



TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Town Hall / Commission Chambers
3614 South Ocean Boulevard
Highland Beach, Florida 33487

Date: April 05, 2022
Time: 1:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hillman called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioner John Shoemaker
Commissioner Evalyn David
Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman
Vice Mayor Natasha Moore
Mayor Douglas Hillman
Town Manager Marshall Labadie
Town Attorney Glen T. Torcivia
Town Clerk Lanelda Gaskins

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Town Commission led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hillman commented on an article he read regarding the Town of Highland Beach as a safe community.

MOTION: David/Gossett-Seidman - Moved to approve the agenda as presented, which passed unanimously 5 to 0.

5. PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

A. Water Conservation Proclamation

Mayor Hillman read the proclamation into the record.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Rosalyn Yellin expressed that she was in favor of the proposed changes related to the 25-foot setback for accessory marine facilities along the waterfront properties.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Vacancies

Natural Resources Preservation Advisory Board - One vacancy for an unexpired term ending April 30, 2024

Planning Board - One vacancy for a three-year term

Meetings and Events

April 12, 2022 - 1:00 P.M. Code Enforcement Board Regular Meeting

April 14, 2022 - 9:30 A.M. Planning Board Regular

April 19, 2022 - 1:30 P.M. Town Commission Meeting

Board Action Report

A. None.

8. ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance No. 2022-003 (Second Reading/Public Hearing)

An Ordinance of the Town of Highland Beach, Florida, amending the Town Code of Ordinances, Chapter 25, "Streets, Sidewalks, Bicycle/Walkway Path, and Right-of-Way," in order to eliminate obsolete provisions pertaining to news racks; providing for the repeal of all ordinances in conflict; providing for severability and codification; and providing an effective date. (First Reading was March 01, 2022)

Mayor Hillman announced the title Ordinance No. 2022-003.

Town Planner Ingrid Allen presented this item and explained the changes to the ordinance as it relates to unlawful news racks.

Mayor Hillman opened the public hearing for comments. Hearing none he closed the public hearing.

MOTION: David/Moore - Moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-003. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Fire Rescue Implementation Update

Town Manager Labadie introduced this item. He mentioned that Skip Miller, of Greenspoon Marder LLP (Bond Counsel), Johnathan Ford of Ford & Associates, Inc. (Financial Advisors), and Town Attorney Aleksandr Boksner were present. Town Manager Labadie mentioned that the idea was to begin the conversations on what is involved with the bank loans, the legal element related to loans, to get to the marketplace to get the best possible interest rates on the loans.

Mr. Miller commented on the process the Town will follow to secure the bank loans. He stated that there would need to be an ordinance as well as a resolution regarding this matter. He spoke about a concept called convenient to budget and appropriate from legally available non-ad valorem revenues (CDNA).

Mr. Ford provided comments about the fixed-rate bank loan with prepayment provisions, construction loans, and financing the interest rates and a line of credit at a fixed interest rate. There were further discussions about the different financing options and the various loan types up for consideration.

There were discussions about the bank loans, secured interest rates and the anticipated financing schedule.

The proposed ordinance will be presented on April 19, 2022, at the Town Commission meeting.

MOTION: David/Shoemaker - Moved to approve the tentative schedule presented for financing the construction of the Fire Department, which passed unanimously 5 to 0.

B. Mission and Vision Statements for Strategic Plan - Vice Mayor Moore

Vice Mayor Moore presented this item. She asked the Town Commission for input on Town's vision and mission statements. Each member of the Town Commission provided comments about the mission and vision statements.

Jack Halpern provided comments on keywords and phrases that he identified with that may be included in the mission and vision statements.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Designation of the Town's Voting Delegates to Palm Beach County League of Cities for 2022/2023

Mayor Hillman introduced this item.

MOTION: David/Shoemaker - Moved to delegate Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman as the Town's voting delegate and each of the Commissioners named an alternate delegate to Palm Beach League of Cities, which passed unanimously 5 to 0.

B. Discussion on Town Entry Signage Design Concepts

Town Manager Labadie presented along with a PowerPoint depicting pictures of various entry signage.

The Town Commission discussed the different sign options with Mayor Hillman suggesting getting rid of contemporary signage. Commissioner Shoemaker provided comments about the necessity of new signs, the amount of money being spent on the signs as well as why it is a priority right now. Mayor Hillman also elaborated on the need to start the process now as it is a lengthy process. Commissioners David and Gossett-Seidman both provided their thoughts on what should and should not be included in the new signs.

Vice Mayor Moore will sponsor this project and will present the item on April 19, 2022, at the Town Commission meeting. The item will be placed under Unfinished Business.

Public Comments:

Jack Halpern provided comments about entry signs. He also mentioned that he will include information in the Committee to Save Highland Beach email regarding this matter.

C. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes

Mayor Hillman announced this item.

February 01, 2022, Commission Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2022, Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION: David/Moore - Moved to accept February 01, 2022, Commission Meeting Minutes, and February 15, 2022, Commission Meeting Minutes, which passed unanimously 5 to 0.

12. TOWN COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner John Shoemaker provided comments about the Veterans tab on the Town's website, a breakfast event he attended at IHOP with Highland Beach veteran residents, and the traffic on the intracoastal Waterway. Then he inquired about the Library being closed to events. Lastly, he talked about the misunderstandings of the referendum question concerning Commissioners' salaries.

Mr. Jack Halpern thanked David Axelrod for the recommendation letter he wrote to the Town Commission concerning his application to the Planning Board. He explained why he withdrew his application prior to being interviewed by the Town Commission.

Commissioner Evalyn David provided comments about a safety issue concerning the residents and owners of Jamaica Manor.

Commissioner Peggy Gossett-Seidman provided comments about the Commissioners being responsible for the safety of the residents.

1. League of Cities Updates

She also spoke about the recent League of Cities meeting that she attended. In addition, she provided an update as follows:

1) Palm Tran provided information as it relates to electric buses and it was determined that the electric buses were not fully economical, 2) electric charging stations at local gas stations and the significantly high cost of purchasing one, 3) upgrading of bus shelters in Palm Beach County through federal funding, 4) the allocation of \$60 million for cyber security, 5) \$6 million was allocated toward municipalities for grants and funding, and 6) the Inspector General and the Commission on Ethics are invited to speak at the county-wide Commission and Counsel session.

She thanked Florida House Representative Michael Caruso, District 89 and Senator Gail Harold of North County, Martin, and Indian River County for their efforts in the Substance Abuse Bill.

Vice Mayor Natasha Moore asked about modifying the email announcement that goes out to residents about the agendas and meetings.

Mayor Douglas Hillman mentioned the volume of work on the agenda including Zoning and Marine Accessory facilities and the need to put zoning on the back burner due to the limited staffing availability and the abundance of resources needed to update it. He presented pictures to the Town Commission of a property located on Intracoastal Drive and discussed the higher elevation of the newer homes, the seawall, and the obstructed view. The Commissioners discussed the other issues that may take place as a result of the higher seawalls and the possibility of implementing height restrictions.

13. TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Town Attorney Torcivia updated the Town Commission on the legislative changes. He mentioned the bill regarding restricted communication, the bill regarding an ordinance being passed that impacts a business by 15%, and the smoking ban on public beaches.

14. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Labadie provided an update on the following:

On May 1, 2022, the Library will resume with the community events and programs.

Over the next few years there will be a potential parking issues at Town Hall due to the construction of the Fire Station.

The bidding process for the sewer lining and the process of the project would be about a six to eight-month timeline. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) indicated that the repaving project will take about 12 months and will begin in early 2024.

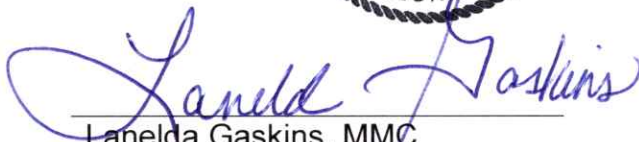
15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.

APPROVED on May 17, 2022, Town Commission Meeting.

ATTEST:




Lanelda Gaskins, MMC
Town Clerk


Douglas Hillman, Mayor

Transcribed by
Ganelle Thompson

May 17, 2022
Date

Disclaimer: Effective May 19, 2020, per Resolution No. 20-008, all meeting minutes are transcribed as a brief summary reflecting the event of this meeting. Verbatim audio/video recordings are permanent records and are available on the Town's Media Archives & Minutes webpage: <https://highlandbeach-fl.municodemeetings.com/>.