



## **Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday June 21, 2022  
Belleair Bluffs City Hall  
6:00pm

### **Town of Belleair Shore** **Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

#### **PRESENT:**

Commissioner Seith, Commissioner Niewiarowski, Vice Mayor Blume, Commissioner Tolbert, Attorney Regina Kardash, Sgt. McKnight

#### **6:00 pm Call to order by Vice Mayor Blume**

#### **Consideration to Approve Agenda:**

It was moved by Commissioner Seith and seconded by Commissioner Tolbert to approve the agenda. The voice vote was unanimous.

#### **Comments from the public on any agenda item:**

There were no comments from the public on the agenda.

#### **Approval of Minutes May 17, 2022**

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to approve the AMENDED Minutes from the May 17, 2022 meeting. The voice vote was unanimous.

#### **Sheriff's Report**

Sgt. McKnight reported statistics for May 2022. A noted a burglary on the report was questioned by the Commission. Sgt. McKnight said that he would check in to it. Commissioner Tolbert asked for clarification on violations and warnings from parking. It was moved by Commissioner Niewiarowski and seconded by Commissioner Tolbert to approve the report. The voice vote was unanimous.

#### **Code Enforcement**

Code Enforcement report was presented by Counsel Kardash. Counsel noted, for the Commission to be aware, that there was a code enforcement violation / citation that was issued by deputies that is scheduled for arraignment on July 21, 2022 by Judge Caballo. This citation was issued on the County ticket books, so it will be arraigned first, for offender to issue their plea. If it just gets paid it will end, if not it will go to trial within the next 60 days or so. It was for a violation of the Town umbrella ordinance. Vice Mayor noted that the understanding is that once the Town code enforcement books are printed, the offenders will go to our Special Magistrate Mark Barnaby.

## **Treasurers Report**

Clerk/Treasurer, Barb Colucci went over balance sheet and P&L for May 2022. Expenditures: Mayors Council of Pinellas County \$450 (annual dues), Regions Bank Svc Chg \$30.32, Clerk/Treasurer Salary \$896.50, Waste Services \$1050.79, Duke Energy \$207.82, Persson & Cohen \$3400.000, Verizon \$50.40, Go Daddy \$94.99 (annual website), PCSO Code Enforcement \$62.25. Sea Oats giveaway by County was noted. Commissioner Tolbert had question on ARPA cares act grant money. It was noted that the negative balance on the report is due to the deferral of the money until 2023/2024. It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Seith to approve both the treasurers report and expenditures. The voice vote was unanimous.

## **Counsel Report**

Counsel Kardash requested a shade meeting the week of July 11, 2022 and requested that the regular Town meeting/Budget workshop would be immediately following. The date of July 13, 2022 was decided upon. Vice Mayor Blume questioned Counsel on if the regular Town Meeting could be immediately following the Shade meeting, as he believes the shade meeting will not take that long. Counsel confirmed that the Town can advertise the meetings that way. It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Seith to approve these meetings. The voice vote was unanimous.

## **Law Enforcement Contract for FY 2022-2023**

Vice Mayor Blume noted that this contract is close to the same as in the past with some updates of code enforcement services. It was confirmed that the code enforcement cost is \$50.49/hr. Vice Mayor Blume noted that the contract amount is lower than the FY 2021/2022 contract amount. Commission requested this be tabled for the July 13, 2022 meeting.

## **Hurricane Re-Entry Tags**

Vice Mayor Blume noted that hurricane season is upon us and requested a letter be sent to homeowners with contact information for the tags and further information on the Town meetings and website information. Vice Mayor Blume requested beach ordinances be sent with the newsletter. Action item for Clerk.

## **Availability of Commissioners for July 13, 2022 meeting**

Mayor	Yes
Seith	Yes
Niewiarowski	Yes
Tolbert	Yes
Blume	Yes

## **Mayor/Commissioner Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

Vice Mayor Blume had a question on underground utilities. Commissioner Tolbert noted that the above ground wires still existing, he believes are for the street lights.



## **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

None

## **Town Meeting adjourned 6:27pm.**

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to adjourn. The voice vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.

## **Budget Workshop**

### **Budget workshop called to order at 6:27pm by Vice Mayor Blume.**

Clerk/Treasurer presented updated budget from 6.20.22 with an estimated rolled back rate and a comparison if using last FY rolled back rate. Discussed a few line items that would possibly need to be raised. General operating expenses to update charter and ordinances, legal fees 10% addition, reduced law enforcement, code enforcement raised to include 3hrs a week, planning services and advertising raised for charter and ordinance updates needed.

Counsel comment is that the Town budget HAS to have a balanced budget and cannot be negative. Commissioner Tolbert noted that he sees that the only way to balance the budget presented would be to go with a higher tax rate to increase income.

Vice Mayor Blume commented that the overages in legal fees are all related to the lawsuit. Noted that according to the Town agreement (interlocal) Belleair Beach should pay this, so we can send an invoice to Belleair Beach to wipe that out. Counsel noted that looking specifically at attorney fees, the Town normal every day services were running about \$1500 a month and now the monthly fees are \$3,000 to \$5,000 due to litigation. Vice Mayor Blume noted that unfortunately the Town is a victim so somebody's craziness and that the Town has an agreement with Belleair Beach that he feels these fees should be charged to them. Action item for clerk/treasurer to try PRIA insurance. After questions from the Commission, it was noted that for the past 4 or 5 years the Town has kept expenditures within the rolled back rate. Discussion was had. Rolled back rate was explained. Rolled Back Rate for FY 2021/2022 was .5450 and explained that using last year rolled back rate would add \$10,000 to our budget. Questions and discussion were had. Clerk/Treasurer noted that some income and expenditure budget numbers could change based on Commission decisions for the future. Counsel explained charter and ordinance revisions that need to be made. Counsel noted that some of the Town ordinances have not been updated since the 1980's. Clerk/Treasurer explained that at July 13, 2022 meeting the Commission will have to decide on a tentative millage rate. Vice Mayor Blume noted that unfortunately the Town cannot make the numbers of the budget change due to the litigation. Counsel noted that the Town can send a demand letter to Belleair Beach, but litigation counsel would have to be involved in that and Vice Mayor noted that that may not be done until litigation is over. Action item for clerk/treasurer to send legal fees, comparisons from previous years, and break down litigation charges. Sovereign immunity limits were explained by Counsel. Advised that this limit is currently covered by the League, but other insurance companies will not do that without additional coverage. Counsel noted that we currently have enough in our general fund to cover the sovereign immunity limit, but for future the Town would have to add it to the budget to cover this amount.

## Public Comments

Lori Shelly 1320 Gulf voiced her pleasure at the work and decisions that the Commission has done on behalf of the residents. Also noted that she is in full support of a decision by the Commission to use a higher millage than the rolled back rate to ensure the Town has their ducks in a row for the benefit of the Town and its residents. Also noted, that prices for everything are going up.

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Commissioner Niewiarowski to adjourn the Budget Workshop at 6:54pm. The voice vote was unanimous.

## Budget Workshop adjourned at 6:54pm

The next Regular Commission meeting will be at 6:00 pm Tuesday, July 13, 2022 immediately following the Shade Meeting at the Belleair Bluffs City Hall, Mayors Conference Room, 2747 Sunset Blvd, Belleair Bluffs, FL.

7/13/22  
Date Approved

APPROVED:

[Signature]  
Robert E Schmidt Jr, Mayor

ATTEST: [Signature]

Barbara Colucci, Town Clerk