

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022 10:00 A.M.
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

PRESENT: John Turner, City Attorney; Monte Falls, City Manager and Tammy Bursick, City Clerk **Also Present:** Sherri Philo, Deputy City Clerk

1. Call to Order of Canvassing Board – City Attorney

Mr. John Turner, City Attorney, called today’s meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

A) Roll Call – Deputy City Clerk

The Deputy City Clerk performed the roll call.

B) Pledge of Allegiance – City Manager

Mr. Monte Falls, City Manager, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. Certification of Election Results

A) Presentation of Election Results – City Clerk

Mrs. Tammy Bursick, City Clerk, reported that the Election went very smoothly and she has the certified results.

B) Reading of Certification Resolution – City Manager

Mr. Falls read the Resolution certifying the results of the Election in its entirety (attached to the original minutes).

C) Motion to Adopt Resolution Certifying Election Results

Mrs. Bursick made a motion to adopt the Resolution Certifying the Election results. Mr. Falls seconded the motion.

Mr. Turner opened and closed public comments at 10:09 a.m., with no one wishing to be heard.

The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Falls voting yes, Mrs. Bursick yes, and Mr. Turner yes.

3. Oath of Office of New Councilmembers

A) Administration of Oath of Office – City Clerk

The City Clerk administrated the Oath of Office en masse to Mr. John Carroll, Mrs. Tracey Zudans and Mrs. Linda Moore.

B) Adjournment of Canvassing Board

The Canvassing Board adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

C) Council takes seats at Dais

The City Council took their seats at the Dais.

4. Election of Mayor

A) Call for Nomination of Mayor – City Attorney

Mr. Turner called for nominations for Mayor.

Mrs. Moore nominated Mr. John Cotugno for Mayor.

Mr. Carroll nominated himself for Mayor.

Mr. Turner closed the nominations for Mayor.

B) Motion for Election of one of the Nominees as Mayor

Mr. Turner reported that they would select the Mayor by ballot.

The results of the ballot votes were Mr. Cotugno, Mr. Neville, Mrs. Zudans, Mrs. Moore voting for Mr. John Cotugno for Mayor and Mr. Carroll voting for himself for Mayor.

Mr. John Cotugno was appointed Mayor by a vote of 4-1.

C) Mayor assumes control of the meeting

Mayor Cotugno assumed control of the meeting.

5. Election of Vice Mayor

A) Call for Nomination of Vice Mayor – Mayor

Mayor Cotugno called for nominations for Vice Mayor.

Mr. Neville nominated Mrs. Linda Moore for Vice Mayor.

Mr. Carroll nominated himself for Vice Mayor.

Mayor Cotugno closed the nominations for Vice Mayor.

B) Motion for Election of One of the Nominees as Vice Mayor

The results of the ballot votes were, Mr. Neville, Mrs. Zudans, Mrs. Moore, and Mayor Cotugno voting for Mrs. Linda Moore for Vice Mayor and Mr. Carroll voting for himself for Vice Mayor.

Mrs. Linda Moore was appointed Vice Mayor by a vote of 4-1.

6. Public Comment

Mrs. Barbara Ruddy said that she was very passionate about the Three Corners project and hoped that the City would move ahead expeditiously so that she could enjoy it. She also hoped that the City Council would give 14th Avenue some attention as quickly as possible. She felt that it would be a real benefit to the City and to the community.

Mrs. Laura Moss, Indian River County Commissioner, congratulated the new City Council members. She said it is a wonderful experience. She looked forward to working with everyone.

Mr. Wilford Hart, of the Indian River County School District, said they built a relationship with the City Council last year and they want to make sure that relationship continues. He said that he and his team would be having one on one conversations with them. He said that he knows that this Council will serve the City of Vero Beach and Indian River County well.

Mr. Taylor Dingle congratulated the newly Elected Officials and the new Mayor. He said that he was sure that God would give them the strength, wisdom and courage to make the right decisions for the City. He asked that they let him know if he can help them in any way.

7. Seating Assignments

The seating assignments for the City Council will be from left to right, Mr. Rey Neville, Mr. John Carroll, Mrs. Linda Moore, Mr. John Cotugno and Mrs. Tracey Zudans.

8. Adjournment

Today's meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

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