

TOWN OF BELLEAIR SHORE
Town Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
City of Belleair Bluffs Mayors Conference Room
2747 Sunset Blvd, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770
Minutes

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

Consideration to Approve Agenda

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

Comments from the Public on any Agenda Item

None

Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2024

Commissioner Tolbert made a correction to page two under appointment of Emergency Management Coordinator, removing Vice Mayor Tolbert moved to and correcting to Vice Mayor Storie moved to. Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the minutes with the correction, seconded by Vice Mayor Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Sheriff's Report

Sargent John Shields reported the February 2024 stats with the Commission. No arrests, 152 events, no crashes, twenty-seven parking citations were issued. Commissioner Tolbert asked if the report were combined with Belleair Beach as one accident is listed and any accidents on Gulf Blvd., would be Belleair Beach. Vice Mayor Blume asked if the twenty-seven citations were all in beach parking lots, and if they were actual citations or warnings. Sargent Shields will check. Mayor Blume asked if we are utilizing our own citation book. Attorney Kardash explained she is working on a memorandum and currently they are using the Sheriff's citation book but are processed the same way. Mayor Blume would like accounting for how many citations and what was received each month. After further discussion Commissioner Tolbert moved to accept the report, seconded by Vice Mayor Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Code Enforcement Report

Deputy Trump stated he has been out patrolling on the beach more. He has received complaints recently regarding bikes on the beach. One of the fence violations has been closed, the other property is still waiting for permits. Discussion ensued regarding the number of hours for code enforcement. After discussion, Vice Mayor Storie moved to increase the code enforcement hours to four hours a week for two months including weekends if possible starting April 1, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous. Mayor Blume asked Vice Mayor Storie to contact Captain Leiner regarding the increase in hours for code enforcement. Belleair Beach resident, Joseph Manzo addressed the Commission regarding an incident on the beach and someone that was asked to move from the waterline in front of a home and also commented to the Commission on misinformation on the new signs at the beach accesses.

Treasurers Report – February 2024

Town Clerk Palmer reviewed with the Commission the financials for February 2024. The Commission would like to add an additional monthly budget vs actual report. Commissioner Tolbert moved to approve the report, seconded by Vice Mayor Storie. The voice vote was unanimous.

Pinellas Suncoast Fire Report

Captain Stoneberg reviewed with the Commission the February 2024 report. There were 15 Fire/EMS calls. The district is moving to purchase land on the north end of Indian Rocks Beach to better serve Belleair Shore. Obtained a rescue unit from the county. Will be building and EOC/ Fire Station in Seminole. Purchased a jet ski with sled to help with water rescue. Participated in Causeway cleanup and they will be hosting a Hurricane EXPO in Belleair Beach on April 4th.

Counsel Report

Attorney Kardash reported she has a resolution for Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement, which she just received. This agreement is through the Florida Division of Emergency Management. The agreement includes funding and reimbursement for a declared State of Emergency. There are some significant changes, including attempting to contract out of the 164 process, which allows government entities to sue each other and make claims and will require all participating in agreement to go through an arbitration process and the venue for arbitration will be in Leon County. Another change takes Pinellas County out of the funding distribution and will be controlled by the state. This is a take it or leave it agreement. Belleair Shore does not have the resources to participate in the portions of the agreement to lend to the other communities and does not have high infrastructure. The benefit to Belleair Shore to participate would be to get money for damaged infrastructure, which you do not have. The deadline to participate has been extended since they have issued some addendums, and they are accepting resolutions as they come in. No action is needed tonight; you can put it on next month's agenda.

Attorney Kardash also submitted to the Commission a draft letter to be sent to Belleair Beach asking for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses from the last litigation. Attorney Kardash wanted to wait until the elections were over to send the letter. Also discussed was the Interlocal Agreement in place and possible renegotiating the agreement. Mayor Blume stated regarding the letter, half of the expenses are being asked for since the town's insurance premium went up stemming from the litigation. Vice Mayor Storie moved to proceed with the letter, adding a reference of the total cost incurred but not requesting all the cost incurred, seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous.

Appointment of Commissioners

No candidates came forward. This item will be on the next agenda.

MOU Vulnerability Assessment

Attorney Kardash explained this is not a contract and is not legally binding. The town would work with the County to gather data. The responsibilities of the municipalities as stated in the agreement would be a lot for one employee to manage and most of the information would be obtained from Public Works, which the town does not have. After discussion, the consensus of the Commission was to have Town Clerk Palmer reach out to the County explaining our situation.

Mayor/Commissioner Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Vice Mayor Storie asked for clarity if Belleair Beach does not renew the Interlocal Agreement would it not allow them to use the beach access parking? Attorney Kardash stated there is not an expiration, but it would remove the ability for them to issue parking passes and Belleair Shore would need to find a method and manner for issuing parking passes.

Mayor Blume asked Vice Mayor Storie to attend the BIG-C on March 27th as he will be out of town. Vice Mayor Storie stated he would attend.

Town Clerk Palmer reported to the Commission she has reached out to the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust regarding the town's insurance and Lindsey Johannesen from the league would like to attend the May meeting to address the Commission. Town Clerk Palmer stated she has also reached out to other companies.

Mayor Blume stated Vice Mayor Storie has supplied information regarding loads of sand. Each lot would need approximately ten loads at \$840.00 per load, total \$8,400.00 per lot. Mayor Blume reported he had received quotes on boulders. Each lot would need approximately 150 tons of boulders per lot. For the boulders, labor, etc., it would be \$25,000.00 per lot. These are preliminary figures, and another quote is being obtained.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

There being no further business Vice Mayor Storie moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Tolbert. The voice vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Palmer

Mary Palmer, MMC
Town Clerk