

MINUTES
TOWN OF JUNO BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
February 22, 2023
Council Chambers/YouTube
340 Ocean Drive

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

ALSO PRESENT: JOSEPH LO BELLO, TOWN MANAGER
LEN RUBIN, TOWN ATTORNEY
MATTHEW PAZANSKI, FINANCE DIRECTOR
CAITLIN E. COPELAND-RODRIGUEZ, TOWN CLERK
YASMIN FAVARETTO HAMEL, ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

ABSENT:

Audience: 28

- ~ CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 PM
- ~ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
- ~ ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS TO THE AGENDA
(Time: 1:57 – 3:58) (TIME STAMP IS BASED OFF OF [YOUTUBE VIDEO](#))

Town Clerk Copeland-Rodriguez announced that two proclamation requests (*Let's Move Palm Beach County Month and Florida's Irish American Community*) had been received and asked if Council wanted to add them to the consent agenda.

Mayor Halpern asked to move Item #7 up to Item #3.

Council gave consensus to add the two proclamations to the consent agenda and to move Item #7 up to Item #3.

1. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Time: 3:59 – 28:49)
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 5:32pm.

Charles Hollings, 1679 Pleasant Drive, expressed concern regarding The Waterford project and the proposed park lease issue.

Lou Sanlorenzo, 200 Uno Lago Dr., inquired about the proposed referendum for a separately elected Mayor and asked for clarification.

Jacob Rosengarten, 1613 E. Hemingway Dr., expressed concern regarding the Town's email system and IT security.

Stuart Katz, 900 Ocean Drive, expressed concern regarding Mayor Halpern's position on the referendum for a separately elected Mayor (*see attached*).

Michael Clarjen-Arconada, commented on full transparency and accountability in open government.

Diana Davis, 440 Sunset Way, commented on the process for selecting the Town Manager.

Aldo Rovere, Uno Lago Drive, expressed concern on misleading information from other candidates and explained.

Colin Baenziger, Baenziger & Associates, addressed comments made by residents on the Town Manager selection process.

Public Comments Closed at 5:57pm.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA** (*Time: 28:50 – 29:12*)

All matters listed under Item 2, 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 January 25, 2022 Town Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Consider approving the February 8, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting Minutes
- C. Proclamation – National Eating Disorders Awareness Week
- D. Proclamation – Water Conservation Month
- E. Proclamation – Problem Gambling Awareness Month
- F. Proclamation – Florida Bicycle Month
- G. Request for Hourly Rate Increase - Code Enforcement Special Magistrate
- H. Request for Replacement Public Works Vehicle
- I. Request Approval from Town Council for the Town Manager to Sign a Hold Harmless Letter for the Police Foundation
- J. Request Approval from Town Council for the Town Manager to Sign Three-Year Contract with FLOCK Group Inc. for Automatic License Plate Reading Cameras
- K. Special Event Request – Aloha Surf Camp
- L. Special Event Request – Holy Spirit Lutheran Church Easter Sunrise Service
- M. Special Event Request – Oceanview Methodist Church Easter Sunrise Service
- N. Request for Staff to Oppose Proposed House Bill 401 (Sovereign Immunity Limits)
- O. Proclamation – Let's Move Palm Beach County Month
- P. Proclamation – Irish American Heritage Month

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

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

3. **DISCUSSION ON PROPOSAL TO CREATE AN ANNUAL VETERANS DAY CEREMONY EVENT OF THE TOWN OF JUNO BEACH (Originally Item #7)**

(Time: 29:13 – 54:21)

(Per the request of Mayor Halpern)

Public Comments Opened at 5:57pm.

Lauren Berkson, representative of Palm Beach County Gold Star Families, expressed support for this item.

Michael Shea, representing veterans, expressed support for this item.

William Arcuri, representing veterans, expressed support for this item.

Mike Durkee, representing veterans, expressed support for this item.

Ed Brown, representing veterans, expressed support for this item.

Ellen Andel, 471 N Juno Lane, expressed support for this item.

Jay Jasko, American Legion, expressed support for this item.

Cy Seymour, 520 Ocean Drive, expressed support for this item.

Public Comments Closed at 6:14pm.

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

Mayor Halpern passed the gavel to Vice Mayor Cotronakis.

***MOTION:** Halpern/Cooke made a motion to create an annual Veteran's Day Ceremony event.*

Mr. Arcuri recommended changes to the new monument.

Ms. Berkson provided her input and opinion on the proposed annual event.

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Halpern thanked those who came for this item for their service.

Vice Mayor Cotronakis returned the gavel to Mayor Halpern.

Mayor Halpern confirmed that staff will bring this item back to Council for approval on details and dates for this annual event.

4. **EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH DAVID DYESS TO SERVE AS TOWN MANAGER** (Time: 54:22 – 1:28:45)
(Town Attorney Rubin)

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

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

Council gave consensus to delay any merit or COLA salary increase for the Town Manager until October 2024.

Public Comments Opened at 6:40pm.

Mr. Clarjen-Arconada expressed concern on full transparency for open government and explained.

Public Comments Closed at 6:43pm.

Council continued to review, discuss, and ask staff questions on this item.

***MOTION:** Wheeler/Cotronakis made a motion to approve the Employment Agreement with David Dyess to serve as Town Manager with the Town covering 50% of the cost of healthcare for his dependents and delaying any merit and COLA increase until October 2024.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02 (ACCEPTANCE OF DEED FROM PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR DONALD ROSS ROAD DUNE WALKOVER)** (Time: 1:28:46 – 1:32:59)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUNO BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING A DEED FROM PALM BEACH COUNTY FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF THAT PORTION OF THE DONALD ROSS ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY EAST OF OCEAN DRIVE INCLUDING THE PEDESTRIAN DUNE WALKOVER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Town Attorney Rubin)

Town Attorney Rubin read the Resolution title.

Town Manager Lo Bello explained the history of the Donald Ross Dune Walkover and asked Council if they had any additional questions.

Public Comments Opened at 6:59pm.

Public Comments Closed at 6:59pm.

Town Attorney Rubin discussed the purpose of the resolution and indicated that once the Resolution was approved by the Town, the item would be placed on the BCC agenda.

***MOTION:** Cotronakis/Cooke made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-02 – accepting a Deed from Palm Beach County for that portion of the Donald Ross Road right-of-way east of Ocean Drive, thereby accepting ownership and maintenance of the existing pedestrian Dune Walkover.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

6. **DISCUSSION ON METHODS FOR IMPLEMENTING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS** (Time: 1:33:00 – 1:39:57)

(Per the request of Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler)

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler went over the purpose of adding this item to the agenda and asked Council for a consensus to add this item for discussion at the Goal Planning Workshop.

Council gave consensus to add this item as a discussion at the Goal Planning Workshop.

Public Comments Opened at 7:03pm.

Town Clerk Copeland-Rodriguez read a comment into the record *(see attached)*.

Mr. Clarjen-Arconada commented on this item and asked for a workshop on the selection of Town Manager next week.

Public Comments Closed at 7:05pm.

Councilmember Cooke addressed Mr. Clarjen-Arconada's comment.

7. **DISCUSSION ON FISH IDENTIFICATION SIGNS FOR PELICAN LAKE** (Time: 1:39:58 – 1:47:37)

(Per the request of Mayor Halpern)

Mayor Halpern explained the purpose of adding this item to the agenda and asked for a consensus to have staff work with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation and Sean Patton from Stocking Savvy on signage for fish identification around Pelican Lake.

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

Public Comments Opened at 7:12pm.

Ms. Davis commented on this item.

Public Comments Closed at 7:14pm.

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

Council gave consensus to add this item to the Pelican Lake Workshop agenda.

8. **COMMENTS FROM TOWN MANAGER** (Time: 1:47:38 – 1:47:45)

Town Manager Lo Bello stated that staff will revise the new Veteran's monument per the comment made by Mr. Arcuri.

9. **COMMENTS FROM TOWN ATTORNEY** (Time: 1:47:46 – 1:47:49) - None

10. **COMMENTS FROM STAFF** (Time: 1:47:50 – 1:49:24)

Town Clerk Copeland-Rodriguez asked Council if they could postpone the Kagan Park Workshop from April 26th to May 24th.

Council gave consensus to change the Kagan Park Workshop from April 26th at 3:30pm to May 24th at 3:30pm.

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

11. **COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL** (Time: 1:49:25 – 2:21:18)

Councilmember Cooke asked Mayor Halpern about the Node0 Report being confidential.

Mayor Halpern explained her request for the analysis report.

Town Manager Lo Bello explained that it is exempt from disclosure as a public record but each Councilmember can schedule a meeting to review it.

Councilmember Cooke commented on the email situation.

Councilmember Haselkorn provided his closing remarks as a member of Council for the past several years and thanked Council and staff.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler stated that it has been a pleasure working with Councilmember Haselkorn. She inquired about the Ocean One crosswalk.

Town Manager Lo Bello gave a brief overview of the situation with the proposed Ocean One crosswalk project.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler asked Council for a consensus to conduct a workshop with stakeholders on the Ocean Ridge pedestrian pathway when it comes up to Council.

Town Manager Lo Bello gave a brief synopsis on this matter.

Council gave consensus to conduct a workshop with stakeholders on the Ocean Ridge pedestrian public pathway when it is brought up to Council.

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Wheeler asked for a consensus to have staff reach out to citizens and answer questions that are presented during the public comment period and put it in the Activity Report.

Council gave consensus to have staff reach out to citizens and answer questions that are presented during the public comment period and put it in the Activity Report.

Vice Mayor Cotronakis thanked Councilmember Haselkorn for his service to the Town. She also commented on the charter amendment that is on the ballot and encouraged the public to read the proposed language in its entirety.

Mayor Halpern asked Council for their thoughts on having a 70th anniversary for the incorporation of the Town that was brought up by resident David Cox.

Council gave consensus to have a 75th Anniversary event for the incorporation of the Town.

Mayor Halpern explained a proposal that was received for shower pots and asked Council for a consensus to purchase 100 pairs of waterpots for the citizens of the Town.

Council reviewed, discussed, and asked questions.

No consensus was given.

Mayor Halpern asked staff for a landscape classification map for the Town.

Town Manager Lo Bello stated that staff will provide a map.

12. **ADJOURNMENT** (Time: 2:21:19 – 2:21:30)

Mayor Halpern adjourned the meeting at 7:49pm.

Minutes Approved on March 22, 2023.