

MINUTES
TOWN OF JUNO BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

May 25, 2022

Council Chambers/YouTube
340 Ocean Drive

PRESENT: DD HALPERN, MAYOR
ELAINE K. COTRONAKIS, VICE MAYOR
PEGGY WHEELER, VICE MAYOR PRO TEM
ALEXANDER COOKE, COUNCILMEMBER

ALSO PRESENT: JOSEPH LO BELLO, TOWN MANAGER
LEN RUBIN, TOWN ATTORNEY
MATTHEW PAZANSKI, FINANCE DIRECTOR
FRANK DAVILA, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ZONING
ANTHONY MERIANO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
STEVE HALLOCK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
CAITLIN COPELAND-RODRIGUEZ, TOWN CLERK

ABSENT: JASON HASELKORN, COUNCILMEMBER

Audience: 20

~ CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 PM
~ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
~ ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS TO THE AGENDA - None
(Time: :50 – 2:00) (TIME STAMP IS BASED OFF OF [YOUTUBE VIDEO](#))

1. PRESENTING KEYS TO THE TOWN TO THE DONORS OF THE JUNO BEACH FITNESS CENTER – ROB THOMSON & STEVE THOMSON (Time: 2:01 – 7:57)
(Chief of Police Smith)

Chief of Police Smith introduced Rob and Steve Thomson and explained their generous donation to the Juno Beach Fitness Center.

Mayor Halpern and Chief of Police Smith presented Keys to the Town to Rob Thomson and Steve Thomson.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler thanked Rob and Steve Thomson on behalf of the Town Council for their generous donation.

Chief of Police Smith also thanked Rob and Steve Thomson from all the officers for their support and generosity.

2. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** (Time: 7:58 – 29:20)

All Non-Agenda items are limited to three (3) minutes. Anyone wishing to speak is asked to complete a comment card with their name and address prior to the start of the meeting as well as state their name and address for the record when called upon to speak (prior to addressing the Town Council). Town Council will not discuss these items this evening. Any issues will be referred to Staff for investigation; a report will be forwarded to the Town Council; and citizens will be contacted.

Public Comments Opened at 5:37pm.

Jim Ferguson, 391 Sunrise Way, expressed his concerns on some of the topics discussed at the May 18th Town Council Goal Planning Workshop.

Diana Davis, 440 Sunset Way, expressed her concerns on the statements made at the Town Council Goal Planning Workshop about the Ecology Group.

Rabbi Namdar, Chabad of Singer Island & the Beaches, introduced himself and explained the services that he and his organization provide.

Susan Hottle, 70 Celestial Way, #310, expressed her concern regarding beach goers blocking her condo's driveway every now and then and provided a photo to Council (*see attached*). She recommended that a "Do Not Block the Box" sign be painted on the roadway in front of her condo's driveway.

John Callaghan, 24 Grand Bay Circle, expressed his concern on comments made about him at the last Town Council Meeting regarding the filing of an incident report with the Police Department. He explained the situation and asked Council to consider enacting a civility clause amongst themselves and constrain themselves from wrongfully accusing people who cannot answer.

Stuart Katz, 900 Ocean Drive, Apt. 702, explained his point of view of the police report and witness statements that were filed against him. He emphasized that the Police Department did what they should but expressed concern on the witness statements being the responsibility of Town staff.

Nancy Wolf, 1613 E Hemingway Dr., expressed her concern on the May Planning & Zoning Board meeting being canceled.

Public Comments Closed at 5:58pm.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA** (Time: 29:21 – 29:35)

All matters listed under Item 3, Consent Agenda, are considered to be routine by the Town Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- A. Consider approving the April 27, 2022, Town Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Consider approving the May 4, 2022, Special Town Council Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Wheeler/Cotronakis made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

ACTION: The motion passed 4-0.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 752 – AMENDING THE TOWN’S TRUCK ROUTE REGULATIONS** (Time: 29:36 – 31:39)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUNO BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE IV, “TRUCK ROUTES,” OF CHAPTER 30, “TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES,” OF THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES; REVISING THE DEFINITIONS AND REGULATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT BY CIVIL CITATION; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Town Attorney Rubin)

A. Town Attorney to Read Ordinance Title

Town Attorney Rubin read the ordinance title.

B. Staff Presentation

Town Attorney Rubin went over the memorandum and asked Council if they had any questions.

C. Public Hearing

Public Hearing Opened at 6:00pm.

Public Hearing Closed at 6:00pm.

D. Council Discussion

No further discussion.

E. Council Action

MOTION: Wheeler/Cotronakis made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 752 amending the Town’s truck route regulations on second and final reading.

ACTION: The motion passed 4-0.

5. **SIDEWALK BRICK PAVERS** (Time: 31:40 – 56:34)
(Director of Public Works Meriano)

Director of Public Works Meriano went over the memorandum and asked Council if they had any questions.

Council reviewed, discussed, and asked staff questions on this item.

Public Comment Opened at 6:23pm.

Anne Bosso, 765 Hibiscus Avenue, expressed her concern that a sidewalk issue posing an immediate danger needs to be addressed quickly.

Public Comment Closed at 6:23pm.

Town Manager Lo Bello stated that staff does address immediate dangerous situations immediately but explained that chronic areas are those where there are recurring issues.

Council continued to discuss this item.

Council gave consensus to engage an engineer to examine the troubled areas and determine the appropriate option, including cementing in the paver bricks.

6. **DISCUSSION ON ORDINANCE NO. 747 – SITE AREA DEVELOPMENT MODIFICATION OPTION – RESIDENTIAL USE** (Time: 56:35 – 1:15:27)
(Per the request of Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler conducted a quick review of the commercial square footage of the Caretta Project located at the northwest corner of Donald Ross Road and U.S. Highway One.

Council briefly reviewed, discussed, and asked staff questions on this item.

Public Comments Opened at 6:30pm.

Ms. Wolf inquired about the numbers that Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler is referring to.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler explained.

Council continued to discuss this item.

Ms. Bosso inquired about the Special Exception process.

Jacob Rosengarten, 1613 E Hemingway Dr., expressed his concern on this item and inquired about how this item would benefit the town.

Public Comments Closed at 6:41pm.

Town Attorney Rubin explained the conservation easement on portions of the preserve area.

Ms. Wolf expressed her concern about the conservation easement being possibly released or some type of land swap by the County which owns the property.

Town Attorney Rubin addressed her concern and emphasized that Juno Beach has exclusive jurisdiction over land use and zoning of all properties within the Town's corporate limits.

7. **COMMENTS FROM TOWN MANAGER** (Time 1:15:28 – 1:16:21)

Town Manager Lo Bello invited everyone to the Food Truck event tomorrow night.

8. **COMMENTS FROM TOWN ATTORNEY** (Time: 1:16:22 – 1:16:24) - None

9. **COMMENTS FROM STAFF** (Time: 1:16:25 – 1:20:47)

Town Clerk Copeland-Rodriguez went over the upcoming meeting and event dates.

Finance Director Pazanski explained that with hurricane season approaching, staff is recommending piggybacking on Solid Waste Authority's debris management contracts. He asked Council for a motion.

***MOTION:** Wheeler/Cotronakis made a motion to approve piggybacking on Solid Waste Authority's debris management contracts and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the contracts.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed 4-0.*

10. **COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL** (Time: 1:20:48 – 1:28:56)

Councilmember Cooke wished everyone a happy Memorial Day weekend and to be prepared for hurricane season.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler stated that she hoped John Callaghan was still here so she could explain that the intent of her mentioning the incident of the police report that was filed, no matter who went to who, was to try to help the town come together. She explained that there is a divisiveness in this town, and it needs to stop. She also went over the discussions from the Goal Planning Workshop on the succession of Town Manager; selection of mayor referendum; pursuing the annexation of Seminole; the endorsement of candidates as she and Councilmember Cooke strongly voiced opinion against it as it creates divisiveness among the citizens and Council members. She stated that she wants to bring this town together and they can't do it without all working together and trying to

look out for the best interest of the Town. She also commented on the grant status list provided by staff and congratulated the recipients of the police awards.

Vice Mayor Cotronakis wished everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend.

Mayor Halpern asked Town Attorney to explain the First Amendment freedoms in regard to endorsements by members of the Town Council.

Town Attorney Rubin stated that from a legal perspective, Council members are free to endorse candidates.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler explained that the facilitator, Dr. Herbert Marlowe, was very much against that. She stated that it is more of an agreement that they need to have among themselves if they are looking out for the best interest of the Town.

Mayor Halpern stated that nationally, people in public office are allowed to express their First Amendment rights and she is in favor of those types of freedoms. She also stated that she was recently given a tour of the Palm Beach County Library in Palm Beach Gardens and asked Council for a consensus to have Douglas Crane from the Palm Beach County Library System present how the library's resources can be used for the Town.

Council gave consensus to have Douglas Crane conduct a 15-minute presentation in front of Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Halpern inquired about the legislative updates.

Town Clerk Copeland-Rodriguez stated that she will reach out to the Town's state representative and senator again.

11. **ADJOURNMENT** (Time: 1:28:57 – 1:29:10)

Mayor Halpern adjourned the meeting at 6:58pm.

Minutes Approved on June 22, 2022.