

**MINUTES
MANASOTA LEAGUE OF CITIES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 8, 2018**

Present: President Willie Shaw (Sarasota), Vice President Carol Carter (Anna Maria), Treasurer Brian Williams (Palmetto), Mayor John Chappie (Bradenton Beach), Commissioner Jim Kihm (Holmes Beach), Vice Mayor Linda Yates (North Port)

Absent: Council Member Mitzie Fiedler (Venice), Commissioner Irwin Pastor (Longboat Key), Councilman Patrick Roff (Bradenton)

Also Present: Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler and Assistant Administrative Coordinator Trish Shinkle

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Williams called the March 8, 2018, Regular Meeting of the ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Town of Longboat Key Commission Chamber, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, Florida, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

1. Public Input

A. Expenditures, Taxes, Charter

Ms. Kathy Schure, Price Boulevard, North Port, commented on expenditure of funds for the Washington fly-in, non-support of the additional homestead exemption by the ManaSota League of Cities, and the City of North Port's process for proposed Charter revisions.

Individual comments followed on the following topics/issues:

- Charter review process for the City of North Port
- proposed additional homestead exemption and the anticipated impact on City services
- purpose of the fly-ins
- purpose of the dues
- percentage of property taxes retained by municipal governments
- lobbying efforts to protect the rights of the citizens of the municipalities
- the need of governmental bodies to have transparency to the citizens
- travel restrictions and use of membership dues
- impact of State and Federal legislation and the shifting of tax liabilities relating to the additional homestead exemption.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) on January 11, 2018, Special Meeting of January 23, 2018, and Special Meeting of January 25, 2018

Member Chappie moved to approve the Minutes of the January 11, 2018, Regular Meeting. The motion, seconded by Member Williams, carried unanimously.

Minutes in draft form and are not official until approved by the ManaSota League of Cities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Continued

2. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of ManaSota League of Cities (MSLC) on January 11, 2018, Special Meeting of January 23, 2018, and Special Meeting of January 25, 2018 - Continued

Member Kihm moved to approve the Minutes of the January 23 and January 25, 2018, Special Meetings. The motion, seconded by Member Williams, carried unanimously.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3. Reports

A. Associate Members and Ex-Officio Members - No items were presented.

B. President's Report

President Shaw noted the attendance of four City of Sarasota's Commissioners at the Florida League of Cities Legislative Days and commented on amendments to bills that were achieved.

C. Vice President's Report

Vice President Carter acknowledged the efforts of the Florida League of Cities and noted the legislative actions that occurred. Individual comments followed.

D. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Williams provided the Treasurer's Report and noted an inquiry into an increase in the costs of dues. Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler advised that an inquiry was received from a municipality during their budget preparation.

Treasurer Williams commented on Associate Member's dues and suggested a discount after a six-month period, with full membership dues billed in October and requested the matter be scheduled for discussion on a future agenda, without objection.

Vice President Carter moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion, seconded by Member Yates, carried unanimously.

E. Administrative Coordinator's Report

Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler noted her report was included in the agenda packet and advised of the ability for any registered voter to participate in early voting on Longboat Key.

F. Florida League of Cities' (FLC) Board of Directors

District Director and Member Yates commented on legislative action and the availability of lobbying tools on the Florida League of Cities website and noted the next meeting would be held in June.

H. Advocacy Report

Member Yates commented on the status of the proposed "Interruption of Services" legislation. President Shaw commented on legislation that would reduce Home Rule authority.

3. Reports - Continued

G. Florida League of Cities (FLC) Legislative Committee Member Reports

Treasurer Williams commented on legislation relating to the Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRA) and Member Yates provided the status of the legislation. Individual comments followed.

Treasurer Williams suggested that the FLC provide sample/form letters with their Action Alerts to allow for timely responses and sharing with citizen groups.

President Shaw requested that Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler contact FLC with the suggestion and Member Yates requested the status of the CRA legislation.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Application for Associate Membership of Bradenton Area Economic Development Corporation

Treasurer Williams noted receipt of application from Bradenton Area Economic Development Corporation.

Upon inquiry, Administrative Coordinator Gail Loeffler noted that the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce was not an associate member and that she would contact them.

Following comments, Ms. Loeffler was requested to send membership information to the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, the Anna Maria Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Longboat Key Chamber of Commerce.

5. Nomination to Florida League of Cities (FLC) Board of Directors District 10 Seat

Following comments, Member Yates nominated President Shaw for nomination to serve on the FLC Board of Directors, District 10 Seat. The motion, seconded by Member Chappie, carried unanimously.

6. Authorizing MSLC President the ability to make appointments to committees in the event an individual appointed by the Board becomes unable to serve

President Shaw noted the two special meetings that had to be held by telephone conference and suggested that the President be authorized to make appointments if the delegated member could not attend.

Member Yates moved to authorize the President of the ManaSota League of Cities to make appointments to Committees in the event the appointed Board Member cannot attend. The motion was seconded by Member Chappie.

Treasurer Williams noted the authorization would require an amendment to the adopted By-Laws.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion Re: School Safety

President Shaw commented on the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, noted the legislation to allow teachers to carry guns, and advised of concerns associated with the legislation.

Ms. Kathy Schure, Price Boulevard, North Port, commented on the use of metal detectors in Juliet, Illinois, suggested that the ManaSota League of Cities Board promote the safety issues, and noted concern with the open campus format of North Port High School.

Member Yates commented on the constraints of municipalities in the design and construction of school facilities. Individual comments were made on the following topics/issues:

- lack of authority of municipalities to govern school designs
- lack of security on open campuses including parking lots
- costs of providing school resource officer.

Mr. Jamie Miller, Sarasota County Economic Development Corporation, noted that the Miami Herald reported that the families of the shooting victims does support the legislation.

Individual comments followed on:

- lack of daily situational reaction for teachers
- making teachers a target for a shooter
- lack of hardening of schools after the September 11, 2001, terrorists attacks.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

1. Public Input - Continued

B. Membership

Mr. Devesh Nirmul, Ygrene Regional Director of Government Relations, noted his firm's interest in becoming an Associate member of the ManaSota League of Cities.

MEMBER COMMENTS

8. Member Comments

At each meeting, time is set aside for members to bring up topics of importance.

A. Legislative Action Days

Member Kihm noted he participated in the Legislative Action Days in Tallahassee, commented on the meetings attended and the time constraints placed on legislators due to multiple committee appointments, and commended the efforts of the ManaSota League members who attended and the Florida League of Cities.

B. Legislative Session

Member Yates thanked the ManaSota League members for all of their efforts during the Legislative Session.

8. Member Comments- Continued

C. ManaSota League of Cities

Member Chappie inquired and requested that the information on the determination of Sunshine be provided to Board Members.

Individual comments followed.

B. Legislative Session - Continued

Treasurer Williams suggested that invitations to speak at a MSLC meeting be extended to Florida League of Cities (FLC) President Gil Ziffer and to members of local Legislative Delegation.

Member Carter noted the importance of participation through phone calls to legislative offices, the use of form letters, the opportunity for ManaSota League to utilize a forum type process similar to the website www.homeruleflorida.com.

President Shaw thanked members for their participation in the Monday morning "Call-In" sponsored by the FLC and noted the importance of calling legislators relating to bills that are filed.

NEXT MEETING

9. Next Meeting: May 10, 2018

President Shaw noted the next meeting date of May 10, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shaw adjourned the March 8, 2018, meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Willie Shaw, President

Submitted by: Trish Shinkle, Assistant Administrative Coordinator

Minutes Approved: _____

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