

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, JANUARY 25, 2022, 5:00 P.M. INDIAN SHORES MUNICIPAL CENTER, 4TH FLOOR

The Town Council Meeting convened at 5:02 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, Former Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District (PSFRD) Fire Chief Mike Burton, PSFRD Assistant Fire Chief John Mortellite, PSFRD Fire Commissioner Larry Schear, Former I.T. Director Tom Lancto, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Consultant Project Management Engineer Tracy Hood, Danny Powell of West Central Signs (SignStar, DBA), Sara Mullins of Sarah Lynn Westmoreland Mullins, LLC, Artist Steve Graff, Library Board Chair Alice Lawrence, Administrative and Finance Committee Citizen Member Art Newsome, 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 January 25, 2022.

Motion by Councilor Smith – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the Town Council Meeting 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. None

Fire Commissioner Schear called attention to Item 17.0 regarding the naming of the monument. He wanted the Council to remember during their discussions that the monument project was named "James J. Lawrence Memorial Project" before the project's current version was chosen.

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

A. MINUTES:

- 1. Town Council Workshop, December 14, 2021.**
- ~~2. Town Council Meeting, December 14, 2021.~~**
- 3. Special Town Council Meeting, December 21, 2021.**

B. RE-OCCURRING EXPENSES: for December 2021.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the Consent Agenda items except for the December 14 meeting minutes pending more research. **All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.**

4.0 Recognition of Mike Burton's retirement as Fire Chief of Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District.

Mayor Soranno and the **Council** presented a retirement award to Fire Chief Burton in appreciation for his four years of service excellence to the Town.

Fire Chief Burton thanked all his peers and the relationships and partnerships created while serving the community.

5.0 Recognition of Tom Lancto's retirement as I.T. Director.

Mayor Soranno and the **Council** presented a retirement award to Mr. Lancto for his 16 years of outstanding performance and service as the I.T. Director.

6.0 Consideration of revised typical section of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Sidewalk Feasibility Study.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to table the consideration of the revised typical section. **All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.**

7.0 Correspondence.

- **A thank you letter and certificate from Keep Pinellas Beautiful to Indian Shores for their contribution and support of their organization.**

8.0 Report from the Town Attorney.

Attorney Kardash will be requesting one-on-one meetings with each Council Member regarding Town Attorney Services.

9.0 Report from the Fire Chief.

Assistant Fire Chief Mortellite presented the 2021 Response Summary Report for Fire Chief Davidson who was in Tallahassee for Special District meetings.

In 2021, Indian Shores had 478 service calls for the Fire Department. Two hundred twelve service calls were for medical incidences with 4 minutes and 9 seconds average response times. One hundred seventeen calls were for Fire incidences with average response times of 4 minutes and 59 seconds.

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 01-2022.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, DECLARING DIANTHA SCHEAR AND WILLIAM F. SMITH 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 15, 2022.

Attorney Kardash read Resolution 01-2022 by title.

Mayor Soranno opened the hearing for public comments, which there were none.

Motion by **Councilor Petruccelli** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to approve Resolution 01-2022.

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

11.0 PUBLIC HEARING: RESOLUTION 02-2022

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, REVISING RESOLUTION 05-2021, 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 02-2022 by title.

Additional provisions were included in the beach access signs currently in production that were not included in the administrative citation process previously adopted by the Town. Therefore, the Town's fine resolution and schedule were revised to include those specific violations so that all citations can be issued appropriately.

Mayor Soranno opened the hearing for public comments, which there were none.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve Resolution 02-2022.

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

12.0 Consideration of extending the Families First Coronavirus Response Act for Town employees with FFCRA time remaining.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to approve the extension of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act for Town employees with FFCRA time remaining.

All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

13.0 Consideration of auditor selection committee.

Discussion at an earlier workshop concluded with a consensus to bring additional recommendations for auditor selection committee members for consideration at a future Council meeting.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Councilor Petruccelli** to table the consideration for a future meeting.

All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

14.0 Consideration of approval of the revised laser etching for the monument arch.

Mr. Powell brought a laser-etched sample panel to a previous Council meeting for the Monument arch. At that time, the Council was not in favor of the sample as it was difficult to see the etched image. He brought back the original sample panel, a higher resolution etched panel, and another panel with a digital vinyl print for review. He explained that disproportionate fading due to the outdoor location of the arch will happen with the digital print and will require replacing every 5 - 7 years. With the laser etching process, the image is engraved in the metal, providing longevity to the etched images.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to approve the higher resolution etching for the Monument arch.

All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

15.0 Consideration of Timeline Graphic for Monument Arch.

Ms. Mullins presented the timeline graphics that illustrated when the Indian tribes inhabited Florida and events happening around the world during the same period. The references on the timeline came from the Smithsonian Institute.

Mayor Soranno prefers that the timeline show more relevant references that people can easily identify. His opinion was some of the timeline events might affect the intent of the monument, which is to celebrate family and the Tocobaga Indians who are the forebearers of this area.

Councilor Petruccelli understands Ms. Mullins' vision. However, he would like to see more events related to North America on the timeline.

Councilor Smith agreed with the timeline and thought that the references were useful.

Ms. Mullins stated that items could be removed but not added to the timeline due to the limited space. Archaeologist Dr. Robert Austin from Weedon Island recommended the war references. He felt that they were important to Florida's history so people understand why the tribes are now extinct.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to approve the timeline as presented.

Council polled. Motion carried 3-2 (Opposed by Mayor Soranno and Councilor Petruccelli).

16.0 Consideration of Monument Kiosk Infographics.

Vice Mayor Hackerson listed the edits needed for Sign 2:

- Revise verbiage for Panfilo De Narvaez to “landed in Tampa Bay, starting a procession of Spanish explorers on the western coast of Florida.
- Revise the verbiage under Indigenous Homelands to “Tocobaga people resided on this land over *10,000 years ago. We honor and respect their hard work and sacrifice and commit to continuing to become better stewards of the land we inhabit.”

*It was pointed out that the “10,000 years” did not match what is on the timeline graphic approved earlier for the Tocobaga Indians, which states 900-1400 AD. Ms. Mullins will have it corrected.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Smith** to approve the Monument Kiosk Infographics with the three edits as defined.

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

17.0 Consideration of Monument name.

Councilor Schear mentioned that along with all of the contributions former Mayor James Lawrence gave to the beach communities, he was also instrumental in working with the county to budget Penny for Pinellas monies to fund the Gulf Boulevard Beautification project. She recommended naming the monument after Mayor Lawrence.

Councilor Petruccelli thought that the monument should be named accordingly to also pay tribute to all veterans and military service personnel.

Motion by **Councilor Schear** – seconded by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** to name the monument the “James J. Lawrence Veterans Memorial Park”.

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

18.0 Consideration of moving forward or cancelling St. Patrick's Day Festival.

Although the Omicron variant case numbers are going down, the festival is only 46 days away. The Department Heads agreed that there is not enough time to prepare for the festival and work on the backlog of items needed to be completed to maintain regular Town operations. In addition, only eight vendors signed up to participate.

Most of the Council members agreed that there is not enough time to organize and prepare for the festival.

Councilor Schear mentioned discussing a Memorial Day Picnic at the next meeting.

Motion by **Vice Mayor Hackerson** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to cancel the 2022 St. Patrick's Day Festival.

Council polled. Motion carried 4-1 (Opposed by Councilor Petruccelli).

19.0 Report from the Building Official for December 2021.

Mr. Rusu reported that December was a good month. There were 41 permits and 104 inspections with a total valuation of \$1,612,046.01, and an additional \$23,140.26 in Building fees collected.

20.0 Report from the Town Administrator.

Ms. Dhonau reported that the beach access signs are in production. The concrete pour at the monument site is completed. She asked if the Council had thoughts on sending out information regarding the monument prior to its completion.

The **Council** reached a **consensus** that it is too early to send information out.

21.0 Consideration of approving the Financial Statement for period ending November 2021.

Ms. Scrogam let the report stand. There were no questions from the Council.

Motion by **Councilor Smith** – seconded by **Councilor Schear** to approve the Financial Statement for period ending November 2021.
All Ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

22.0 Report from the Fire Commissioner.

Fire Commissioner Schear reported that the Fire Department's new fire truck for Station 26 has arrived and is parked at Station 28. The fire truck is being retrofitted with equipment to prepare for deployment within the next month. The search for a new fire station location continues.

23.0 Police activity report for December 2021.

Chief Swann reported that they attended 46 events in November and December last year. He provided a brief overview of the Directed Patrol Program implemented to provide timely information on reported activities around the community to the Town Council and Town Commissioners of Redington Shores.

24.0 Citizen's comments on any subject.

Library Board Chair Alice Lawrence reported having a successful Book Sale at the recent Sunday Morning Market, with \$200 plus collected in book sales. The Library staff is looking forward to providing curbside service as soon as possible. They are ready for business.

25.0 Council members' comments on any subject.

Councilor Schear would like everyone to begin thinking about the Memorial Day Picnic plans. She will be representing the Town at the Keep Pinellas Beautiful Awards Recognition Luncheon on February 4th. A Read & Feed is tentatively scheduled for February 16th, pending status on the pandemic and Town Hall closure.

Councilor Petruccelli commented on how individuals need to decide how they deal with the pandemic in their own way.

Councilor Smith appreciated and thanked the staff for continuing with daily operations during this difficult time.

Mayor Soranno and Vice Mayor Hackerson concurred.

26.0 Meeting adjournment. 6:19 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Freddie Lozano", written in black ink. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Freddie Lozano
Town Clerk