoming Events

- Next Regular City Council Meeting is December 1, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.
 - Submit potential agenda items NLT November 23, 2020
- Next Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting is December 14, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.
 - Submit potential agenda items NLT December 7, 2020


Karen Griffin, City Clerk