



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 17, 2023
Belleair Bluffs City Hall
6:00pm

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

PRESENT:

Mayor Schmidt, Vice Mayor Blume, Commissioner Tolbert, Attorney Regina Kardash, Cpl. Kellman, Deputy Josh Ramos, Deputy Daniel Doherty, District Chief Grantham from Suncoast Fire and Rescue.

Call to order by Mayor Schmidt 6:00pm

Consideration to Approve Agenda:

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Vice Mayor Blume 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. Cpl. Kellman introduced new Deputy Josh Ramos.

Approval of Minutes December 6, 2022

It was moved by Vice Mayor Blume and seconded by Commissioner Tolbert to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2022 meeting. The voice vote was unanimous.

Sheriff's Report

The December 2022 Sheriff's report was presented to Commission by Cpl. Kellman. No crime, no arrests, 191 calls, 151 directed patrols, 15 illegally parked vehicles, 3 calls for assistance, 15 citations/warnings. Vice Mayor Blume asked if the 15 citations were warning or citations. Cpl. is not sure which they were. Vice Mayor asked if the Town could know this information for future.

Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement report was presented to Commission by Deputy Daniel Doherty. 960 Gulf Blvd open violation has been closed, all stucco work and landscape maintenance has been done. 660 Gulf Blvd, the owner has decided on a landscaper to clear the property. The work should be done within the next 3 weeks.

Treasurers Report

Clerk/Treasurer noted follow up from previous month cost for code enforcement was accurate for 1 month services, and went over P&L, Balance Sheet and P&L, budget vs actuals. Clerk/Treasurer, Barb Colucci went over balance sheet and P&L for November 2022.

Expenditures: Big C \$100.00, Persson & Cohen \$3120.00, Regions Bank Svc Chg \$31.27, Postmaster \$42.60 (stamps and certified letter to 660 Gulf), Banquet Masters \$736.00 (Big C hosting), Clerk/Treasurer Salary \$896.50, Barbara Colucci \$146.44 (Big C Halloween, Mayor gifts), Waste Connections \$1107.93, US Postmaster \$332.00 (PO Box annual), Duke Energy \$204.06, US treasury \$29.50 (paid but waiting to hear the reason re: 3rd qtr 941), PCSO Law Enforcement \$2692.00, PCSO Code Enforcement \$64.75, Verizon \$50.38. Question from Vice Mayor Blume was if the costs from Persson & Cohen can be broken down to see what is from each litigation. Counsel explained and Treasurer to keep updated spreadsheet monthly. It was noted by Counsel, that only the general bills are subject to public record. Any copy of litigation invoices would have to be redacted. It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Vice Mayor Blume to approve November 2022 expenditures. The voice vote was unanimous.

Clerk/Treasurer, Barb Colucci went over balance sheet and P&L for December 2022. Expenditures: Regions Bank Svc Chg \$31.68, Persson & Cohen \$2260.00 (Oct), Clerk Treasurer Salary \$896.50, US Postmaster \$28.60 (stamps and certified letter), Waste Connections \$1107.93, Persson & Cohen \$1700.00 (Nov), Tampa Bay Times \$143.40 (ordinance 2022-01), Duke Energy \$204.06, Verizon \$50.38, PCSO Law Enforcement \$2692.00, PCSO Code Enforcement \$103.60, Chas W. Thomas \$10.44 (tax bill mailing). It was moved by Vice Mayor Blume and seconded by Commissioner Tolbert to approve the December expenditures. The voice vote was unanimous.

Treasurer noted that it was necessary to move to Quickbooks Online and now the Town financials are saved within the cloud instead of relying on only the laptop.

Discussion was had regarding transferring cash to another account to collect more interest. Counsel research packet was passed out on how to establish an investment policy and explained the packet information. Treasurer to check with Town Auditor. It was noted by Commissioner Tolbert worries that it will cost the Town more to go through this process than to transfer the funds. Commission decided to table this for further information.

Clerk noted that she had spoken with Captain Leiner and that he does not need anything further than what he already spoke to Vice Mayor Blume about.

Resolution 2023-01 – Elections

First and Final Public Hearing opened at 6:24pm

Counsel noted that Mayor Robert E. Schmidt Jr has qualified and this leaves an open position on our Commission. It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Vice Mayor Blume to approve Resolution 2023-01 on Elections results on accepting Mayor Schmidt. The voice vote was unanimous.

Public Hearing closed 6:25pm

Counsel Report

EAR Evaluation Appraisal Report contracted with Forward Pinellas. The Commission serves as the Town Local Planning Agency (LPA), so the Town will have 2 agendas at the February meeting and that is when the Town will have the first hearing on the ordinance. Commission would like Nousheen Rahman to attend the February Town Meeting.

Counsel will be putting in a bid to service another community. The other community has meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Counsel has a commitment already with another community on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Counsel noted that if the Town is unable to move the meeting days, she would be open to seeing if another Counsel person at the firm would be able to handle the Town of Belleair Shore. This is ONLY if Counsel does receive appointment at the new community. Commission would like to keep Counsel Kardash as Town Counsel, so the Town will entertain the option of changing the Town Meeting day. Counsel will know new appointment status at the March 2023 Town Meeting.

Miscellaneous

Clerk noted some election situation possible changes in Pinellas County from March to November. Counsel noted that this type of change would require a charter amendment and could be put on November ballot. It was moved by Vice Mayor Blume to change the charter IF there would be a cost increase to keep the Town elections in March and seconded by Commissioner Blume. The voice vote was unanimous.

Availability of Commissioners for February 21, 2023 Town Meeting

Mayor	No
Niewiarowski	?
Tolbert	Yes
Blume	Yes

Mayor/Commissioner Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Commissioner Tolbert noticed that after the waste collection agency went by on their standard day, there was still many palm fronds along Gulf Blvd. Commissioner Tolbert called Waste Connections and was told that any refuse from landscaping must be bundled in 4 foot lengths for Waste Connections to pick it up. Clerk put this information on the Town website.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Daniel Storie 40 Gulf Blvd had comments about overflow from Indian Rocks Beach on the Belleair Shore beaches. Noted a couple instances that happened in front of his home, and a deputy did not come off the IRB boardwalk to check the instances. Daniel Storie needed to have back to back calls to the Sheriff's department and was feeling like they were treated as a nuisance. Mr. Storie noted that he has since spoken to Captain Leiner and the issues have been addressed for the most part. When the instance happened and he noted to the deputy that the deputy had not stepped off the IRB boardwalk and told Mr. Storie that there was no evidence of violation. Mr. Storie turned around and snapped a picture of that minute and it included, man on a bike, a woman with a dog, people with drinks and coolers and 4 or 5 tents in Belleair Shore. Noted that after all of the situations that he has had to endure, he does not believe that one citation has been written and he would like to know when that will happen. Counsel noted that there are 2 citations that have been written in the Town and noted that the litigation is not just challenging the umbrella ordinance but all of the Town prohibitions on the beach, so it basically wants to regulate what the Town allows on their beach. Vice Mayor Blume noted that the Town can still issue citations.

It was questioned by Mayor to Mr. Storie if these situations mainly on the weekends? Mr. Storie noted that it is local people during the week and IRB on the weekends. Mr. Storie noted a younger girl resident of Belleair Beach (not IRB) that lives directly across the street, and he watches every day bring her dog to behind his home, the dog defecates and she does not pick it up. Mr. Storie notes that his interactions with the people from Belleair Beach is that they do not believe any rules should apply to them and they should be able to do what they want to do. Notes that it is evident that the IRB situations are clearly overflow from their beach.

The Commission then discussed the situation and discussed adding additional Sheriffs to supplement the enforcement and asked Mr. Storie what prime times would be for enforcement. He noted, one hour before sunset and weekends. Commissioner Tolbert agrees with Vice Mayor Blume on possibly stepping up enforcement. Deputy Doherty recommended secondary enforcement through the Sheriff's office. Cpl. Kellman noted that the deputies cannot be at 2 places at one time and maybe the IRB deputies can put some of their resources at the south end of IRB on the beach.

Vice Mayor Blume made a motion to commit to an additional 7 hours a week for secondary enforcement and Counsel to look into this, it was seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous.

Mayor received a letter from Council person Frank Bankard from Belleair Beach regarding the Buoys. Mayor noted that he did not read the whole letter but did note that he noticed some misinformation in the letter. It was noted by Mayor that what he understood from Mayor Gattis is that Belleair Beach would incur all of the costs of this possibility. It was requested that Counsel reach out to Belleair Beach City Attorney because Counsel noted that this is the fourth time that the Town has been contacted regarding this and the Town has shot this down three times already. Counsel also noted that there are many things that would have to happen and that this endeavor would entail. Commissioner noted that he is more concerned about the people going up and down the coastal sand.

District Chief Grantham from Suncoast Fire and Rescue thanked the Town and Commission for helping and making it possible for Suncoast Fire and Rescue to move forward with the referendum that was passed. He noted that last year December 2022, the Town had zero calls for fire and EMS and for the year the Town had 7, fire, water rescue and medical calls.

Town Meeting adjourned 7:10pm.

It was moved by Commissioner Tolbert and seconded by Vice Mayor Blume to adjourn the meeting. The voice vote was unanimous.

2.21.23.
Date Approved

APPROVED: Robert E. Schmidt, Jr
Mayor/Robert E. Schmidt, Jr

B. Colucci
ATTEST:
Barbara Colucci, Town Clerk