

# INDIAN SHORES

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## TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022, BEGAN AT 4:00 P.M. INDIAN SHORES MUNICIPAL CENTER, 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR

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### The Town Council Meeting convened at 4:00 P.M.

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

**Also present:** Town Administrator Bonnie Dhonau, Director of Finance and Personnel Susan Scrogam, Town Clerk Freddie Lozano, Police Chief Rick Swann, Police Captain Glen Smith, Building Official Brian Rusu, Fire Commissioner Larry Schear, Library Board Chair Alice Lawrence, Administrative and Finance Committee Citizen Member Art Newsome, Sara Mullins of Sarah Lynn Westmoreland Mullins, LLC, Artist Steve Graff, and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Consultant Project Management Engineer Tracy Hood.

**Those absent:** None

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### ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

**1.0 Consideration of approving the Town Council Workshop agenda for January 25, 2022.**

**Motion by Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the Town Council Workshop agenda for January 25, 2022. **All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.**

Patrick C. Soranno  
Mayor

Mike Hackerson  
Vice Mayor

Diantha Schear  
Councilor

Michael (Mike) Petruccelli  
Councilor

William F. (Bill) Smith  
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau  
Town Administrator

Richard (Rick) Swann  
Chief of Police

Susan L. Scrogam  
Director of Finance  
and Personnel

Freddie G. Lozano  
Town Clerk

Regina Kardash, Esq.  
Town Attorney

## 2.0 Comments from the public on any agenda item.

**Larry Schear**, 19829 Gulf Blvd., reminded the Council that “James J. Lawrence Memorial” was the proposed name before the current iteration of the monument. Therefore, he hoped that the previously proposed name would remain.

## 3.0 Discussion on revised typical section of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Sidewalk Feasibility Study.

**Mr. Hood** presented a rendering of the current sidewalk section and another drawing depicting what the sidewalk may look like after construction. The proposed solution has an 8-foot shared pedestrian and bicycle sidewalk, 4-foot right-of-way, 10-foot drive lanes, with curbs and gutters. Drainage is addressed by a slope from the property that directs the water flow to underground 4-inch PVC pipes that come out to the curb and gutter.

Approximately 125 parcels were identified along the project's route that the project may impact. However, Mr. Hood stated that most of the identified properties could avoid being impacted. In addition, the project team can come up with workarounds for areas that may have planters or parking spaces.

**Mr. Hood** mentioned the possibility of a required perpetual easement for construction and maintenance. He suggested contacting property owners before doing any further work to determine the percentage that would cooperate. The project may not happen if there is not enough cooperation.

He replied to Attorney Kardash’s comments on the eminent domain process, stating that FDOT will handle the proceedings and fees. Such proceedings are part of FDOT's overall budget. FDOT also has a process for donation vs. eminent in place. In addition, FDOT pays for right-of-ways if needed.

**Vice Mayor Hackerson** clarified his concerns about bicycles being on the road. He wanted to ensure that bikes are included in the micromobility ordinance allowing them to use the bicycle paths. He mentioned considering an issue with the Monday and Thursday garbage run. The garbage trucks can stop and hold up traffic in both directions as trucks stop at each property to pick up trash. He advised being careful about how the micromobility ordinance defines the word sidewalk, which is intended for pedestrian use only. Lastly, he

mentioned possibly working with Forward Pinellas to perform a traffic study to determine the number of vehicles and bicycles on Gulf Blvd.

Mr. Hood will be called upon for more questions after the micromobility devices discussions.

#### **4.0 Discussion on micromobility devices.**

**Attorney Kardash** mentioned that the Council would decide the regulations concerning micromobility devices in Town. Rules include where the devices are allowed with respect to Gulf Boulevard traffic and where they can be parked. She pointed out that regulation of micromobility rental businesses is done through an RFP and licensing process. The licensing is not a business tax receipt. It is essentially a license agreement where the Town provides areas to install docking stations where the devices are rented and parked after use. Another option is geo-fencing. It is a location-based service that automatically shuts down devices once they reach a pre-programmed virtual boundary. This service requires an RFP. Council can require companies dealing with micromobility devices to distribute information to customers who may not be familiar with the Town's rules.

She mentioned Vice Mayor Hackerson's comment on a traffic study for Gulf Blvd. The results will help the Council make informed decisions based on the data-driven research. She added that one of the agencies, Forward Pinellas or the Metropolitan Planning Organization, will provide a traffic study free of charge. She went on to say that these are the types of things that would be included in a capital improvement plan to help identify the need in the community and find funding sources.

The Town can regulate a business to add speed controls to the devices to limit their speed in the RFP process. However, regulated speed controls only apply to the business' devices, not privately-owned devices.

The **Council** reached a **consensus** for Attorney Kardash to draft an ordinance that limits micromobility devices to 10 miles per hour or lower and restricts micromobility devices only to roadways and bike paths.

A conversation ensued with Mr. Hood on different widths for the pedestrian/bicycle paths and sidewalk to determine the most effective configuration to keep everyone safe. Forward Pinellas will be contacted to perform a traffic study. Mr. Hood will get additional information on acceptable widths by FDOT's standards to bring to the Council at a future meeting for further discussion.

**5.0 Discussion on auditor selection committee.**

**Ms. Scrogam** outlined the new state-issued guidelines and legal requirements of forming an auditor selection committee. The three-member committee consists of one council member who serves as the chair and two citizen members with relevant government finance experience. She reached out to Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District (PSFRD) Finance Director Erin Brooks, who agreed to serve on the committee.

To ensure a quorum, the Council agreed to a five-member committee.

**Vice Mayor Hackerson** recommended Dr. Candiss Rinker. She has a Master's in accounting and served on the audit staff for Price Waterhouse.

The **Council** reached a **consensus** and recommended Councilor Smith as the Chair, with Dr. Rinker and Ms. Brooks serving as citizen members.

**Attorney Kardash** advised that the committee must be established by resolution. The resolution must indicate the number of members and their duties.

Additional auditor committee member recommendations will be brought to the February 8 meeting for consideration.

The workshop ran past 5:00 P.M. when it was due to adjourn.

The **Council** reached a **consensus** to continue the discussions for agenda **Items 6.0-10.0** at the 5:00 P.M. Town Council meeting.

**6.0 Review of Timeline Graphic for Monument Arch.**

**7.0 Review of Kiosk Infographics.**

**8.0 Discussion on Monument name.**

**9.0 Discussion on Indian Shores Holiday Boat Parade.**

**10.0 Discussion on St. Patrick's Day Festival.**

**11.0 Citizen's comments on any subject.** None.

**12.0 Council members' comments on any subject.** None.

**13.0 Workshop adjournment.** 5:02 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Freddie Lozano", written over a horizontal line.

Freddie Lozano  
Town Clerk