

COUNCIL MEETING

Municipal Building
175-5th Street North
Second Floor Council Chamber

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

**February 8, 2024
3:00 PM**

Welcome to the City of St. Petersburg City Council meeting. The public may address City Council in person.

The public must attend the meeting in person to speak during public hearings or quasi-judicial hearings. If you are a person with a disability who needs an accommodation in order to participate in this meeting or have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 893-7448. If you are deaf/hard of hearing and require the services of an interpreter, please call our TDD number, 892-5259, or the Florida Relay Service at 711, as soon as possible. The City requests at least 72 hours advance notice, prior to the scheduled meeting, for accommodations.

To assist the City Council in conducting the City's business, we ask that you observe the following:

1. If you are speaking under the Public Hearings, Appeals or Open Forum sections of the agenda, please observe the time limits indicated on the agenda.
2. Placards and posters are not permitted in the Chamber. Applause is not permitted except in connection with Awards and Presentations.
3. Please do not address Council from your seat. If asked by Council to speak to an issue, please do so from the podium.
4. Please do not pass notes to Council during the meeting.
5. Please be courteous to other members of the audience by keeping side conversations to a minimum.
6. The Fire Code prohibits anyone from standing in the aisles or in the back of the room.
7. If other seating is available, please do not occupy the seats reserved for individuals who are deaf/hard of hearing.

The public can also attend the meeting in the following ways:

- Watch live on Channel 15 WOW!/Channel 641 Spectrum/Channel 20 Frontier FiOS
- Watch live online at www.stpete.org/TV
- Listen and participate by dialing one of the following phone numbers
 - +1 312 626 6799 or
 - +1 646 876 9923 or
 - +1 253 215 8782 or
 - +1 301 715 8592 or
 - +1 346 248 7799 or

- +1 669 900 6833 and entering webinar ID: 932 8786 6133#
- Watch, listen, and participate on your computer, mobile phone, or other device by visiting the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/93287866133>

The public can participate in the meeting by providing public comment for agenda items other than public hearings and quasi-judicial hearings in the following ways:

- If attending the Zoom meeting by computer or other device, use the “raise hand” button in the Zoom app.
- If attending the Zoom meeting by phone only, enter *9 on the phone to use the “raise hand” feature.

The “raise hand” feature in the Zoom meeting indicates your desire to speak but does not allow you to speak immediately. You must use the “raise hand” feature at the time the agenda item is addressed. All “raised hands” will be lowered after each agenda item. When it is your turn to speak, your microphone will be unmuted. At the conclusion of your comments or when you reach the three-minute limit, you will be muted. Please be advised that at all times the chair has the authority and discretion to re-order agenda items, and in the event the meeting is disrupted by violations of the rules of decorum, to accept public comment by alternate means, including by email only.

Regardless of the method of participation used, normal rules for participation apply, including the three-minute limit on comments, the requirement that any presentation materials must be submitted to the City Clerk in advance of the meeting, and the rules of decorum. Public comments must be submitted before the public comment period has closed.

A. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call.

Invocation and Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America.

B. Approval of Agenda with Additions and Deletions.

C. Consent Agenda (see attached)

Open Forum

The City Council receives public comment during Open Forum and on agenda items with limited exceptions consistent with Florida law. All issues discussed under Open Forum must be limited to issues related to the City of St. Petersburg government. If you wish to address City Council on subjects other than public hearing or quasi-judicial items listed on the agenda, please sign up with the Clerk. Only City residents, owners of property in the City, owners of businesses in the City or their employees may speak during Open Forum. If you wish to address City Council through the Zoom meeting, you must use the “raise hand” feature button in the Zoom app or enter *9 on your phone at the time the agenda item is addressed. When it is your turn to speak, you will be unmuted and asked to state your name and address. At the conclusion of your comments or when you reach the three-minute time limit, you will be muted. All “raised hands” will be lowered after each agenda item. Regardless of the method of participation used, normal rules apply, including the three-minute time limit on comments, the requirement that any presentation materials must be submitted in advance of the meeting and the rules of decorum. If live public comment is disrupted by violations of the rules of decorum, the chair is authorized to accept public comment by alternate means, including by email only.

D. Awards and Presentations

1. [Therapeutic Recreation Month Proclamation](#)
2. [Localtopia Day Proclamation](#)
3. [St. Petersburg Science Festival Proclamation](#)
4. [Black History Month Proclamation](#)
5. [Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation](#)

E. New Ordinances - (First Reading of Title and Setting of Public Hearing)

F. Reports

1. [Tree Inventory & Tree Planting Programs](#)

G. New Business

1. [Respectfully requesting a referral to the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Rays Stadium and the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment. \(Councilmember Montanari\) \(DEFERRED FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING\)](#)

H. Council Committee Reports

I. Legal

J. Public Hearings and Quasi-Judicial Proceedings - 5:01 P.M.

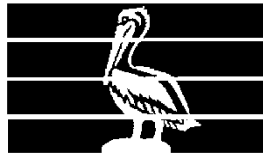
Public Hearings

*NOTE: The following Public Hearing items have been submitted for **consideration** by the City Council. If you wish to speak on any of the Public Hearing items, please obtain one of the YELLOW cards from the containers on the wall outside of Council Chamber, fill it out as directed, and present it to the Clerk. You will be given 3 minutes **ONLY** to state your position on any item but may address more than one item.*

K. Open Forum

L. Adjournment

CONSENT



AGENDA

COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

MEETING AGENDA

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

Note: An abbreviated listing of upcoming MEETING AGENDA Council meetings.

Health, Energy, Resiliency & Sustainability Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 100

Youth & Family Services Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 9:00 a.m., Conference Room 100 - CANCELED

City Council Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers

Legislative Affairs & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Thursday, February 15, 2024, 10:30 a.m., Conference Room 100

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

Board and Commission Vacancies



Nuisance Abatement Board
2 Regular Members
((Term expires 12/31/24 and 12/31/25))

Nuisance Abatement Board
2 Alternate Members
((Term expires 8/31/24 and 12/31/24))

PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR QUASI-JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS:

1. **Anyone wishing to speak must fill out a yellow card and present the card to the Clerk. All speakers must be sworn prior to presenting testimony. No cards may be submitted after the close of Public Comment. Each party and speaker is limited to the time limits set forth herein and may not give their time to another speaker or party.** Each party and speaker wishing to present handouts, photographs, presentation slides or any other materials (collectively, “Materials”) during a quasi-judicial proceeding must submit such Materials to the City Clerk no later than 24 hours in advance of the applicable public hearing. **Materials submitted after the deadline will not be accepted and may not be used.**
2. At any time during the proceeding, City Council members may ask questions of any speaker or party. The time consumed by Council Member questions and answers to such questions shall not count against the time frames allowed herein. Burden of proof: in all appeals, the Appellant bears the burden of proof; in rezoning and land use cases, the Property Owner or Applicant bears the burden of proof except in cases initiated by the City, in which event the City Administration bears the burden of proof; for all other applications, the Applicant bears the burden of proof. Waiver of Objection: at any time during the proceeding Council Members may leave the Council Chamber for short periods of time provided they continue to hear testimony by audio. If any party has an objection to a Council Member leaving the Chamber during the hearing, such objection must be made at the start of the hearing. If an objection is not made as required herein it shall be deemed to have been waived.
3. Reading of the Title of the Ordinance(s), if applicable.
4. Initial Presentation. Each party shall be allowed ten (10) minutes for their initial presentation. The order of initial presentations shall be:
 - a. Presentation by City Administration.
 - b. Presentation by the Appellant followed by the Applicant, if different. If Appellant and Applicant are different entities, then each is allowed the allotted time for each part of these procedures.
 - c. Presentation by Opponent. If anyone wishes to utilize the initial presentation time provided for an Opponent, said person shall register as an Opponent with the City Clerk at least one week prior to the scheduled public hearing or within 48 hours after the City staff report for the public hearing has been published (whichever is later). If more than one person registers to utilize the initial presentation time provided for an Opponent, the registered persons shall attempt to agree on a single representative to participate as the Opponent in the proceeding. If the persons cannot agree on a single representative, then each person (or person’s representative) shall share equally the time allotted to the Opponent for each part of these procedures. If there is an Appellant who is not the Applicant or Property Owner, then no Opponent is allowed. If a Property Owner who is not the Appellant or the Applicant opposes the Application and utilizes any part of the time available to the Property Owner to make an initial presentation, the Opponent shall not be permitted to make an initial presentation (but shall be provided an opportunity for cross-examination and rebuttal/closing).
 - d. If the Property Owner is neither the Appellant nor the Applicant, they shall be allowed the allotted time for each part of these procedures and shall have the opportunity to speak last in each part of these procedures so that they have the opportunity to address what all the interested parties have presented.
5. Public Comment. Upon conclusion of the initial presentations, members of the public may speak for not more than three (3) minutes each. Speakers shall limit their testimony to information relevant to the ordinance or application and criteria for review.

6. Cross Examination. Each party shall be allowed a total of five (5) minutes for cross examination, which includes the time consumed by both questions and answers. Each party who opposes the application may only cross examine any witness who previously testified in support of the application. Each party who supports the application may only cross examine any witness who previously testified in opposition to the application. The questioning party is not permitted to make any statements, only to ask questions that are directly related to the testimony or evidence presented. All questions shall be addressed to the Chair and then (at the discretion of the Chair) asked either by the Chair or by the party conducting the cross examination of the appropriate witness. One (1) representative of each party shall conduct the cross examination. If anyone wishes to utilize the time provided for cross examination and rebuttal as an Opponent, and no one has previously registered with the City Clerk as an Opponent, said individual shall notify the City Clerk prior to the beginning of initial presentations for the applicable public hearing. If no one gives such notice, there shall be no cross examination or rebuttal by Opponent(s). The order of cross examination shall be:

- a. Cross examination by City Administration.
- b. Cross examination by Opponents, if applicable.
- c. Cross examination by Appellant followed by Applicant, followed by Property Owner, if different.

7. Rebuttal/Closing. Each party shall have five (5) minutes to provide a closing argument and/or rebuttal. The order of rebuttal/closing shall be:

- a. Rebuttal/Closing by City Administration.
- b. Rebuttal/Closing by Opponent, if applicable.
- c. Rebuttal/Closing by Applicant followed by the Appellant, if different, followed by Property Owner, if different.

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Therapeutic Recreation Month Proclamation
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



D-1

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Presentation Item

DATE: January 18, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

SUBJECT: Proclamation ~ Therapeutic Recreation Month

PRESENTER: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON: February 8, 2024

Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

Proclamation



WHEREAS, Therapeutic recreation is observed nationally in the month of February and serves as an integral part in communities throughout this country, including the City of St. Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, Individuals with disabilities practice the right to live independently, enjoy activities, contribute to their communities, and experience full social, cultural, and educational lives; and

WHEREAS, The City of St. Petersburg Parks and Recreation Department's Therapeutic Recreation Division has proven vital to the well-being of individuals with disabilities in St. Petersburg and beyond by providing information and access to over 70 inclusive community resources that provide recreational therapy-based programming to enhance social skills, physical activity, leisure and recreation opportunities, community integration, life skills, and emotional intelligence; and

WHEREAS, Through the intergenerational and inclusive services, programs, and activities, participants are empowered to contribute to their own health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Department's Therapeutic Recreation Division affirms the dignity, self-worth, and independence of individuals with disabilities by facilitating their decisions and actions; tapping their experiences, skills, and knowledge; and enabling their continued personal growth and success.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KENNETH T. WELCH, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, do hereby proclaim the month of February as

THERAPEUTIC RECREATION MONTH

and call upon all citizens to recognize the contributions of the Parks and Recreation Department, Azalea Recreation Center Therapeutic Recreation Division, and the continued efforts of staff, participants, and volunteers who daily enhance the well-being of individuals with disabilities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 8th day of February, 2024.

Kenneth T. Welch
Mayor

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Localtopia Day Proclamation
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



D-2

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Presentation Item

DATE: January 18, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

SUBJECT: Proclamation ~ Localtopia Day

PRESENTER: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON: February 8, 2024

Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

Proclamation



CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

- WHEREAS,** Our city's locally owned, independent businesses are integral to the unique flavor of St. Petersburg and make it the place we want to live, work and play; and
- WHEREAS,** The health of St. Petersburg's economy depends on our support of businesses owned by our families, friends, and neighbors; and
- WHEREAS,** The individual decisions every community member makes today affect the future of St. Petersburg; and
- WHEREAS,** Our St. Pete-grown businesses need our support right now more than ever to endure; and
- WHEREAS,** The Independent Business Alliance, Keep Saint Petersburg Local, is working to build a thriving local economy and a unique community; and
- WHEREAS,** Keep Saint Petersburg Local will commemorate its Twelve-Year Anniversary by presenting the Eleventh Annual **LOCALTOPIA**, at Williams Park, our city's first park, purposefully selected by the Alliance as the venue for the festival; and
- WHEREAS,** **LOCALTOPIA**, is to be held from 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday, February 24th, in Williams Park, and is our city's favorite "Community Celebration of All Things Local"; and
- WHEREAS,** **LOCALTOPIA** has helped change our community's mindset about Williams Park, has become the biggest event to be held in the park in recent times, has been an agent for changes to the park, and has inspired others to hold events in the park.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kenneth T. Welch, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, do hereby proclaim Saturday, February 8, 2024, as

LOCALTOPIA Day

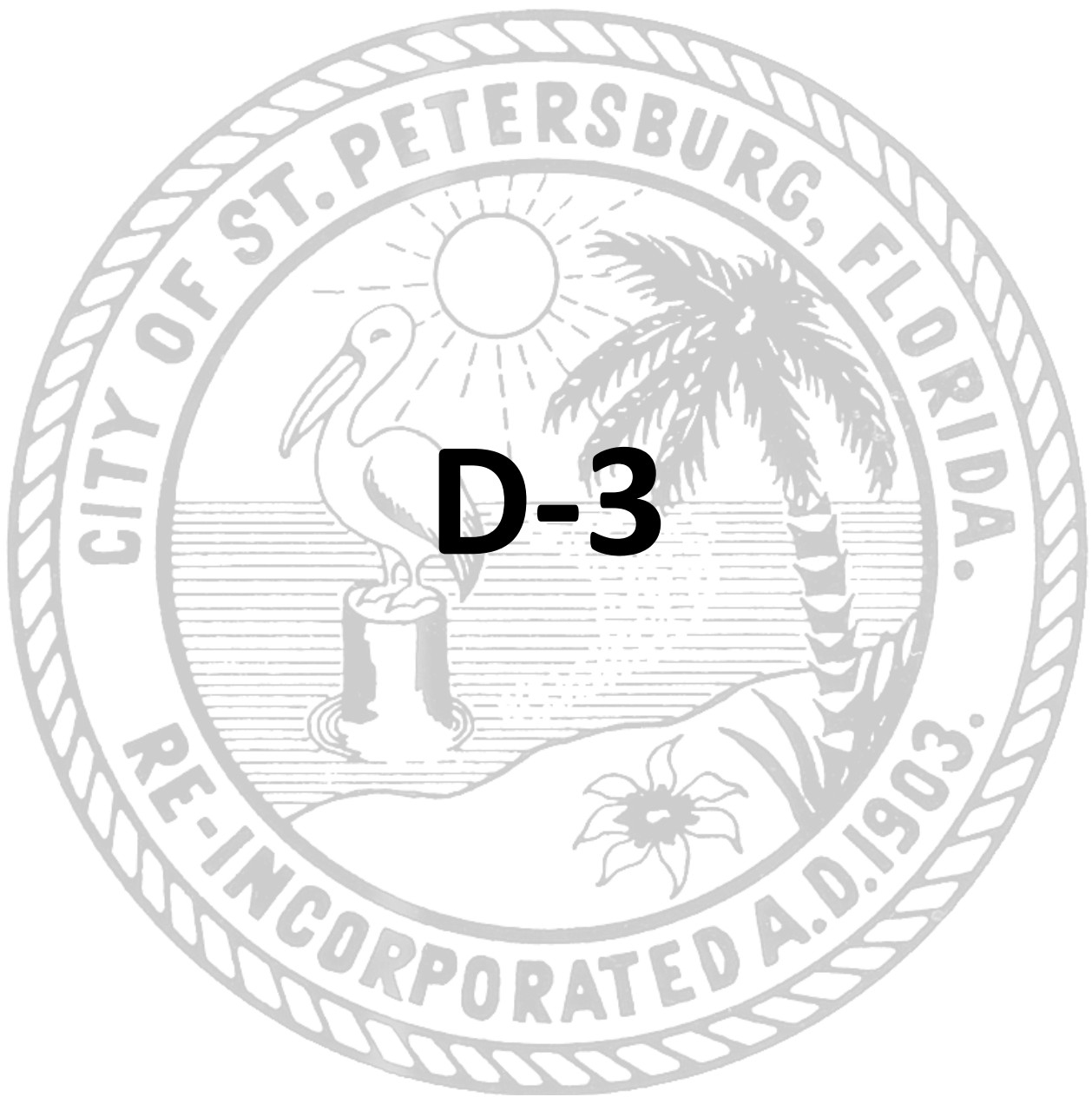
in St. Petersburg and encourage all our residents to attend the celebration, savor our local flavor, support the participants, and continue to support all our locally owned, independent businesses year-round.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 8th day of February 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kenneth T. Welch'.

Kenneth T. Welch
Mayor

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: St. Petersburg Science Festival Proclamation
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Black History Month Proclamation
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



D-4

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Presentation Item

DATE: February 2, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

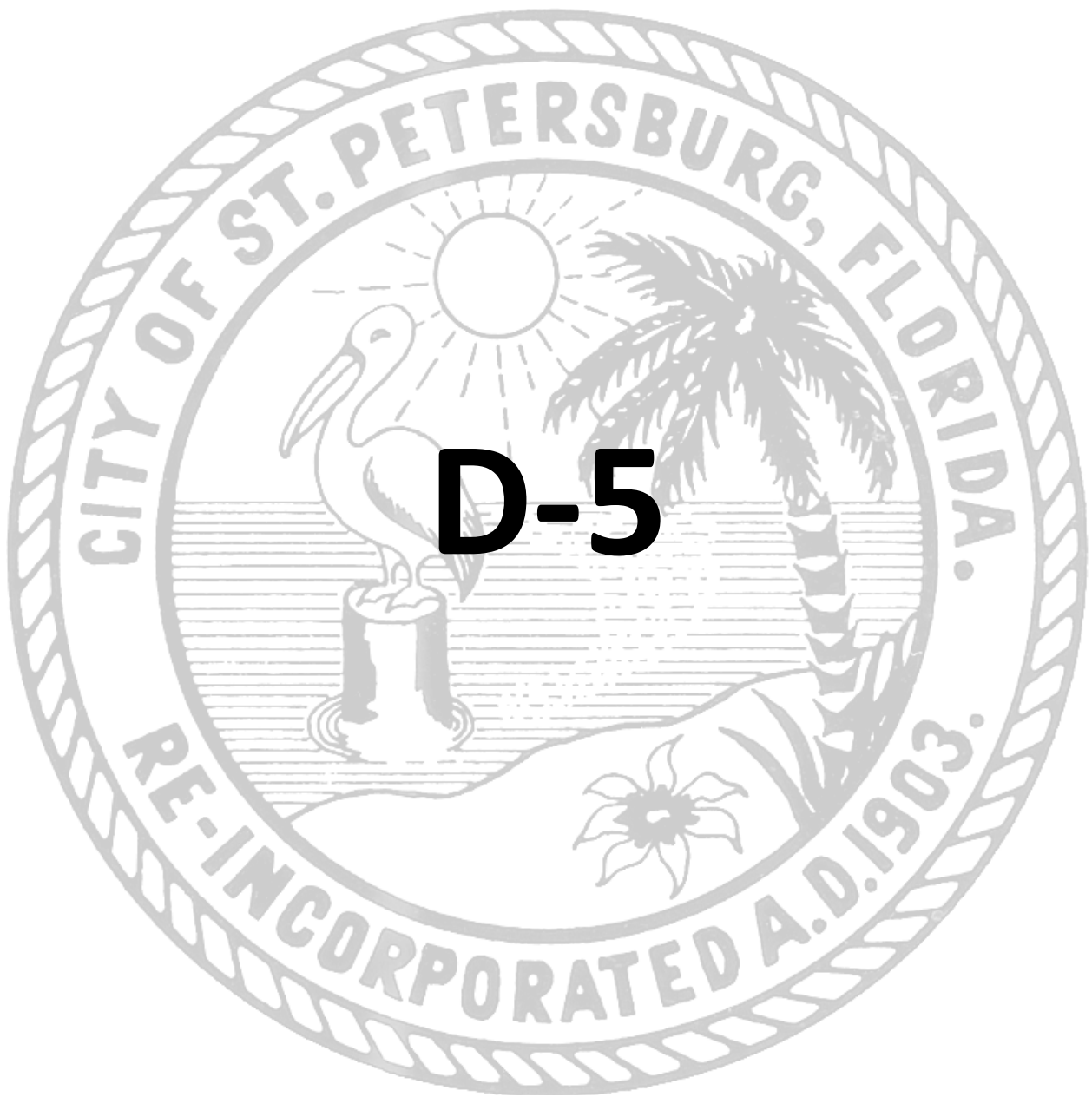
SUBJECT: Proclamation ~ Black History Month

PRESENTER: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON: February 8, 2024

Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Proclamation
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



D-5

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Presentation Item

DATE: February 2, 2024

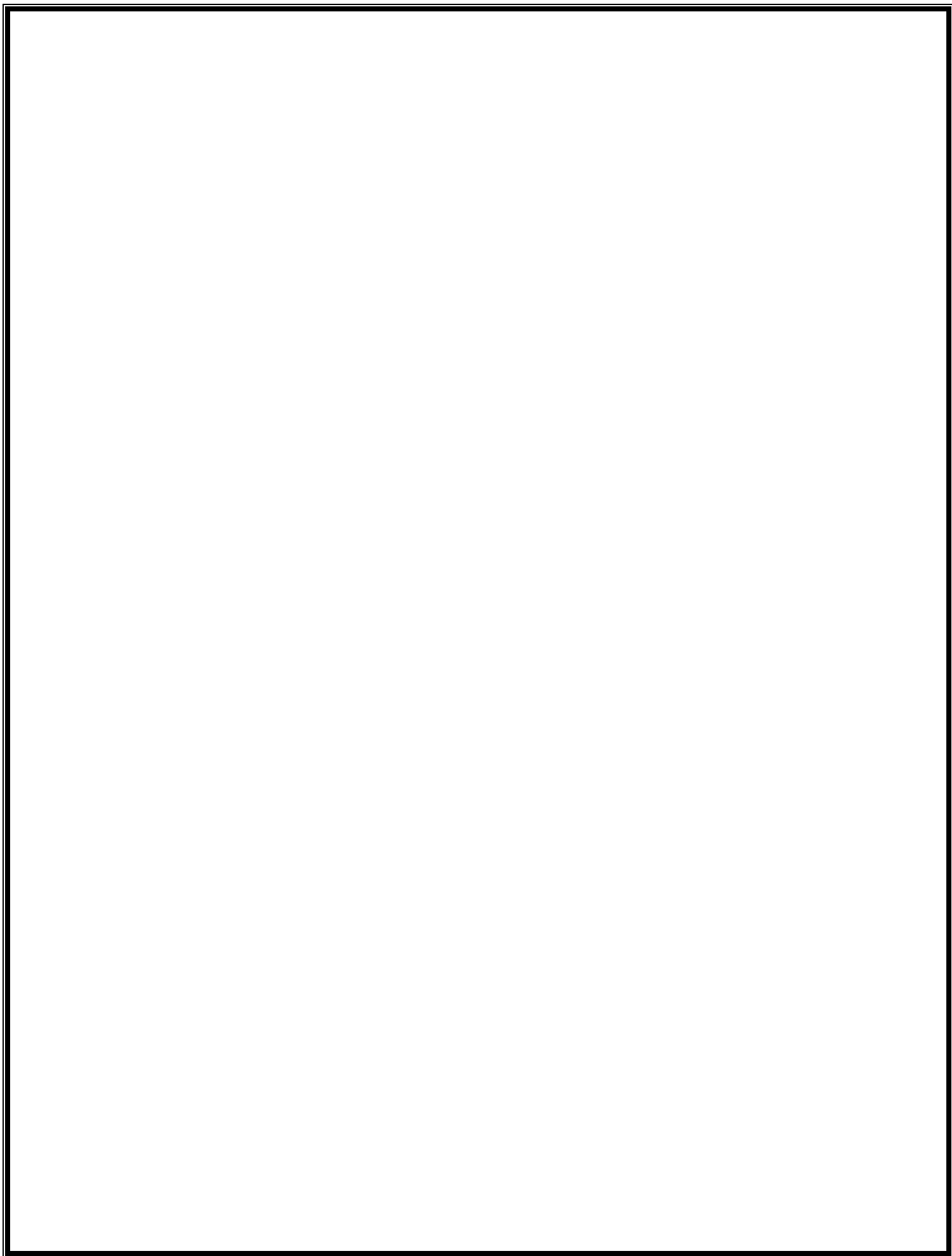
TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

SUBJECT: Proclamation ~ Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

PRESENTER: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON: February 8, 2024

Mayor Kenneth T. Welch



Proclamation



CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

- WHEREAS,** Teen dating violence includes physical, psychological, or sexual abuse, harassment, or stalking of any person ages 12 to 18 in the context of a past or present romantic consensual relationship; and
- WHEREAS,** One in three adolescent girls is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner; and
- WHEREAS,** High school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, are at greater risk of suicide, and are much more likely to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships; and
- WHEREAS,** Only 33% of teens who are in an abusive relationship ever tell anyone about the abuse, and 81% of parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is one; and
- WHEREAS,** Hope Villages of America provides young people with education about healthy relationships and changes attitudes that support violence, to prevent dating violence; and
- WHEREAS,** The establishment of Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month will benefit young people, their families, schools, and communities regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, or ethnicity; and
- WHEREAS,** Everyone has the right to a safe and healthy relationship and to be free from abuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kenneth T. Welch, Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida do hereby proclaim February 2024 as

Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

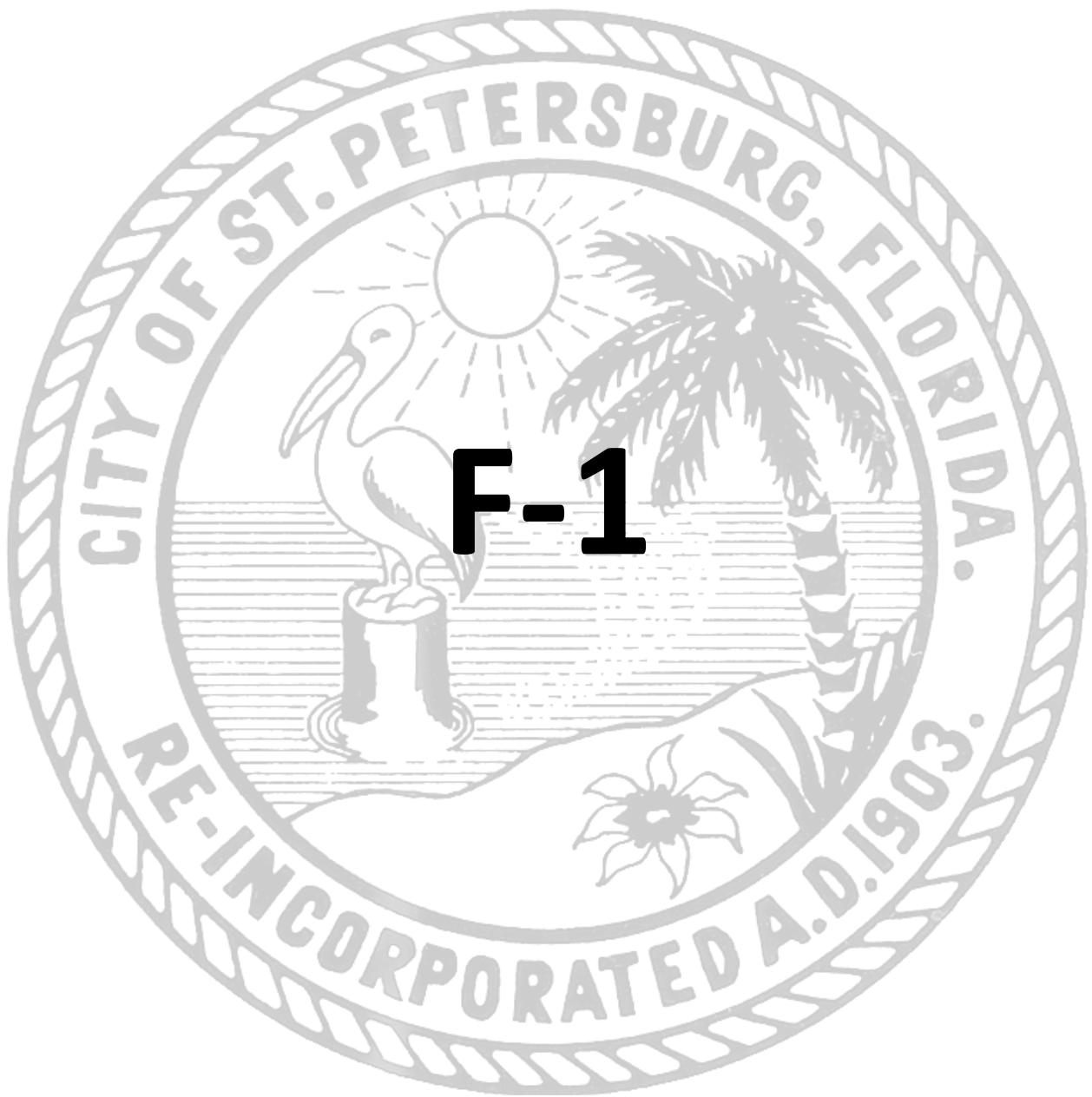
in St. Petersburg and urge residents to increase their awareness and participate in activities that work toward ending teen dating violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of St. Petersburg, County of Pinellas, and State of Florida to be affixed this 8th day of February, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth T. Welch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kenneth T. Welch
Mayor

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Tree Inventory & Tree Planting Programs
Please scroll down to view the backup material.



F-1

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT ITEM

DATE: January 19, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

SUBJECT: Tree Inventory & Tree Planting Programs

PRESENTER: Alison Mihalich, *Sustainability and Resilience Director*

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON: February 8, 2024

Ed Montanari
Council Member, District 3

The following page(s) contain the backup material for Agenda Item: Respectfully requesting a referral to the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Rays Stadium and the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment. (Councilmember Montanari) (DEFERRED FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING)

Please scroll down to view the backup material.



G-1

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS ITEM

TO: Members of City Council

DATE: February 1, 2024

COUNCIL DATE: February 8, 2024

RE: Referral to the Committee of the Whole to Discuss the Rays Stadium and the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment.

ACTION DESIRED:

Respectfully requesting a referral to the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Rays Stadium and the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment. There should be a minimum of two Committee of the Whole meetings to address the following topics and their relevant supporting documents:

- Rays Stadium
 - Stadium Operating Agreement
 - Stadium Development and Funding Agreement
 - Financing
- Historic Gas Plant Redevelopment
 - Historic Gas Plant Development Agreement
 - Financing

Such Committee of the Whole meetings should be scheduled to allow Council at least two weeks to review the final proposed draft agreements and/or relevant documents for each topic.

Council Member Ed Montanari
District 3