

City of Port St. Lucie
Special City Council
Meeting Minutes - Final

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

Shannon M. Martin, Mayor

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

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Monday, September 19, 2022 **9:30 AM** **Council Chambers, City Hall**

1. Meeting Called to Order

A Special and Virtual Meeting of the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie was called to order by Mayor Martin on September 19, 2022, at 9:29AM, at Port St. Lucie City Hall, Council Chambers, 121 SW Port St. Lucie Boulevard, Port St. Lucie, Florida.

2. Roll Call

Council Members Present:

Mayor Shannon Martin
Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo
Councilwoman Stephanie Morgan
Councilman Dave Pickett
Councilman Anthony Bonna (via Zoom)

*Note:
See Item 7, next page.*

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Assistant City Clerk delivered the Invocation, and Mayor Martin led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public to be Heard

No one from the public signed up to speak under this Item.

5. Proclamations and Special Presentations

No one from the public signed up to speak under this item.

5.a A Presentation to the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie
Regarding Support for Small Business Programs Provided by

2022-748

7. New Business

- 7.a** Hear a Request from The Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial Foundation regarding a Proposed Memorial

2022-815

(Clerk's Note: This Item was discussed after Item 5.b.)

Brad Keen, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department, introduced the item to City Council and advised the Founder of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial Foundation, Steve Udovich would be presenting the request to Council.

Steve Udovich advised he was a resident of Dunedin, Florida and that his idea started in 2013. He presented the request for a monument to honor Floridians who served in the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. (Clerk's Note: A PowerPoint Presentation was shown at this time.) Mr. Udovich provided an overview of the design and the anticipated location for the memorial.

Mayor Martin inquired if there was adequate spacing for this new memorial at Veteran's Memorial Park, to which Assistant Director Keen responded in the affirmative and explained there were two sites that may also accommodate the memorial. He cautioned the park was filling up with monuments.

Councilman Pickett asked if it was appropriate for the City to bear the financial responsibility for the base of the monument, to which Assistant Keen advised the City did not pay for the base of the monument for the Gold Star; however, he indicated the City helped pay for the base for the World War II Memorial and Purple Heart.

Vice Mayor Caraballo inquired if the City built the foundation, to which City Manager Russ Blackburn answered in the affirmative. Assistant Director Keen also confirmed the City provided the foundation for the public art located at the Botanical Garden.

Martin Motherway, 2nd Vice of American Legion Post 318, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

Karen Zook, Mother of fallen Marine Corporal Ian Thomas Zook, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

Clay Schumann, Father of fallen US Army Specialist Jordan

Christopher Schumann, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

Wayne Keygarden, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #566, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

Mike Kipper, President of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #566, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

Jose Capellan, St. Lucie County Veteran's Services Officer, spoke in support of the Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial monument.

The City Council thanked Mr. Udovich and those present in support and expressed support for the request.

Mayor Martin requested that Mr. Blackburn provide Staff support to help look for the perfect location and provide a cost estimate to the Council for the monument foundation.

Councilman Pickett thanked those present in support of the monument and moved to approve the request from The Iraq and Afghanistan War Memorial Foundation Memorial to be placed at the Veteran's Memorial Park. Vice Mayor Caraballo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Adjourn

(This Item was heard after Item 6.a.)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 PM.

Bryan Pankhurst, Assistant City Clerk

Daisy Ruiz, Deputy City Clerk