

INDIAN SHORES

Ph 727.595.4020 Fax 727.596.0050
19305 Gulf Boulevard, Indian Shores, FL 33785
www.myindianshores.com



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021, BEGAN AT 5:00 P.M. INDIAN SHORES MUNICIPAL, CENTER 4TH FLOOR

The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.

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

Also present: Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau, Personnel and Finance Director Susan Scrogam, Town Clerk Freddie Lozano, Chief Rick Swann, Captain Glen Smith, Town Engineer Larry Fluty, Building Official Darin Cushing, Assistant Fire Chief John Mortellite, Fire Commissioner Larry Schear, Town Library Board Chairperson Alice Lawrence, Administrative and Finance Committee Member John Caruso, Sarah Lynn Westmoreland Mullins, LLC, Austin Vogt of St. Petersburg College, and Newspaper Correspondent Jeannie Carlson

Those absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

1.0 Consideration of approving the Town Council Meeting agenda for June 8, 2021.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the Town Council Meeting Agenda for June 8, 2021. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Vice Mayor

Diantha Schear
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petrucci
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Richard (Rick) Swann
Chief

Susan L. Scrogam
Personnel and Finance Director

Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

2.0 Comments from the public on any agenda item.

Mr. Vogt, 11511 113th Street, asked that consideration should be made when voting on Ordinance 2021-05 to provide exceptions for the disabled and that the term motorized devices be clarified.

3.0 Consideration of approving the "CONSENT AGENDA" as follows:

A. MINUTES:

- 1. Town Council Meeting, April 13, 2021.**
- 2. Joint PZB and Town Council Workshop, May 11, 2021.**
- 3. Town Council Meeting, May 11, 2021.**
- 4. Town Council Workshop, May 18, 2021.**
- 5. Special Town Council Meeting, May 18, 2021.**

B. RE-OCCURRING EXPENSES: for May 2021.

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

4.0 Correspondence.

- **Thank you note from Keep Pinellas Beautiful.**

5.0 Town Attorney's report.

Attorney Kardash's report will be addressed during the ordinance discussions.

6.0 Report from the Fire Chief.

Assistant Fire Chief Mortellite attended the meeting for Fire Chief Burton. He reported there were no covid related issues with the staff. There were 36 emergency calls and response times were met. There were 15 fire related calls. Three new employees have been hired and will be recognized at their next meeting where they will also be recognizing two district lieutenants and two district chiefs.

7.0 Consideration of Council action for Ordinance 2021-03 that was tabled at the March 23rd Council meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ordinance 2021-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 54-4, ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND BEACHES, OF CHAPTER 54, PARKS AND RECREATION, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES BY PROHIBITING BICYCLES ON THE BEACH; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF ACTIONS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Kardash read Ordinance 2021-03 by title and recommended that this previously tabled ordinance be voted down as a new ordinance has been written to address electric bicycles on the beach.

The hearing was opened for comments, which there were none.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to deny the passage of Ordinance 2021-03.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

8.0 PUBLIC HEARING: First Reading of Ordinance 2021-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 54-4, ACCESS TO FACILITIES AND BEACHES, OF CHAPTER 54, PARKS AND RECREATION, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES BY PROHIBITING ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND MOTORIZED DEVICES ON THE BEACH; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Kardash read Ordinance 2021-05 by title and asked the Council to consider Mr. Vogt’s earlier comments on motorized devices and disabled individuals.

The hearing was opened for comments, which there were none.

Chief Swann noted that there is no intent to prohibit ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant devices from accessing the beach. This is more of an issue with electric bicycles on the beach. The state statutes provide exemptions for ADA devices on the beach.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2021-05.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

9.0 PUBLIC HEARING: First Reading of Ordinance 2021-06

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 14-34.- ENFORCEMENT AND SECTION 14-35.- REMOVAL OF DOG EXCREMENT, OF CHAPTER 14 – ANIMALS, TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES ADOPTED SCHEDULE OF FINES AND CITATIONS AND FOR ENFORCEMENT OF STATE AND COUNTY VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF ACTIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Kardash read Ordinance 2021-06 by title.

The hearing was opened for comments, which there were none.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2021-06.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING: Resolution 05-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A SCHEDULE OF VIOLATIONS AND FINES PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-213 OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES; AUTHORIZING IMPOSITION OF SAID FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CERTAIN TOWN CODES ENFORCED THROUGH THE TOWN'S CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS; DESIGNATING SPECIFIC TOWN DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INCONSISTENT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Attorney Kardash read Resolution 05-2021 by title and noted that a recent revision to this resolution was made to specifically include chapter 54, which pertains to dogs on the beach in order to include it in the citation process.

The hearing was opened for comments, which there were none.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to approve Resolution 05-2021.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

11.0 Acknowledgement of Detective Cari Bittrich’s resignation with her final day of work on June 3, 2021, and consideration of authorization to begin the recruiting process to fill the position.

Chief Swann stated Detective Bittrich had a great deal of knowledge and did a great job in the 5 years she was with the Department. They are sad to see her leave and thanked her for her service.

Councilor Schear concurred.

Mayor Soranno added that she will be missed and commended her excellent presentation skills.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to authorize the recruiting process to fill the position. **Motion carried 5-0.**

12.0 Update on the 2021 National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) from Town Engineer Larry Fluty.

Mr. Fluty provided this year’s NPDES Report. The NPDES is tailored to fit the Town’s pollution control with regards to construction sites, lawn maintenance, car maintenance, and pool discharges. Pollutants from illicit discharges could flow into the estuaries and then into the intracoastal. He thanked the community for doing a great job with pollution control.

13.0 Consideration of approval of the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) recommendation of a 1.4% based upon current CPI-W ending December 31, 2020 in preparation for the FY 2021/2022 budget.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the COLA adjustment recommendation of a 1.4% based upon current CPI-W ending December 31, 2020 in preparation for the FY 2021/2022 budget.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

14.0 Consideration of approval of the merit increase recommendation of up to 4% for all non-union personnel effective October 1, 2021.

Councilor Schear amended the consideration to be read as “4%” instead of “up to 4%”.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the merit increase of 4% for all non-union personnel effective October 1, 2021, as amended.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

15.0 Consideration of monument project redesign and bid documents.

The project redesign and bid alternatives were discussed at an earlier workshop.

Attorney Kardash will be exploring the option of entering into a comprehensive agreement for a public/private partnership on this item pursuant to state statute. An agreement will be brought forward for Council approval if a contract is obtained.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve Option 2 for the revised plaza and Option 2 for the bid options.

Council polled. All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

16.0 Consideration of allowing FDOT to paint road striping at night. This is a rolling operation and quiet work which is best done at night with less impact on traffic.

Chief Swann and **Ms. Dhonau** are working with FDOT on the road striping. Striping at night is preferred as it will have less impact on traffic. Chief Swann has concerns about the bright lights that would be set up to illuminate the work, which has not been discussed with FDOT as of yet.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to allow FDOT to paint road striping at night. **Motion carried 5-0.**

17.0 Consideration of resuming Library Read and Feeds.

Ms. Lawrence reported there will be a Library soft opening this Thursday. The carpeting and painting are completed. The counter is planned to be installed in early July. If possible, a Read & Feed will be scheduled in August featuring the book "Anxious People" by Frederic Backman. Pizza and Swedish meatballs are on the menu along with beverages.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to resume the Library Read & Feeds in August. **Motion carried 5-0.**

18.0 Consideration of allowing Clearwater Marine Aquarium Personnel to tag items left on the beach during their daily patrols. This would be in the form of an educational tag on our Leave No Trace Ordinance and advising their item may be confiscated if left on the beach between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Chief Swann has no issues with the Aquarium personnel tagging the items. He sees it as a benefit and a way to educate those who are not aware of the Town's rules on items left on the beach and turtle protection.

Ms. Dhonau stated that Public Services in the past have removed items left on the beach before 6 a.m. Now, they cannot be on the beach until given clearance by the Aquarium personnel which is usually after 8 a.m. This makes it difficult to determine if items were left on the beach prior to Public Services being given clearance to enter the beach. The only way to enforce it is to call the Police Department between 10 a.m. - 6 a.m.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to allow Clearwater Marine Aquarium Personnel to tag items left on the beach during their daily patrols. **Motion carried 5-0.**

19.0 Report from the Building Official for May 2021.

Mr. Cushing reported that the new Building software is being utilized for plan reviews and inspections. There is an outstanding code enforcement issue scheduled for a Code Enforcement Hearing in July.

20.0 Report from the Town Engineer on the status of the monument project.

The monument project was previously discussed under Agenda Item 15.0.

21.0 Report from the Town Administrator.

Ms. Dhonau reported:

- The new carpeting has been installed and thanked Public Services and the Staff for their support and efforts with all the packing and unpacking.
- Would like to see about getting more comprehensive signs with clear graphics illustrating what is prohibited on the beach with regards to animals, electric bicycles, fires, etc.
- Budget preparations are underway.

Mayor Soranno mentioned the fish kill on the beach and that the County was out today doing an assessment.

Ms. Dhonau added that Labor Finders was contacted for laborers to assist with the cleanup, but none showed up. This may be a volunteer type of situation.

22.0 Consideration of approving the Financial Statement for period ending April 2021.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to approve the Financial Statement for period ending April 2021.

23.0 Report from the Fire Commissioner.

Fire Commissioner Schear reported that Fire Commissioner Dave Ardman, representing Indian Rocks Beach, will be attending a 1-week course in Orlando to learn how to become a certified district official.

24.0 Police activity report for May 2021.

Chief Swann reported on continuing to be busy with Police calls ranging from trespassers, unauthorized usage of private pools by tourists, and medical related calls. They continue to work with the Fire Department and Redington Shores to finalize their emergency management plans. New tasers have arrived and training continues for the Bola Wraps. He anticipates a larger 4th of July crowd this year.

25.0 Citizen’s comments on any subject.

Ken Zylich, 19450 Gulf Blvd. asked where the Town stands on the proposed parking meter at Nature Park that he feels should not be installed as the spaces are being used by fellow citizens and not tourists.

Mayor Soranno replied that it has been approved.

Ms. Dhonau stated that the meter has been ordered and is awaiting delivery. A separate bank account will be created to separate it from Pinellas County’s parking revenues.

Fire Commissioner Schear asked if the road striping will be interrupted when the pedestrian crossing at 199th Street is installed?

Ms. Dhonau replied that the last she heard was that the contractor was waiting on Duke Energy to move some lights, possibly from the 183rd Street location, in order to accommodate the pedestrian crossing.

26.0 Council members’ comments on any subject.

Councilor Schear is happy about the Library’s opening and the Read & Feed resuming. There was a preliminary kick-off party meeting to discuss how to

accommodate the Town and ISPOA Christmas party. The finer details with regards to seating in the lobby and Council Chamber and the placement of the Christmas tree are still in the planning stages. She has booked the band. More updates ahead.

Councilor Petruccelli thanked Ms. Dhonau and the staff on the excellent carpeting. He thanked everyone and was pleased to see familiar faces and wished all a good 4th of July.

Councilor Smith stated it was good to see everyone and thanked the Town Staff for all their hard work during the past months.

Vice Mayor Hackerson thanked Mr. Lozano for his work over the weekend on the agenda. He stated it is nice seeing faces again. He thanked Jeannie Carlson and stated that the article she wrote on bola wraps for the Beach Beacon newspaper is worth reading.

Mayor Soranno hoped to have the monument's construction underway. He thanked and applauded the Staff for their work. He reminded everyone that it is hurricane season and to have a plan ready.

27.0 Meeting adjournment.

6:13 p.m.



Freddie Lozano
Town Clerk