



TOWN OF BELLEAIR SHORES
Town Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
City of Belleair Bluffs Mayors Conference Room
Minutes

Present upon roll call: Commissioner Tolbert, Commissioner Storie, Mayor Blume, and Attorney Lewis.

Consideration to Approve Agenda

Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Comments from the Public on any Agenda Item

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2023

Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Sheriff's Report – December 2023

Sargent Bolton reviewed the December 2023 report with the Commission. One incident of burglary occurred and is still being investigated.

Code Enforcement Report

Deputy Trump updated the Commission on recent Code Enforcement issues. No warnings or ordinance violations issued. The contract is for One Hour a week and the time varies. Discussion ensued regarding people running on the seawalls, which is personal property.

Treasurers Report – September, October, November 2023

Town Clerk Palmer reviewed the reports with the Commission. Discussion on the final amount of the insurance cost for FY 2023 was conducted. Commissioner Storie moved to approve the reports, seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous.

Counsel Report

Attorney Lewis updated the Commission on the sand update. The dunes require temporary easements and will need to obtain permits. The town will not conduct the dune restoration, but individuals could do so if they desired. Discussion ensued regarding the usage of the ARPA money and if this money could be used for these projects.

Appointment of Commissioners

At the last meeting Commissioner Storie indicated to appoint his wife. Mayor Blume did talk with some residents but has not heard back from anyone. Attorney Lewis told the Commission if Commissioner Storie were to recommend his wife, it would be better to appoint the fourth Commissioner first and then Commissioner Storie can abstain from voting on his wife's appointment. After further discussion, this item is tabled and will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

Appointment of Vice Mayor

Mayor Blume asked Commissioner Tolbert if he would like to be appointed Vice Mayor. Commissioner Tolbert stated if the town needs him to, he will, but he has observed Commissioner Storie during his time on the Commission, he has brought a lot of great ideas to the Commission and is on top of things. Commissioner Tolbert also stated he is very busy at this time, but again would take the appointment if needed. After further discussion, Commissioner Tolbert moved to appoint Commissioner Storie to Vice Mayor, seconded by Mayor Blume. Commissioner Storie accepted the appointment. The voice vote was unanimous.

Approval of CPI Increase – SafeBuilt Building Services

The increase request was sent to former Mayor Schmidt. The request is for 3.7%. Mayor Blume asked Town Clerk Palmer to research if the hourly rates did only increase 3.7%. Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the increase subject to verification, seconded by Vice Mayor Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Approval of Upgrade – Quickbooks Payroll

Town Clerk Palmer stated this upgrade will have all the payroll features completed through payroll, such as all payroll taxes, direct deposit, etc. Vice Mayor Storie moved to approve the upgrade in the amount of \$31.50/month, seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous.

Town Clerk Palmer referred to an email regarding the assessment of the towns computer system and the need to move forward for the safety and security of the town files and the computer system. The two recommendations are for purchasing Kaspersky for an annual fee of \$52.99 and Carbonite at an annual fee of \$97.00. Town Clerk Palmer will bring back to the Commission the cost for Smarsh, which is a program that captures all emails and text for recording keeping. Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the request, seconded by Vice Mayor Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Emergency Management Coordinator

Town Clerk Palmer told the Commission needs to appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator as requested by Pinellas County Emergency Management Operations. Attorney Lewis explained the coordinator would basically be the Town Liaison. This item is tabled for the next meeting. Town Clerk Palmer invited the Commission to the Emergency Management Meeting on January 25th at 9:30 at Belleair Bluffs Town Hall.

Draft Annual Financial Report Ending Fiscal Year 2023

Mayor Blume will talk to the Town Auditor regarding the ARPA money and other items. This item is tabled for the next meeting.

Potential Form 6 Litigation

Attorney Lewis explained there is a Law Firm in Florida spearheading the litigation, and they are looking for at least 10 municipalities who are interested in joining and the cost would be \$10,000.00, which is considered a buy in, more fees could be asked for. The Commission has a proposed resolution in their packets to review. Vice Mayor Storie will email Attorney Kardash with questions regarding this matter. After further discussion the Commission tabled this item for the next meeting.

Miscellaneous

Mayor Blume announced that the next meeting will be February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor/Commissioner Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Vice Mayor Storie stated the signs will be installed next Wednesday.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Palmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Town Clerk
Mary Palmer, MMC