

INDIAN SHORES

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019 INDIAN SHORES MUNICIPAL CENTER, 4TH FLOOR

The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.

Those present: Mayor Patrick C. Soranno, Vice Mayor Diantha Schear, Councilor Mike Hackerson, Councilor Mike Petruccelli, Councilor Bill Smith, and Town Attorney Regina Kardash.

Also present: Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau, Finance and Personnel Director Susan Scrogam, Interim Chief of Police E. D. Williams, Town Clerk Freddie Lozano, Fire Commissioner Larry Schear, Janet McKee, Mark McKee, Art Newsome, Betsy Schoepf, Lt. Mike Bryan, Sergeant Tim Kennedy, and Officer Kevyn Andrews.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

1.0 Consideration of approving the Council Agenda for February 12, 2019.

Mayor Soranno amended the agenda by reassigning agenda Item 13.0 to 2.0A for the ICMA-RC presentation and Item 12.0 to 2.0B for Chief Mike Burton's PSFRD Referendum presentation.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the Council Agenda for February 12, 2019 as amended.

Motion carried 5-0.

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

E.D. Williams
Interim Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk

Steve Tetlak
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

2.0 Comments from the public on any Agenda Item.

Mr. Brian Anderson from the Pinellas Suncoast Professional Firefighters Association thanked the Council for their ongoing support. The firefighters are asking the voters on March 12 to vote yes for the \$100 annual increase to the non-ad valorem assessment to replace and upgrade fire equipment and stations to provide the highest level of service.

AMENDED AND RENUMBERED ITEMS

2.0A ICMA-RC (International City Management Association Retirement Corporation) representative Mr. Fausto Andrade to review the plan and answer questions from Council.

Mayor Soranno introduced Mr. Fausto Andrade.

Mr. Andrade reviewed the retirement plan and listed the services they provide for their clients and entertained questions from the Council.

Mayor Soranno mentioned the reason for the move from FRS to ICMA was cost savings. FRS was taking almost 50% and ICMA only 20%. There will be a savings of \$10,000 - \$12,000 per year and the returns for Council will be significantly higher.

2.0B Fire Chief Mike Burton will present the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District (PSFRD) March 2019 Referendum on the ballot for the March 12, 2019 election.

Chief Burton began the presentation by providing a brief history to help illustrate why PSFRD is in the position they are in currently. He noted that the PSFRD Charter requires that changes to ad valorem or non-ad valorem assessments be approved by the voters each time. The last enacted increase approved by the voters was in 2008.

Operation costs increased, but revenue has not. Their current challenge is that there is currently no funded apparatus replacement plan. They had to borrow fire apparatus from other fire departments within the last three weeks.

Chief Burton urged the public to vote on March 12. If passed, this will give PSFRD 5–7 years of stability to be up to date.

Mayor Soranno asked if there is a long-term plan for PSFRD reserves.

Chief Burton replied they are required to be at 15% and their target this year is 24%. If the 24% reserve is maintained, that will help and will also help the capital improvement plan to start working on some of the long-term projects.

Council thanked Chief Burton.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA AMENDMENT

Mayor Soranno made another amendment to the agenda to discuss Item 7.0 to accommodate the schedules of the Police Officers present at the meeting.

He read an email from a Mr. Shapiro of Redington Shores that commended the level of professionalism and expertise of Sergeant Tim Kennedy, Officer Kevyn Andrews, and another officer whose card Mr. Shapiro lost, who provided him assistance. Mr. Shapiro added these officers are a credit to the community.

Mayor Soranno honored Sergeant Kennedy by congratulating him on his promotion to Sergeant. He presented Sergeant Kennedy with a badge and congratulated him for the great job he provides for Indian Shores and Redington Shores.

Mayor Soranno also acknowledged Interim Lieutenant Mike Bryan and the great job he is doing.

3.0 Consideration of approving the “CONSENT AGENDA” as follows:

A. MINUTES:

- 1. Special Council Meeting – January 7, 2019**
- 2. Council Meeting – January 8, 2019**
- 3. Workshop – January 22, 2019**

B. RE-OCCURRING EXPENSES: for January 2019

C. SPECIAL EVENTS PERMITS:

1. **Carey-Davis Wedding, Friday, July 19, 2019, at 19601 Gulf Blvd. beach access, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**
2. **Gatto-Pena Wedding, Saturday, April 20, 2019, at 19601 Gulf Blvd. beach access, from 4:10 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**
3. **Faith-Horne Wedding rescheduled from Friday, September 21, 2018 to Saturday, June 29, 2019 (originally approved at the April 10, 2018 Council meeting).**
4. **Dog and Parrot, to hold a "St. Paddy's Day Celebration" from Friday, March 15, 2019 until Sunday, March 17, 2019 at 19703 Gulf Blvd. Indian Shores.**

Jason Clemens of Dog and Parrot noted that Friday is just for the tent setup and that the event is actually Saturday.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson** to approve the Consent Agenda. **Motion carried 5-0.**

4.0 Approval of Committee expenditures: None

5.0 Correspondence:

Mayor Soranno mentioned his letter to David Gwynn, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 7 Secretary regarding pedestrian/sidewalk safety.

FDOT provided a document that listed three potential options for sidewalks in Indian Shores.

He feels encouraged. There are plans to schedule a meeting with FDOT to discuss further.

6.0 Town Attorney's Report:

Attorney Kardash provided Council the status of the Floodplain Ordinance. She stated that Florida Department of Emergency

Management (FDEM) has promised to provide an update with regards to the public records request made by the end of this week.

She also mentioned the recent meeting with the Community Rating System (CRS) consultant and believes that they are in the process of providing a contract.

Ms. Dhonau added that she received a notice stating they should have a proposal by this week.

7.0 Recognition of Corporal Tim Kennedy's promotion to Sergeant.

Amended and moved to Item 2.0.

8.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 02-2019.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA
AMENDING THE TOWN'S FY 2017-2018 BUDGET FOR A
TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.**

Attorney Kardash read Resolution 02-2019 by title.

Vice Mayor Schear wanted to verify that this transfer of funds is for the previously approved truck purchase for Public Services.

Ms. Dhonau confirmed that the purchase of the truck was being moved from the General Fund to the Capital Fund where it should be recorded.

Councilor Petruccelli asked if the truck could have been leased like the police vehicles.

Ms. Dhonau did not look at leasing as an option as the Public Services trucks are outfitted with special lift gates and added we got good pricing through the Sheriff's bid package.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear** to approve Resolution 02-2019.

Mr. Lozano polled Council. All ayes. **Motion carried 5-0.**

9.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 03-2019.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA AMENDING THE TOWN'S FY 2017-2018 BUDGET TO AMEND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

Attorney Kardash read Resolution 03-2019 by title.

Motion by **Councilor Petruccelli** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson** to approve Resolution 03-2019.

Mr. Lozano polled Council. All ayes. **Motion carried 5-0.**

10.0 PROCLAMATION: A proclamation of the Town of Indian Shores, Designating March 2019 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Mayor Soranno read and presented the proclamation.

11.0 Consideration of approving a request from Ms. Kristie Baxter to conduct a "Zumba" class in the Indian Shores 4th Floor Community Center on Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the request from Ms. Kristie Baxter. **Motion carried 5-0.**

12.0 Fire Chief Mike Burton will present the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District (PSFRD) March 2019 Referendum on the ballot for the March 12, 2019 election.

Amended and renumbered to 2.0B.

13.0 ICMA-RC (International City Management Association Retirement Corporation) representative Mr. Fausto Andrade to review the plan and answer questions from Council.

Amended and renumbered to 2.0A.

14.0 Consideration of Council to approve the proposed Target Police Budget for FY 2019/2020.

Interim Chief of Police E. D. Williams presented the proposed budget noting the following:

- To get the budget in sync with last year's, adjustments were made as many of the budget numbers from five years ago have carried over to present and are no longer applicable.
- There is also a reduction of \$4,000 in labor relations attorney fees as they are not used often during non-bargaining years.
- \$17,660 increase in the salary account as a result of the negotiated 1% pay adjustment, collective bargaining, and new officer step increases effective next year.
- Overtime has been underfunded in FY17/18 and FY18/19 and is being raised \$40,000.
- Holiday pay increased to \$4,000.
- Retirement, health and vision, and disability all had a slight decrease.
- Worker's compensation projected cost is \$33,800.
- Employee assistance was removed as it was already incorporated within the health, dental and vision plans.
- The personnel services overall increase is \$39,794 (3.59% of the current year).
- Operating expenses did not change much. Vehicle maintenance increased to \$20,000.
- Overall operating expenses increased to \$50,434.
- The overall increase for the FY18/19 proposed budget is 3.9% of the current year.
- The Redington Shores Fee for Service contract is increasing from \$451,287 to \$463,689 (2.7% increase).
- The total budget is \$1,339,827.

Motion by Councilor Hackerson – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the Proposed Police Budget for FY 2019/2020.
Motion carried 5-0.

15.0 Interim Chief of Police E. D. Williams will present the Police Chief selection process.

Chief Williams stated that the notice has been posted and closed on February 1. The screening committee consisting of himself, Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau, Finance and Personnel Director Susan Scrogam, retired police chief David Romine, and Indian Shores property owner and resident Neil Rode met to discuss how to proceed in the event Council agrees to sanction the recommendation. The

candidate will go before the Administrative and Finance Committee for recommendation on March 5. The candidate's resume will be distributed to Council members for review. Upon Administrative and Finance Committee approval, a background, physical and psychological exam will be scheduled. Upon completion of those items, the candidate will be recommended to the Council for final approval. The screening committee will present a second and/or third candidate if Council does not approve of the first.

The first two candidates will be interviewed Friday, February 15 and then three more candidates on Monday, February 18.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear** to approve the Police Chief selection process. **Motion carried 5-0.**

16.0 Consideration of approval to send the police boat to Tampa Machinery Auction.

Chief Williams had all decals remove to unmark the police boat. He's working on having the tires replaced on the trailer for safe transport. He thinks it's worth \$6,500.

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear– seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to surplus the police boat and send it to auction. **Motion carried 5-0.**

17.0 Consideration of the Arts Council Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation to encumber the balance of Penny III monies in the amount of \$336,176 to be divided among, Town Attorney Regina Kardash, Town Engineer Bob Brotherton, and Artist Mark Aeling for services and work to proceed with the final design and construction of the Reclining Whelk monument project approved by Council at the January 8, 2019 Council meeting.

Councilor Smith and the Arts Council Committee members would like to ensure that the remaining Penny III funds are strictly encumbered for the monument project.

Councilor Petruccelli asked if this amount is approximately 52% of the \$600,000 that will be spent on the project.

Ms. Dhonau replied that the \$600,000 is dependent upon the Penny IV allocation.

Councilor Smith commented that this is to ensure the funds are available for a complete sculpture.

Mayor Soranno mentioned that the county has given us a pass by forgoing the timeline of September 2019 to complete the project. He doesn't see the need to rush knowing now that there is no time constraint on spending the money.

Discussion ensued on possible solutions to fund the project.

Mayor Soranno suggested workshopping this agenda item.

Motion by **Councilor Petruccelli** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson** to table encumbering the remaining Penny III funds for the monument project for a workshop.

Motion carried 4-1 (Councilor Smith opposed).

18.0 Consideration of proposals by Jonathan H. Toner, RLA, ISA of Terra Tectonics Design Group, Inc., as submitted for design services at Sand Castles, Original Pizza/Title Company and median plantings along 190th Avenue West and Park Boulevard.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to table the proposals for a workshop. **Motion carried 5-0.**

19.0 Consideration of authorization to purchase supplies for the handrails at Nature Park.

Ms. Dhonau received estimates of \$62,000 - \$65,000 for the recommended handrail replacements. We have reliable and dependable Labor Finders employees that can support the Public Services staff that can do the replacements in house. She noted that Willis Knight finished the bottom of the boardwalk walkway several years ago.

The \$10,565.00 is for supply costs. The cost for the Labor Finders employees during the time they are assisting Public Services with

replacing the handrails will be charged against the Capital Project. She recommended using composite material.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to authorize the \$10,565.00 to purchase the composite material to repair the handrails at Nature Park. **Motion carried 5-0.**

20.0 Report from the Building Official for January 2019.

Councilor Smith commented on the downed palm tree at the Seacrest Condominiums that is blocking the view of the Gulf from the ground level units at Holiday Villas. There is a question on whether the tree violates the Town's code which references hedges.

Attorney Kardash will get with the Building Official to discuss further.

21.0 Report from the Town Administrator.

Ms. Dhonau let the report stand as submitted.

22.0 Consideration of approving the financial statement for period ending December 2018.

Mrs. Scrogam let the report let the report stand.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the financial statement for period ending December 2018. **Motion carried 5-0.**

23.0 Police Activity Report.

Chief Williams presented his report noting how miscellaneous reports decreased and area checks increased.

24.0 Report from Fire Commissioner.

Mr. Schear reminded the public of the upcoming election containing a referendum that if passed, will help enable the fire department maintain its level of service for the next few years.

25.0 Citizens' comments on any subject.

Janet McKee, 19531 Gulf Blvd., was under the impression that the Reclining Whelk versus the The Guardian decision was shelved.

Councilor Smith replied that the Council voted for the Whelk.

Lindsey Noble, 19823 Gulf Blvd., Unit 38, recognized and complimented Building Official Steve Tetlak on his responsiveness and that he is doing a great job. He is mentioned the 4-5 inches deep holes in the bicycle and pedestrian lanes that the surveyors have drilled are now filled with rain water and they are difficult to see. He recommended having the holes covered to prevent someone from tripping. He thinks the emphasis on No Passing on the Right is effective as he has only seen one pass on the right during the week.

Ms. Dhonau will reach out to FDOT to discuss the holes.

Art Newsome, 19810 Gulf Blvd., referenced the Police Activity Report with regards to No Passing on the Right. He would like to see more citations instead of warnings. ISPOA Happy Hour is at Jimmy Guana's from 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

26.0 Mayor's and Council Members' comments on any subject.

Councilor Hackerson echoed Mr. Noble's comments.

Councilor Petruccelli mentioned the possibility of additional No Passing on the Right signage and the Saint Patrick's Day Festival.

Councilor Smith had no further comments.

Vice Mayor Schear mentioned the Annual Beach Coastal Cleanup on March 30, from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. The next Read & Feed for the book "Clownfish Blues" is February 27, 6 p.m.

Mayor Soranno wished all a good night.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.



FREDDIE LOZANO
Town Clerk