



**ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS
REGULAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Founders Park Community Center
87000 Overseas Hwy
Islamorada, FL 33036
Thursday, February 27, 2014
5:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Ted Blackburn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The following Council members were present on roll call: Mayor Ted Blackburn, Councilman Mike Forster, Councilman Ken Philipson, and Councilman Dave Purdo. Vice Mayor Deb Gillis was absent. Also in attendance were Acting Village Manager Maria Aguilar, Village Attorney Roget Bryan, Village Clerk Synthia Lankford, Monroe County Sheriff's Office Captain Corey Bryan and all other appropriate personnel.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Captain Ed Davidson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Ted Blackburn announced the appointment of Marilyn Rogers to the Landscape Advisory Committee.

Councilman Dave Purdo thanked everyone for attending the memorial service for Irving Eyster. Councilman Purdo recognized M.A.R.C. for the community event held at Island Christian School the previous weekend and recognized Village staff and volunteers for the successful Nautical Flea Market.

Mayor Ted Blackburn recognized Captain Corey Bryan for the Sheriff's presence at the off shore races the previous weekend.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bruce Williams, General Manager for Advanced Disposal, advised Council that recycling is up by thirty five percent since the delivery of the new recycling and trash containers.

John Cooper asked Council to look into the permit process for installing sewer laterals and spoke against the installation of parking meters at Anne's Beach.

Frank Derfler, Upper Keys Rotary, thanked Village staff and three hundred and fifty local volunteers for the very successful Nautical Flea Market.

V. AGENDA: Request for Deletion / Emergency Additions

Councilman Mike Forster requested an item for a Community Character Task Force be added to the agenda under the Village Manager/Village Attorney Communications.

VI. CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. Landscape Advisory Committee presentation of the Pineapple Award to Ocean Gardens

Chairperson Debby Shonyo-Culebras advised the committee hosted a booth at the Morada Way Arts Walk. The Pineapple Award was present to Lou and Phil Sena in recognition of the landscaping and exterior maintenance at Ocean Gardens.

B. Parks and Recreation Citizens' Advisory Committee

Chairperson Carolyn Wightman reported the recreation programs at the park are thriving and twenty one college teams and two Olympic athletes are training at the pool facility. The Ron Levy scoreboard has been installed. Ms. Wightman advised a proposal is being prepared to recommend installing a "Fitness Zone" in the area once occupied by the skate park. The Committee voted in favor of installation of parking meters at Anne's Beach.

Councilman Mike Forster requested the Committee consider methods for improving the situation at Anne's Beach and bring recommendations back to Council.

Mayor Ted Blackburn asked for a ceremony to dedicate the Ron Levy Aquatic Center.

C. Workforce/Affordable Housing Citizens' Advisory Committee

Chairperson Barry Wray advised the Committee is working with Habitat for Humanity to enable another development in the Village. Mr. Wray stated they are considering land from the Village inventory of dedicated properties for the development, but there are concerns regarding hardwood hammock which exists on the properties being considered. Susan Sprunt completed an initial environmental assessment of the properties. Mr. Wray requested Council direct staff to have Ms. Sprunt proceed with a full vegetation assessment of the properties being considered for development.

Director of Planning Cheryl Cioffari advised the properties remaining in the Village inventory all contain hardwood hammock and staff would not recommend clearing of any of the hammock lots.

Councilman Ken Philipson inquired if the Village could purchase a suitable piece of property for the Habitat for Humanity development. Mr. Wray advised that timing was a concern, if a property could not be identified in Islamorada the project would move to Key Largo or another municipality.

Council directed staff to perform a full vegetation assessment on the two properties being considered for development, and provide the assessment to Council in thirty days.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment.

Captain Ed Davidson spoke against development on hammock lots.

Cheryl Culberson stated she believed the property on Orlando Drive is appropriate for development and urged Council to move forward to dedicate the land to Habitat for Humanity.

Mayor Ted Blackburn closed public comment.

VII. VILLAGE MANAGER REPORTS AND UPDATES

None.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes: TAB 1

February 13, 2014 Village Council Workshop
(CityView Software Implementation)

February 13, 2014 Regular Village Council Meeting

B. Resolution Approving the Co-designation of Dogwood Lane to “Dogwood Lane/ George Hommell, Jr. Lane TAB 2

C. Resolution Amending the Housing Assistance Plan TAB 3

Councilman Mike Forster stated he would like a ceremony to dedicate George Hommell, Jr. Lane.

Councilman Dave Purdo offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Ken Philipson seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

IX. WASTEWATER MATTERS

A. Wastewater Project Update TAB 4

Tom Brezinski provided the update. Work on the force main from the North Plantation Key pump station to mile marker 96.7 and from mile marker 99.6 to 100.3 is 99 % complete and tested; work is ongoing on the force main from mile marker 97.6 to 99.6. Construction continues on the Middle Plantation Key pump station. On North Plantation Key, construction is complete; pavement overlay is complete in all areas, excluding the Old Highway. Construction continues on South Plantation Key; asphalt overlay of South Plantation Key bayside is complete, with the exception of Venetian Shores. Pre-trenching and pipe installation for conveyance and low pressure force main continues on Windley Key. Crews have begun trenching on Upper Matecumbe Key. All design work for piping and vacuum pump stations is complete.

Mayor Ted Blackburn inquired when the Village would begin to send flow to Key Largo. Mr. Brezinski indicated the second quarter of this year.

Mr. Brezinski summarized the quarterly scope and budget review included as Appendix XI of the monthly project report.

Councilman Dave Purdo inquired why Wade Trim was making design recommendations for the grinder pump program. Mr. Brezinski explained Wade Trim was making recommendations only; the final design of the system will be by Reynolds Water Islamorada.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment; no public comment was offered.

X. ORDINANCES

- A. First Reading – Amendment to Ordinance Regulating Golf Carts to Provide for Inspections by a Certified Mechanic **TAB 5****

Village Attorney Roget Bryan read the title of the Ordinance. Captain Corey Bryan presented the staff report recommending approval of the Ordinance on first reading.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment; no public comment was offered.

Councilman Dave Purdo offered a motion to approve. Councilman Ken Philipson seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

XI. QUASI-JUDICIAL

None.

XII. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution Approving Amendment 3 to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection State Revolving Fund Loan Program Agreement No. WW882030 **TAB 6****

Village Attorney Roget Bryan read the title of the Resolution. Finance Director Maria Aguilar presented the staff report recommending approval.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment; no public comment was offered.

Councilman Mike Forster offered a motion to approve. Councilman Dave Purdo seconded the motion. Council voted all in favor. The motion passed 4-0.

XIII. MOTIONS

None.

XIV. MAYOR / COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Discussion Regarding Towing Ordinance **TAB 7****

Councilman Mike Forster stated the Village towing ordinance, adopted in 2012, needs to be refined. Councilman Forster requested the Sheriff's office confirm that tow away zones have the appropriate signage every twenty five feet as stated in the ordinance.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment; no public comment was offered.

Village Attorney Roget Bryan clarified the direction was for staff to review the ordinance to determine any changes are required, including examining the maximum rates, and bring back a revised ordinance for consideration by Council.

XV. VILLAGE ATTORNEY / VILLAGE MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS

A. Anne's Beach Parking Meters

TAB 8

Public Works Director John Sutter advised of the efforts already undertaken to address the problems with vandalism, trash, illegal parking and disorder at Anne's Beach. The Parks and Recreation Committee, at their February 11, 2014 meeting, voted to recommend installation of parking pay stations at Anne's Beach. Mr. Sutter expressed he had received mostly negative input from the public on this topic.

Councilman Mike Forster stated he had gotten very little response from the public and the item should not be brought forward. Councilman Forster would support a toll on U.S. 1 into the Keys.

Council directed Mr. Sutter to work with the Parks and Recreation Committee and bring back options to improve the situation at Anne's Beach.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment.

Captain Ed Davidson spoke about his historical knowledge of a proposed toll on U.S. 1.

Mayor Ted Blackburn closed public comment.

B. Discussion Regarding Removal of Long Docks from Village Code

Principal Planner Jeff Stuncard opened the discussion and advised he had met with seven citizens regarding long docks. Mr. Stuncard summarized the comments of those in favor and opposed.

Councilman Ken Philipson stated decisions regarding development should be kept on a local level, not by a state or federal authority. Councilman Philipson would support removal of the long dock variance from the code.

Councilman Mike Forster expressed that residents should be able to apply for a long dock.

Councilman Dave Purdo pointed out there are instances that a long dock is required to reach a minimum water depth.

Councilman Ken Philipson and Council Mike Forster would like to hear more input from members of the community.

Mayor Ted Blackburn opened public comment.

Captain Ed Davidson spoke against long dock variance and their negative aggregate impacts on water quality.

Mayor Ted Blackburn closed public comment.

Staff was directed to bring back the ordinances, originally presented on December 12, 2013, which removed the provision granting of administrative dock variances at the second Regular Village Council meeting in March.

Mayor Ted Blackburn advised meetings in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. will conflict with the scheduled March 27, 2014 Regular Village Council meeting.

Village Attorney Roget Bryan will advise is rescheduling the meeting to March 20, 2014 is feasible..

C. Discussion Regarding Establishing a Community Character Task Force


Councilman Mike Forster recommended a resolution be brought forward at the next meeting to appoint a Community Character Task Force. Council agreed each member will have two appointees to serve on the Task Force.

Chief Terry Abel announced the annual Islamorada Firefighters' Benevolent Association Fundraiser would be held March 23, 2014 at Fire Station #20, mile marker 81.98 bayside.

Public Works Director John Sutter announced that Woofstock is scheduled for March 22, 2014 and a cleanup at Anne's Beach on April 5, 2014.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Dave Purdo made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Ken Philipson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Synthia Lankford
Village Clerk

Approved by the Village Council this 13th day of March, 2014.