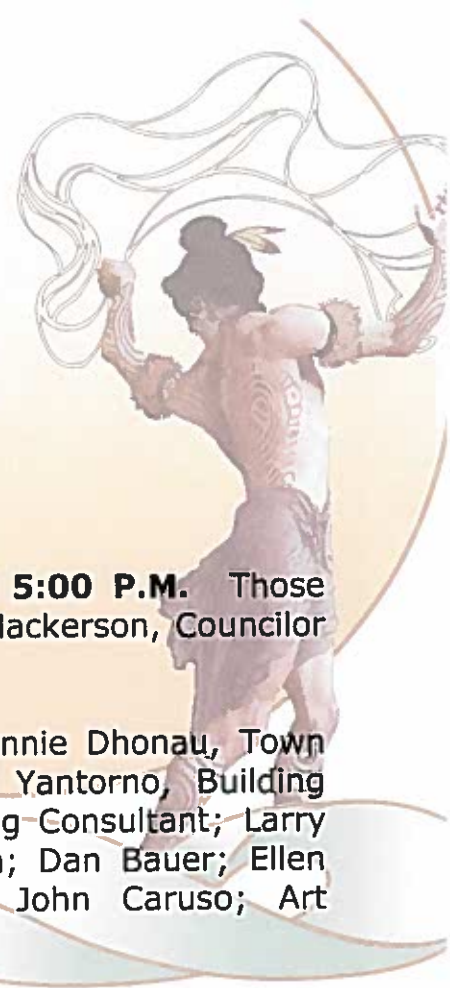


# INDIAN SHORES

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

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 14, 2017



**The Indian Shores Town Council meeting convened at 5:00 P.M.** Those present were: Mayor Soranno, Vice Mayor Schear, Councilor Hackerson, Councilor Petruccelli and Councilor Smith.

Also Present: Chief Hughes; Elaine Jackson, Town Clerk; Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator; Susan Scrogam, Director of Finance; Greg Yantorno, Building Official; Attorney Regina Kardash; Bob Brotherton, Engineering Consultant; Larry Schear, Fire Commissioner; Barbara Soranno; Mark Housman; Dan Bauer; Ellen Bauer; Gene Thompson; Irene Thompson; Katrina Hale; John Caruso; Art Newsome; Jeannie Carlson' Mary Toll and Stephanie Waters.

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

#### **1.0 Consideration of approving Council Agenda for February 14, 2017.**

**Motion** by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve the Council Agenda for February 14, 2017, subject to tabling Items 9.0 and 16.0. **Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **2.0 Comments from the public on any Agenda item.**

There were no comments.

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

- A. **MINUTES**: PZB Committee - January 3, 2017  
Admin & Finance Committee - January 10, 2017  
Council Meeting - January 10, 2017  
Special Council Meeting - January 24, 2017

James J. Lawrence  
Mayor

Patrick C. Soranno  
Vice Mayor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli  
Councilor

Diantha Schear  
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith  
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau  
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes  
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam  
Director of Finance  
and Personnel

Elaine N. Jackson, MMC  
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno  
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.  
Town Attorney

**Motion by Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith**, to approve the Minutes for January, 2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**B. RE-OCCURRING EXPENSES:** for January 2017

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve the re-occurring expenses for January 2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**4.0 Approval of Committee expenditures:** None

**5.0 Correspondence:** None

**6.0 Town Attorney's Report**

**Attorney Kardash** reported she has been working on the Town's Flood Plain Ordinance, the bid documents for the Beautification project, which should be ready to present at the next meeting, and the EAR/Comp Plan revisions.

**7.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 1-2017.** A Resolution of the Town of Indian Shores, Florida, declaring Michael Hackerson and Michael Petruccelli to have been elected Council Members of Indian Shores, Florida, for a three-year term, as a result of being unopposed for the respective positions in the Municipal Election scheduled for March 14, 2017.

**Attorney Kardash** read Resolution 1-2017, by title only.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve Resolution 1-2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**8.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 2-2017.** A Resolution of the Town of Indian Shores, Florida, authorizing credit cards be issued to elected officials and department heads of the Town, designating official signers on the SunTrust Bank account and designating those authorized to initiate contributions and/or redemptions relative to Florida Municipal Investment Trust.

**Attorney Kardash** read Resolution 2-2017, by title only.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve Resolution 2-2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 9.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 3-2017.** A Resolution of the Town of Indian Shores, Florida, in support of making Workers' Comp rates affordable for job creators and supporting the Florida Chamber's Worker's Comp Task Force.

This item was tabled.

- 10.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 4-2017.** A Resolution of the Town of Indian Shores, Florida, commending the Florida Association of City Clerks for its 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Attorney Kardash** read Resolution 4-2017, by title only.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve Resolution 4-2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 11.0 Consideration of approving a request for a special event permit from Jason Clemens, for a St. Paddy's Day event on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Mickey Quinn's.**

**Vice Mayor Schear** stated this has been approved every year, and this event is only for two days.

**Chief Hughes** stated one officer would be assigned duty 6-8 hours, however there are always 2 or 3 others present. The tent used has to be approved by the fire department.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli**, to approve the request for a special event permit from Jason Clemens, for a St. Paddy's Day event on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Mickey Quinn's, subject to fire department approval of the tent. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 12.0 Consideration of approving a request for a special event permit from Mary Toll to conduct a beach wedding on May 12, 2017, at Adaigo Beach Villas, 19310 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M.**

**Mary Toll** stated there would be a wedding ceremony on the beach with about 50 people and the reception will be held at Adaigo Beach Villas.

**Motion by Councilor Smith-** seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve a request for a special event permit from Mary Toll to conduct a beach wedding on May 12, 2017, at Adaigo Beach Villas, 19310 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 13.0 Consideration of approving a request for a special event permit from Mary Toll to conduct a beach wedding on November 4, 2017, at Adaigo Beach Villas, 19310 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M.**

**Mary Toll** stated there would be a wedding ceremony on the beach with about 50 people and the reception will be held at Adaigo Beach Villas.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Smith**, to approve a request for a special event permit from Mary Toll to conduct a beach wedding on November 4, 2017, at Adaigo Beach Villas, 19310 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 14.0 Consideration of accepting Notice of Intent to Retire from Town Clerk, Elaine Jackson, effective March 31, 2017.**

Council members expressed their regrets that Ms. Jackson was leaving, thanked her for her service, and wished her well.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson**, to accept the Notice of Intent to Retire from Town Clerk, Elaine Jackson, effective March 31, 2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 15.0 Consideration of approving the hiring of Stephanie Waters to fill the position of Town Clerk, to tentatively begin on March 8, 2017, at an annual salary of \$ 63,000.**

**Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator**, reported the Administrative and Finance Committee recommended hiring Ms. Waters. She has been Deputy City Clerk for Largo since October 2012. She stated the staff met with Stephanie last week and agreed unanimously that she would be an excellent addition to the team. Her date to begin has been changed to March 7, 2017.

**Ms. Waters** addressed Council, stating she is looking forward to the opportunity of working with them, the staff and the residents of Indian Shores.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** - seconded by **Councilor Hackerson**, to approve the hiring of Stephanie Waters to fill the position of Town Clerk, to tentatively begin on March 8, 2017, at an annual salary of \$ 63,000. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**Mayor Soranno** stated he was very impressed with Ms. Waters' resume and congratulated her on her appointment.

**16.0 Consideration of approving the recommended EAR Amendments letter to Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).**

This item was tabled.

**17.0 Consideration of MOU from Forward Pinellas relative to estimate to accomplish EAR amendments.**

**Greg Yantorno, Building Official**, stated, in the past Council approved an MOU with Forward Pinellas for the first part of the process, not to exceed \$1,200. Their fee ended up only \$620. The second part of the process is to take the amendments and incorporate them into the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The proposed MOU from Forward Pinellas states it will do this for a fee not to exceed \$2,500. This would be a very difficult task for staff to undertake, without the right expertise.

**Attorney Kardash** explained the EAR Amendment letter, as submitted in Item 16.0 above, must first go to the Local Planning Agency for approval, which is the Planning, Zoning and Building Committee.

**Attorney Kardash** further explained, the Council must approve the revisions and submit with a Resolution. The Town may enter into contract with Forward Pinellas, as the rates seem very reasonable.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve the MOU from Forward Pinellas relative to estimate to accomplish EAR amendments. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 18.0 Consideration of accepting the resignation of Mark Housman from Seat #6 (Alternate) on the Indian Shores Board of Adjustment, effective immediately.**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson**, to accept the resignation of Mark Housman from Seat #6 (Alternate) on the Indian Shores Board of Adjustment, effective immediately. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 19.0 Consideration of appointing Ellen Bauer to Seat #6 (Alternate) on the Indian Shores Board of Adjustment, which term expires October 28, 2019.**

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson**, to appoint Ellen Bauer to Seat #6 (Alternate) on the Indian Shores Board of Adjustment, which term expires October 28, 2019. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 20.0 Consideration of approving the proposed Committee Assignments effective immediately and expiring in March 2018.**

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by Vice Mayor Schear, to approve the Committee Assignments effective immediately and expiring in March 2018. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- 21.0 Consideration of approving a request from Steve Vinci (Municipal Center Architect) for use of the Community Room on Saturday, September 2, 2017, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM, for a wedding ceremony and reception, with fees to be determined.**

**Elaine Jackson, Town Clerk**, explained Mr. Vinci is the architect who designed the Municipal Center and he thought it would be nice to get married in a building he designed.

**Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator**, reported she has called Mr. Vinci from time to time relative to his company drawing up fire evacuation maps, maps for the St. Patrick's Day Festival, and plans for putting in an open storage area. Mr. Vinci has been a consistent help to the Town.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli**, to approve approving a request from Steve Vinci for use of the Community Room on Saturday, September 2, 2017, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM, for a wedding ceremony and reception, with fees corresponding to Section 1 (2), Consultants. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**22.0 Consideration of approving the proposed Police Department target budget for Fiscal year 2017/2018.**

**Chief Hughes** reported there will be a 1.6% overall increase equaling \$18,890.00, due to personnel services and operating cost increases. He stated this is the first time in a year and a half all full-time positions are filled and those officers will be getting health care, work comp, and retirement benefits, but it will lower the overtime expenses. Operating expenses increased due to the \$2,000 increase in the PASS services used to get qualified candidates, as the Town has an agreement to donate that amount every year.

**Chief Hughes** further reported communications expenses are anticipated to increase for dispatch and forensics services. Training and education funds are in the General Fund, thus won't be lost if not used.

**Chief Hughes** stated he has already spoken with the Mayor and Finance Director in Redington Shores, and he is confident this will be approved.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli**, to approve the proposed Police Department target budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**23.0 Report from the Building Official for January 2017.**

**Greg Yantorno, Building Official**, reported there were 122 inspections and 68 permits issued in the month of January 2017, along with contract valuations of \$1 million and fees collected of \$17,000. The CRS recertification is complete, which determined we have met the requirements to maintain the Town's Class 6 rating, resulting in a 20% discount in flood insurance for residents.

**Mr. Yantorno** further reported there are five major construction projects: three being single family homes, two being multi-family homes (Onella and Waterside). Waterside is getting ready to start another building and plans for three more. Costa Homes has not yet submitted plans for the construction of their building. There are seven vacant parcels in Indian Shores where new projects could occur.

**Mr. Yantorno** explained the numerous, legally non-conforming properties which were built under previous standards. There are no issues with these properties, other than they are subject to the 50% rule for substantial improvement or substantial damage. There are a few small homes that would unlikely be capable of being repaired after extensive damage, without exceeding the 50% rule, which mean most likely new buildings would be built on that property. Square footage is limited only if they put on an addition.

**Mr. Yantorno** stated, relative to multi-family structures, there are a lot of older units that are constantly being altered and remodeled, air conditioning units replaced, flooring installed, windows and doors installed, and roofs replaced. The Town gets two or three requests for these types of permits per month.

**Mr. Yantorno** stated the Code Enforcement report will be submitted at the next Council meeting.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to accept the report from the Building Official for January 2017.  
**Motion carried 5-0.**



**Mayor Soranno** reminded everyone that our CRS Recertification allows us a 20% discount, as a Class 6 rating, which adds up to \$350,000 savings on our flood insurance policies.

**24.0 Report from the Town Administrator.**

**Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator**, stated there is a funding issue relative to installation of crosswalks at Waterside (199th Ave) and Holiday Villas III (186th Ave). Our last understanding was that the Town must pay for the crosswalks if it wants them installed right away, at a cost of \$100-200,000. Boring will need to be done for the flashing lights and the median will have to be modified to allow the crosswalk to go through. She stated if the Town decides to forego building them, FDOT can do a survey, and pay for the crosswalks. However, this may take up to two years to complete.

**Ms. Dhonau** reported, of the 43 beach nourishment easements, we have received seven return receipts and two signed easements. John Bishop did his own study and calculated which easements were necessary to get the project on line for funding.

**Councilor Hackerson** stated nine easements have been returned as undeliverable, and volunteers will work on these to contact the owners personally.

**Councilor Petruccelli** reported the surface is uneven at the 199<sup>th</sup> Avenue beach access.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to accept the report from the Town Administrator. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**25.0 Consideration of approving Financial Statement for period ending December 31, 2016.**

**Susan Scrogam**, Director of Finance, reported the Town received \$629,501 in Ad Valorem during the month of December, bringing the total to date to \$993,717, which is approximately 67.73% of the budgeted amount for FY 16/17.

**Ms. Scrogam** also reported the Town has received reimbursement from the Salt Aire Condo Association in the amount of \$34,089 for the cost of the demolition, fence and code enforcement services related to the September 2, 2016 fire.

**Ms. Scrogam** updated the Council relative to the Gulf Blvd. Capital Improvement Project regarding the following expenses: \$2,000 deposit requirement for the CAF agreement was made; payments totaling \$63,578 for signage, landscaping and irrigation; and \$36,035 for consultant services.

**Mayor Soranno** stated the Town is in excellent shape and very financially sound.

**Motion by Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear**, to approve the Financial Statement for period ending December 31, 2016. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**26.0 Consideration of approving the Police Activity Report covering January 2017.**

**Chief Hughes** stated there has been a lot more traffic this year, thus the warnings are up from last year. He stated he was aware of instances of passing on the right, however, with so much congestion it is impossible for the patrol officer to turn around.

**Bob Brotherton** stated the sidewalks used to be bright red, but the paint has worn off, making it harder to distinguish the bike paths and walking trails, which is a safety issue. He stated he has raised the issue with FDOT and suggested replacing the asphalt the full length of Gulf Blvd.

**Bonnie Dhonau** stated in a recent conference call with FDOT regarding the ponding project, the Project Manager indicated they had no intention of repainting the area, but will mill off the top layer.

A discussion took place regarding controlling the noise level from accelerating vehicles or motorcycles, whether a noise reduction zone was needed, a decibel meter could be used, a statute relative to rapid acceleration was warranted, or enforcement of ordinances regarding modified exhaust systems is needed.

**Chief Hughes** reported that a decibel meter would be required to determine a violation, and would also require a trained lab tech to operate it. The department has a solar-powered speed trailer that can be placed on Gulf Blvd near the Pinellas County boat ramp to calculate the speed.

**Motion** by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli**, to approve the Police Activity Report covering January 2017. **Motion carried 5-0.**

- Commendation for Officer Christopher “Shane” Tindall.

**Chief Hughes** read an excerpt from a letter of commendation for Officer Tindall for his response with patience and kindness to a family distraught over the untimely death of a loved one.

**Chief Hughes** also reported an incident where Officer Tindall helped a resident with dementia who could not take care of himself. Officer Tindall called paramedics and Baker Acted the resident so he could be sent to the hospital.

#### **27.0 Citizens’ Comments on any subject.**

**Larry Schear, Fire Commissioner**, stated the Fire District was involved in activities expected to result in positive effects. Chief D’Angelo has talked with cities, the County and Duke Energy to reach proper solutions.

**Barbara Soranno**, made a statement thanking the library volunteers and others involved in the Harvest Moon Ball on behalf of those whose home burned to the ground on September 2, 2017.

#### **28.0 Mayor’s and Council Members comments on any subject.**

**Councilor Hackerson** reported the first new signs are going up, stone facades will be applied and we will see shrubbery planted around them soon. The landscaping project for the 2.6 miles of Gulf Blvd., is going through final plan review and will go out to bid. Volunteers will contact home owners to work with them directly (April/May).

**Councilor Hackerson** further stated, if residents have questions or issues, they can call us and we will work with them. We now have over 50 easements, and it should be 90 days until completion.

**Councilor Petruccelli** thanked those who emailed and sent cards and stated he was humbled to be back in service again. He stated he has noticed a spike in the number of tourists who spend money, don't cause trouble, and advised everyone should put on a smile and be ambassadors. He suggested promoting the St. Patrick's Day Festival.

**Councilor Smith** stated he had talked to John Bishop at Pinellas County regarding the Sand Key beach renourishment. The plan was originally slated for 2017, but lack of funding expected to delay it until 2018. However, it might actually happen in 2017, because the Federal Government has approved the funding for storm damage and might take advantage of use of the renourishment equipment. However, it is imperative the beach nourishment easements be in place.

**Vice Mayor Schear** announced the library member coming to check out books are very complimentary of our building, the staff and the quality of books. The Town is sponsoring a library volunteer appreciation dinner on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at the Salt Rock Grill.

**Vice Mayor Schear** also announced the Coastal Cleanup scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 8 A.M. to Noon, including the Cleanup Café. She stated there is a link from the Town's web page for volunteers to sign up or they can just show up.

**Vice Mayor Schear** reported there will be a Library Read and Feed on Wednesday, March 29, 2017. The featured novel is Ink and Bones by Lisa Unger. She will be present to sign her book.

**Mayor Soranno** thanked everyone for coming. He congratulated Councilor Hackerson and Councilor Petruccelli for their unopposed election.

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**February 14, 2017**

**Mayor Soranno** stated the Harvest Moon Ball was a very special evening during a very tough time, where the Town people opened up their hearts and really supported us.

The Town Council meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

  
ELAINE JACKSON, MMC  
Town Clerk