

# Cape Clips



## Updates from Council Meetings

In case you missed the meeting, the following are highlights from January 20, 2021, Cape Coral City Council meeting.

### **District 1 Council Member John Gunter Appointed Mayor**

Following citizens input and after a discussion among the Cape Coral City Council Members and Lee County Supervisor of Elections Tommy Doyle, District 1 Council Member John Gunter was appointed to fulfill the mayoral vacancy. The Supervisor of Elections indicated that a special election could cost taxpayers about \$500,000 for a primary and a general election. Council also was advised that a special election may not be possible within the timeline contained in the City Charter. The City Charter allows for a special election OR appointment by City Council. After Mayor John Gunter was sworn in, District 4 Council Member Jennifer Nelson was appointed Mayor Pro Tempore.

### **Council Identifies Process to Fulfill District 1 Vacancy**

The City Council will accept applications to fill the District 1 vacancy due to the appointment of Mayor Gunter. The vacancy along with minimum qualifications will be advertised beginning January 21 and applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on February 5. Details about the vacancy will be contained in the official advertisement.

### **Application Approved for \$1 million FDEP Grant for Parks Improvements at Gator Circle Park**

City Council approved the application for a Florida Department of Environmental Protection Land and Water Conservation Fund Program grant for \$1 million in park improvements at Gator Circle Neighborhood Park in NE Cape Coral. The grant requires a \$1 million grant match.

### **Appointments to Boards/Committees**

Robert Rinko was reappointed to the Construction Regulation Board.

James (Jim) Brantley was appointed to the Community Redevelopment Agency.

The following applicants were appointed to the newly established Waterway Advisory Board:

James Collier

Joseph Cruz

Jason Pim

Justin McBride

Randall Jones

Wayne Hecht

Bryan DeLaHunt

Ronald Austin

Paula Martinez

### **Rental Registration Ordinance Introduction and Public Hearing Set for February 3, 2021**

Ordinance 8-21 (registration of residential rental property) was introduced and a public hearing was set by the City Council for February 3. The proposed ordinance would require contact information for the responsible party designated by the property owner for each residential rental property in the city. The

purpose is to have the ability to address issues as quickly and as efficiently as possible. A one-time \$35 administration fee (NOT an annual fee) is part of this proposed Ordinance. Specifics will be discussed on the date of the public hearing.

**To provide input on a Council agenda item, there are multiple options available to the community:**

1. Comment during the appropriate Council Meeting: Citizen input is encouraged and the public is invited to voice their opinions on specific agenda items. Individuals are limited to 3 minutes and pictures/videos/maps to be presented must be approved by the Clerk's Office prior to the meeting. Comments during a Council meeting are part of the meeting record
2. eComments: Submit public comments online via the City's website (capecoral.net) and select the "Agendas & Minutes" quick link. The "eComments" form icon is located near the top of the web page. eComments are made part of the meeting record.
3. Email: send comments via email to [CityCouncil@capecoral.net](mailto:CityCouncil@capecoral.net). Emails sent to the email address are delivered to the Mayor and all Councilmembers.
4. Telephone: contact the Council Office at 239-574-0436.

**A Regular Meeting of the Cape Coral City Council is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.**