

INDIAN SHORES

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TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2018

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: Attorney Kardash; Chief Hughes; Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator; Susan Scrogam, Director of Finance; Freddie Lozano, Town Clerk; Art Newsome; Larry Schear; Fred and Dottie Strahlendorf; Maria Miller; Alice Lawrence; Candiss Rinker.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

1.0 Consideration of approving Council Agenda for April 10, 2018.

Mayor Soranno proposed to amend the Town Council Agenda order by moving 14.0, rental of the 4th Floor Community Center for the Festival of Trees, to become 2.0A.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear** to approve the Town Council Agenda for April 10, 2018, as amended.
Motion carried 4-1. Councilor Petruccelli voted opposed.

2.0 Comments from the public on any Agenda item.

Larry Schear commented on Agenda #16.0 (Purchase of Duke Energy decommissioned substation property) as being a potential site for a new fire station to replace the current fire station.

Patrick C. Soranno
Mayor

Diantha Schear
Vice Mayor

Mike Hackerson
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau
Town Administrator

Terry E. Hughes
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam
Director of Finance
and Personnel

Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk

Gregory Yantorno
Building Official

Regina Kardash, Esq.
Town Attorney

2.0A **Consideration of free rental of 4th Floor Community center on November 24, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. by the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce for The Festival of Trees (Small Business Saturday).**

Robin Sollie, from the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber, spoke on a new event/fundraiser named the "Tampa Bay Beaches Festival of Trees". St. Petersburg, Madeira, Indian Shores, Indian Rocks, Treasure Island beaches are invited to sponsor decorated trees that will be up for bidding and is eligible to win a prize. The tree bidding is between 11am-2pm. The fundraiser will donate a portion of the proceeds to a non-profit organization that is a member of the Chamber. By renting the 4th Floor Community center, the thought is that the public, along with the decorated trees, will be protected in case of inclement weather.

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear – seconded by Councilor Hackerson to approve the free rental of the 4th Floor Community center on November 24, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. by the Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce for The Festival of Trees.

Motion carried 5-0.

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

A. MINUTES:

Admin and Finance Committee	- March 6, 2018
Special Council Meeting	- March 6, 2018
Council Meeting	- March 13, 2018
Admin and Finance Committee	- March 27, 2018
Special Council Meeting	- March 27, 2018

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear – seconded by Councilor Smith to approve the Minutes of March 2018. **Motion carried 5-0.**

B. RE-OCCURRING EXPENSES: for March 2018

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear – seconded by Councilor Hackerson to approve the re-occurring expenses for March 2018. **Motion carried 5-0.**

4.0 **Approval of Committee expenditures:** None

5.0 **Correspondence:** None

6.0 **Town Attorney's Report**
Review of the Sunshine Law

Attorney Kardash presented an overview of the following:

Ethics and Public Office Laws:

- Prohibited Conduct
- Prohibited Employment and Business Practices
- Voting Conflicts
- Requesting an Ethics Opinion

Government in the Sunshine & Public Records

- What is Government in the Sunshine
- Basic Requirements
- What agencies are covered?
- What is a meeting?
- What is "open to the public"?
- Exceptions
- Shade Meetings
- Public Records Law
- What is a Public Record

7.0 **PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 3-2018, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING CREDIT CARDS TO 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.**

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Councilor Hackerson** to approve Resolution 3-2018 with the 4th Whereas amended to read "Captain" instead of "Deputy Chief". **Motion carried 5-0.**

Mayor Soranno asked Freddie Lozano, Town Clerk, to poll the Council:

Councilor Petruccelli -	Yes
Councilor Smith -	Yes
Councilor Hackerson -	Yes
Vice Mayor Schear -	Yes
Mayor Soranno -	Yes

Motion carried 5-0.

- 8.0 **PROCLAMATION: A proclamation declaring April 30th through May 6th, 2018, as FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK in Indian Shores, FL.**

Mayor Soranno proclaimed the week of April 30th through May 6th, 2018, as **FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK** in Indian Shores, FL and will be signing the Proclamation.

- 9.0 **SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Jonathan Toner, Landscape Architect and AmeriscapeUSA, landscape contractor, for their hard work and dedication to the completion of Phase I of the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Streetscape Project.**

Mayor Soranno recognized Jonathan Toner of Terra Tectonics, Gulf Boulevard Beautification Landscape Architect, and thanked him for a great job on the color changing streetscape concept along Gulf Boulevard throughout Indian Shores.

Mayor Soranno also recognized Ralph Girard, James Eisele, and the Team from AmeriscapeUSA who installed hundreds of trees and thousands of plants over the past seven months for the Gulf Boulevard Beautification Project. Mayor Soranno also thanked the volunteers.

Ralph Girard stated they didn't consider the project a job, but instead a partnership and presented Mayor Soranno and Councilor Mike Hackerson with a plaque from ASI Landscape Management.

10.0 **Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Fred Strahlendorf for his service to the Town on the Planning, Zoning, and Building Committee.**

Mayor Soranno presented Fred Strahlendorf with a Certificate of Appreciation and the Key to the Town of Indian Shores. Mayor Soranno touched on Fred's history in the Town having been a resident since 1995, a member of the PZB Committee, and is the Nuisance/Noise Police for Golden Shores.

Fred Strahlendorf stated that he has made more friends here at Indian Shores in his lifetime. He was glad to be here and thanked everyone.

11.0 **Consideration of approving a request for a Special Events Permit for the Fallon, Pacht Wedding on Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Beach Access across from 19305 Gulf Blvd. from 5:30-6:30pm.**

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the request for a Special Events Permit for the Fallon, Pacht Wedding on Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Beach Access across from 19305 Gulf Blvd. from 5:30-6:30pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

12.0 **Consideration of approving a request for a Special Events Permit for the Bejte renewal of vows ceremony on Saturday, August 25, 2018 at 18500 Gulf Blvd. at 2:00-6:30pm.**

Motion by Vice Mayor Schear – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the request for a Special Events Permit for the Bejte renewal of vows ceremony on Saturday, August 25, 2018 at 18500 Gulf Blvd. at 2:00-6:30pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

13.0 **Consideration of approving a request for a Special Events Permit for the Faith, Horne Wedding on Friday, September 21, 2018 at 19601 Gulf Blvd. from 2:30-6:30pm.**

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Vice Mayor Schear** to approve the request for a Special Events Permit for the Faith, Horne Wedding on Friday, September 21, 2018 at 19601 Gulf Blvd. from 2:30-6:30pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

14.0 **Consideration of hiring El Cheapo Tree Service for the removal of Australian Pine by playground.**

Ms. Dhonau stated that the invasive Australian Pines currently house Blue Heron nests above playground slides resulting in bird droppings on the slides. In the interest of public safety, a request is being submitted to remove the pines.

Motion by Councilor Hackerson – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the request to hire El Cheapo Tree Service for the removal of Australian Pine by playground at the cost of \$2,350.00. **Motion carried 5-0.**

15.0 **Discussion relative to the Purchase of Duke Energy decommissioned substation property.**

Ms. Dhonau was contacted by Duke Energy to see if there was interest from the Town in purchasing the property. Duke Energy is also able to provide documentation on soil testing for the acre of land. The asking price is approximately \$2.4 million. Ms. Dhonau also mentioned a previous offer by PSFRD in the approximate amount of \$800,000.

Mayor Soranno pointed out that a PSFRD representative was present.

Larry Schear, Fire Commissioner, confirmed the previous offer to PSFRD of \$800,000.

Discussion resumed and ended with the Council's agreement of further discussions being needed regarding the Town's interest in the property and the funding if the approved.

16.0 **Consideration of the 2017 Annual Library Report (Alice Lawrence).**

Alice Lawrence, Chairperson, Library Board of Directors, mentioned that in addition to the Library Report, she wanted to mention the many man hours involved in running the Library, creating meals for the Read & Feed, and book sales. Alice took a moment to recognize and thank the volunteers, along with their friends and spouses, who help with the preparations for these events. She also recognized and thanked Author Rita Moreau as

not only a volunteer, but also a donor. Rita has donated money raised from her book launches back into the Town.

There were no questions regarding the report.

Mayor Soranno thanked Alice and all the volunteers for all their work.

Motion by Councilor Petruccelli – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the 2017 Annual Library Report. **Motion carried 5-0.**

17.0 **Report from the Building Official for March 2018.**

Building Official Greg Yantorno was unable to attend the meeting.

There were no questions regarding the report.

18.0 **Report from the Town Administrator**

Ms. Dhonau received an update from John Novak of the Protean Design Group, Contractor of FDOT and our Ponding Project, that they have shifted the contract by one month (June 13th) due to utility issues. Construction is anticipated to begin between August and September.

19.0 **Consideration of approving financial statement for period ending February 2018.**

Susan Scrogam, Finance and Personnel Director, had nothing additional to report but welcomed questions.

No questions from the Council.

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

20.0 **Police Activity Report by Chief of Police**

Chief Hughes had nothing additional to report.

Councilor Petruccelli commented to Chief Hughes on the excellent results of the speed enforcement on the Southbound section of the road from the bridge.

Councilor Petruccelli expressed concern over pedestrian safety on Gulf Boulevard.

Mayor Soranno agreed with Councilor Petruccelli and stated that pedestrian safety is the principle argument for sidewalks.

Vice Mayor Schear suggested taking photographs at the location turning into the Municipal Building going South to make a left turn where she witnessed seven cars pass her on the right side. The photographs may possibly help with the argument for sidewalks.

Attorney Kardash suggested the option of hiring a traffic engineer to perform a traffic study if it continues to be an issue.

21.0 **Report from Fire Commissioner**

Larry Schear, Fire Commissioner, mentioned the power outage over the weekend causing loss of power at Indian Shores and the nearby beach communities. Mr. Schear added how quickly the matter was addressed from when the power outage occurred at 5:15pm, to when the sirens were heard at 5:18pm.

Mr. Schear also urged the Council to contact the Administrator to begin the appraisal process for the Duke Energy site.

22.0 **Citizens' Comments on any subject.**

Art Newsome, Citizen Member, reminded everyone of the ISPOA Happy Hour on Wednesday, April 11 where pizza will be served. Art also mentioned the completion of the tennis court striping for pickle ball.

Mayor Soranno mentioned that Michael Scrogham, Public Services, may have a solution to the ponding problem on the tennis courts.

Sue Lynch, Resident, suggested having a push broom or squeegee available for use at the court to push the standing water out of the court.

Mayor Soranno agreed and approved the purchase of the push broom.

Maria Miller asked if there is a kayak launch in Indian Shores and that it would be nice to have one.

Councilor Smith thought that adding a kayak launch was the county's plan for Tiki Gardens as part of the next phase of improvements.

23.0 **Mayor's and Council Members comments on any subject.**

Councilor Hackerson was happy that it rained all day and stated they are nearing the completion of Tiki Gardens. Councilor Hackerson thanked everyone for their patience and thanked the volunteers for their hard work.

Councilor Petruccelli urged the public to contact their state representatives regarding the potential increase of flood insurance; 5-8% increase for residents and a base increase of 25% for those who are not homesteaded each year for the next 10 years. Councilor Petruccelli mentioned the impact of such increases on the Barrier Islands and the economy and reiterated the importance of writing to our representatives to express these concerns.

Councilor Smith mentioned that the FSBPA Annual Conference will be at the Hyatt Regency in Clearwater Beach September 19-21.

Vice Mayor Schear was glad to see the number of people that attended the Town Council Meeting. Vice Mayor Schear added that the planning for the Town of Indian Shores 2018 Memorial Day Picnic has begun. Vice Mayor Schear also mentioned that the next Read & Feed will be on April 26th.

Mayor Soranno wanted to thank all the volunteers who always come through when volunteers are needed. Mayor Soranno expressed how great it is to be a part of this small town.

Town Council Meeting adjourned at 6:39pm.



Freddie G. Lozano
Town Clerk