



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday April 21 2020
Virtual Zoom Meeting
6:00PM

Town of Belleair Shore **Virtual Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

PRESENT:

Vice-Mayor Roseman, Commissioner Niewiarowski, Commissioner Blume, Commissioner Tolbert, Attorney Regina Kardash, Captain Leiner, Doug Seith 300 Gulf Blvd, Alex Pickett Beach Buzz news publication

6:02 pm Virtual Meeting Announcement – Executive Order 20-69

6:05 pm Call to order by Vice Mayor Roseman

Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to approve the agenda. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Public Hearing 6:05 pm Resolution 2020-03 State of Emergency Virtual Meeting procedures – Counsel

There were no comments from the public or Commission on this public hearing.

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to approve Resolution 2020-03. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Appoint Steve Blume to vacant Commission seat – Counsel

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to appoint Steve Blume to fill the vacant Commission seat. The roll call vote was unanimous

Comments from the public on any agenda item:

There were no comments from the public on the agenda.

Approval of minutes from the February 18, 2020 meeting:

It was moved by Commissioner Niewiarowski and seconded by Commissioner Blume to approve the minutes. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report, Approval of Expenditures:

Clerk/Treasurer, Barb Colucci went over balance sheet, P&L. Budget vs Actual is over budget in February for income and at 83% of expenditures. March 2020 balance sheet and P&L are self-explanatory. February 2020 expenditures: Regions Bank Svc Chg \$30.40, Regions Bank Svc Chg \$36.00 for stop check order, Clerk/Treasurer salary \$896.50, Steve Buckner \$240.00 for Code

Enforcement January 2019 through February 2020, Pinellas County Sheriff \$2,850.00, Persson & Cohen \$380.00, Waste Svcs \$793.20, Duke Energy \$537.86, Verizon \$69.27. March expenditures: Regions Bank \$29.83 Svc Chg, Clerk/Treasurer salary \$896.50, Municode \$298.14 Ordinance changes, Barbara Colucci \$81.27 for locks and chains at beach accesses-beach closings, Verizon \$69.27, Persson & Cohen \$961.40, Waste Services \$793.20, Internal Revenue Svc \$540.00 for quarterly 941, Duke Energy \$69.76. It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Blume to approve both the treasurers report and expenditures. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Sheriff's Report

Captain Mike Leiner reported Feb 2020 no crime or arrests. Most of the actions are directed patrol. Captain noted 3 warnings and 4 citations for February 2020. March is in line with February. Crash at 12th street access. Captain was questioned on water rescue and trespass on March report. Captain will supply raw data to be disseminated at May 2020 Town Meeting. Commission Blume questioned the kind of patrols that the Sheriff's are doing while the beach is closed. Captain explained that since courts and schools are closed, there are additional patrols in the county. Captain noted that there has been an increase in complaints of dogs on the beach and he has gotten the word out to all deputies. After questioned by Commissioner Blume, Captain noted that deputies are to patrol the beach once each shift. Commissioner Niewiarowski noted that there have been trespassing issues at 120 Gulf Blvd. Sales agent for the property posted signs to prohibit ingress and egress from the beach at that address. Captain Leiner will inform deputies that there should be no cars parked at this property going forward.

Code Enforcement

Counsel noted that we are not prepared to handle this personnel situation without the Mayor present. Counsel noted that we do have to, in the very near future, address who our code enforcement officer is going to be. Counsel noted that we cannot use Commissioner Blume's recommendation due to a Chapter 112 issue in FL statutes. Ideally an ex law enforcement officer would be the ideal candidate. Counsel went on to say that there are some ongoing issues with 660 Gulf Blvd. This is one of the properties that Counsel sent the violation letters in March 2020. In addition, there are other violations that the Pinellas County Health Department has been involved with regarding a septic tank. Per Counsel's understanding an unauthorized car went on to the property and fell into this septic tank. The other issue with this property is that it is not secured in the front. This vacant property has been being used to access the beach while the beach is closed. Belleair Shore has a Code that the property owner needs to have a gate securing their property. Counsel will move forward with sending initial letter to the property owner. It was questioned as to whether or not we can ask the Sheriff to park a marked vehicle in front of the property. The question is if the car can be put there in the easement only and fit. Commissioner Blume noted that there is the same problem at 1140-1160 Gulf. Clerk will contact contractor to correct this issue.

Counsel also would like the Commission to decide on whether the Town will be continuing with our current Code Enforcement officer. If the Town will be searching for new, by advertising or word of mouth. Per Commissioner Blume, at the last board meeting the Mayor would like to move on to changing our current Code Enforcement officer. Commissioner Blume also noted that he is not happy with just having one applicant, so Clerk is tasked to look at other options and possibly advertising the Town need for a new Code Enforcement Officer. The concern is the few hours that a new officer would be needed. Commissioner Blume noted that we do not know how many hours we will need the new Code Enforcement person. Counsel noted that it will not be a full-

time position and this does not preclude us from considering contracting possibly with the Sheriff's Dept. or neighboring communities that have Code Enforcement on staff.

Vice Mayor Roseman noted that vacation rentals do need to be regularly checked to make sure there are no violators. Clerk will take on this responsibility. Counsel will work with Clerk as to where a job posting can be done.

Public Hearing Resolution 2020-02 Special Magistrate 6:37pm

There were no comments from the public or Commission on this public hearing.

It was moved by Commissioner Niewiarowski and seconded by Commissioner Tolbert to approve Resolution 2020-02 to appoint Tom Trask as the Town Special Magistrate. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Beach Signs

Final draft of beach sign was presented to Commission. Commissioner Niewiarowski noted that on the south side of the Town beach, there are people from Indian Rocks public beach that are disrespectful and litter. Commissioner Niewiarowski feels that the sign is too lenient. States that is a constant influx of a lot of people from the south. Would like the signs to reflect that the Belleair Shore beach is not a continuation of Indian Rocks beach. Clerk is requested to put a statement 'Ordinances will be enforced as provided by law' on the signs. Commissioner Blume reiterated that Commissioner Niewiarowski is correct. Commissioner Blume noted that the number of dogs and motorized vehicles on the Town beach are out of control and even worse now that the beach is closed. Commissioner Blume feels that the signs will make no difference unless it is enforced. Vice Mayor Roseman questioned the Commission as to whether or not they feel that including a notice to the residents that would indicate that the Town needs everyone's help in reporting violations on the beach, since it is an asset to all of us. Commissioner Blume feels this is a good suggestion because some of the owners on the beach are the culprits too. Commissioner Tolbert noted that the few times that he has called the Sheriff's dept, they have been very responsive. Commissioner Tolbert agrees with Commissioner Blume in that, the Town can put up as many signs as we want to, but this is an issue of enforcement. If the residents are concerned about it, then the residents need to call the Sheriff's dept, to raise awareness of these problems. Commissioner Blume recommends the Town send a letter along with a copy of the signs to be put up and the Sheriff's number for residents to call. Resident Doug Seith, 300 Gulf Blvd noted that he has called the Sheriff and has found them to be super attentive and they come out quickly, but the challenge for them has been that by the time the Sheriff can come the violators are gone. Vice Mayor Roseman stated that if the Town gets the word out to the residents and we are collectively reporting, then we can determine the best times for the Sheriff to be diligent on the beach. Ask residents to be part of the solution. Captain Leiner questioned the best times that for now, the deputies can do more patrols. Commissioner Blume stated that sunset time would be good. Vice Mayor Roseman noted that Fridays and Saturdays are prime times also. Resident Doug Seith also noted that late mornings on the weekends people will come up to their dune to sit. Captain Leiner stated that this information gives him a starting place for deputies to step up their patrols. Commissioner Blume reiterated that he would like to see 'violators will be prosecuted' on the signs. Commissioner Blume wants motorized vehicles to be specifically listed. Counsel noted that language that was used in the new Ordinance change reads 'anything not powered by a human being' (motorized) is prohibited by our ordinance. Commission agreed that

they would like the signs to say 'Beach is actively monitored, violators will be prosecuted'. Clerk questioned commission again on if they want 2 signs on the south end of the Town beach. Counsel checked our Ordinances to see if canopies are included in any existing code. Counsel noted that Ordinance 30-58 states camping or sleeping are not allowed, the Ordinance does not refer anywhere to canopies, so the Ordinance would have to be amended. Resident Doug Seith noted that there are a few residents that have been erecting these canopies and believes that the canopies should not be allowed under any circumstances. Commissioner Blume is in agreement with adding this to our Ordinances. Counsel tasked Counsel to amend Ordinance 30-58 to include canopies. It was moved by Commissioner Blume and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to add to the invoice the amount to include two signs at the south end of the beach. The beach sign approval is tabled until the May 2020 meeting.

Miscellaneous

Clerk advised Commission on the distribution of keys to beach accesses. Sheriff's Dept, Suncoast Fire, Lynn Rives for maintenance.

Commission agreed that they would like to have our beach open completely open vs partially open.

Civitek and Belleair Beach Toll tabled for April Commission meeting.

Availability of Commissioners for May 19, 2020 Regular Town Meeting.

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|----------------|-----|
| • Mayor | Yes |
| • Niewiarowski | Yes |
| • Roseman | Yes |
| • Blume | Yes |
| • Tolbert | Yes |

Mayor/Commissioner comments on non-agenda items:

No comments on non-agenda items.

Public comments on non-agenda items:

No public comments on non-agenda items.

Adjourn: 7:09 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Tolbert, seconded by Commissioner Blume. The voice vote was unanimous.

The next regular Commissioners meeting will be Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 6:00 PM Virtual

Date Approved

APPROVED:


Robert Schmidt, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Barbara Colucci, Town Clerk