



## TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM,  
3618 S. OCEAN BLVD.,  
HIGHLAND BEACH, FL

Date: June 06, 2023  
Time: 1:30 PM

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Judith M. Goldberg  
Commissioner Donald Peters  
Commissioner Evalyn David  
Vice Mayor David Stern  
Mayor Natasha Moore  
Town Manager Marshall Labadie  
Town Attorney Glen Torcivia  
Town Clerk Lanelda Gaskins

### **3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Town Commission led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

### **5. PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS**

#### **A. State Legislative Updates**

**Representative Peggy Gossett-Seidman, District 91**

**Senator Lori Berman, District 26**

**Lobbyist Jared Rosenstein with Capital City Consulting**

State Senator Lori Berman gave an update on the State Legislative changes. The total budget is 117 billion dollars, 10 billion dollars have been put into reserves and 41 billion dollars came from the Federal Government. She brought back 23.5

million dollars to Palm Beach County for different projects. She gave an overview of the preemptions as it relates to residents' ability to file a lawsuit related to local ordinances, public construction, and residential tenancies. She mentioned that there have been changes to the ethical form requirements for local Commissioners.

State Representative Gossett-Seidman commented that Palm Beach County has the best legislative delegation in the state. She had eight bills running, three of which are being held back until the Fall, one of which is a Safe Waterway Act. The HOA bills were tweaked and talked about, and the building recertification has passed. The big challenge was not having enough inspectors, so they allowed the Attorney General to hire inspectors to give the local government more input. She spoke about the homeowner insurance situation. Those with Citizen Insurance are being given up to 2027 to add on flood insurance.

State Senator Berman mentioned that the Town of Highland Beach received state appropriations in the amount of \$250,000 for the Climate Vulnerability/Clean Water Project - Lift Stations Rehabilitation.

Lobbyist Jared Rosenstein, Capital City Consulting, provided an update on several bills. The sovereign immunity bill, a problem for smaller municipalities, did not pass. It will be reviewed next year, and he encouraged the Town Manager to participate in Palm Beach County Legislative Days next year.

He spoke about Senate Bill 250, Natural Emergencies, which is a rewrite of Florida Chapter 252. The State must provide municipalities with model debris contracts and model debris RFP's. This will be helpful and stabilize the marketplace when there is an emergency response.

The budget has been given to the Governor and he will decide, and The Budget Turkey Watch Report will not sway the Governor's decisions. His job is to build a brand for the Town and make connections with leadership in Tallahassee, but Highland Beach is in a healthy position as it stands.

He spoke about how it is very hard to get funding for Emergency Management projects. He advised the Town to have a workshop before the next session to discuss projects that they want to put forth. Municipalities have a lot of opportunities to go after grants from FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) and the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection).

There was a brief discussion about water projects. He suggested having a workshop in the first week in September and that he will be working with the Town Manager. There was also conversation about the \$250,000 state appropriations and that next year an aggressive approach to the budget would be successful. He suggested submitting two or three good projects.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Moore read the announcements as follows:

**Board Vacancies**

Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Two (2) vacancies, all for three-year terms and

One (1) vacancy for an unexpired term ending September 21, 2024

Natural Resources Preservation  
Advisory Board

Two (2) vacancies for unexpired terms ending April 30, 2024

**Meetings and Events**

June 08, 2023 - 9:30 A.M.

Planning Board Regular Meeting

June 13, 2023 - 1:00 P.M.

Code Enforcement Board Regular Meeting

June 20, 2023 - 1:30 PM

Town Commission Special Meeting

**Board Action Report**

None

**8. ORDINANCES**

None.

**9. CONSENT AGENDA** (These are items that the Commission typically does not need to discuss individually, and which are voted on as a group.)

**A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**May 02, 2023 Town Commission Meeting Minutes**

**May 16, 2023 Town Commission Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** David/Stern- Moved to approve the May 02, 2023, and May 16, 2023, Town Commission meeting minutes as presented, which passed unanimously 5 to 0. (The Consent Agenda was approved.)

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Update on Planning Board's ongoing discussion of proposed changes ("amendment concepts") to the Accessory Marine Facility and seawall regulations of the Town Code**

Town Planner Allen provided an update on the Planning Board's ongoing discussion of the proposed changes (amendment concepts") to the Accessory Marine Facility and seawall regulations of the Town Code.

There were conversations about public input as it relates to the setbacks and accommodating various communities. Commissioner David explained that she would like to talk about zoning and suggested that Byrd Beach Community should be allowed to have 25 feet setbacks.

The next step is for the Planning Board to continue to discuss this at their June 08, 2023 meeting.

Commissioner Goldberg inquired about a mapping of the Town and Town Planner Allen responded that she provided maps to the Planning Board.

Mayor Moore inquired about having a future meeting on density. Town Manager Labadie explained that that discussion was put on hold so the new Commissioners could get their footing and it will be discussed at a future meeting.

**B. Fire Rescue Implementation Update**

Fire Glenn Joseph provided an update on the Fire Rescue Implementation as it relates to the construction and onboarding administrative staff. He introduced Ms. Silvi Pierre, Administrative Coordinator, and Mr. Matthew Welhart, Assistant Fire Chief/ Community Risk Reduction. The project has been moving along and is on track.

**C. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) RRR Project Update**

Town Manager Labadie explained that FDOT was moving forward, and that they sent a set of drawings last week. He received additional comments from residents about moving an AT&T box. Also, there was a request for an additional crosswalk at 3200 So. Ocean Blvd. He will be meeting with one of our engineers to discuss what can we done to improve safety, however FDOT will not be adding that to their project.

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Resolution No. 2023-012**

**A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Highland Beach, Florida amending its Fund Balance Policy to assign additional funds for the Fire Rescue Department.**

Mayor Moore read the title of Resolution No. 2023-012.

Finance Director David DiLena presented this item.

**MOTION:** David/Stern- Moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-012. Upon roll call: Commissioner David (Yes); Vice Mayor Stern (Yes); Commissioner Goldberg (Yes); Commissioner Peters (Yes); and Mayor Moore (Yes). The motion passed 5 to 0.

### **B. Resolution No. 2023-013**

**A Resolution of the Town Commission of the Town of Highland Beach, Florida amending Resolution No. 2022-020, which appropriated funds for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year budget, and providing an effective date.**

Mayor Moore read the title of Resolution No. 2023-013.

Finance Director David DiLena presented this item.

**MOTION:** David/Stern - Moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-013. Upon roll call: Commissioner David (Yes); Vice Mayor Stern (Yes); Commissioner Goldberg (Yes); Commissioner Peters (Yes); and Mayor Moore (Yes). The motion passed 5 to 0.

## **12. TOWN COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioner Judith M. Goldberg acknowledged and thanked State Representative Peggy Gossett-Seidman, District 91, and Senator Berman for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner Donald Peters commented about the cost of insurance increasing.

Commissioner Evalyn David mentioned that she met with Marcy Woodward and four representatives from the Palm Beach Parks and Recreation Department, in a personal capacity, regarding the Milani Park property. She acknowledged State Representative Gossett-Seidman, District 91.

Vice Mayor Stern mentioned that the windows within his condominium building were at 45% in reference to turtle lighting.

Mayor Natasha Moore commented that a list of future agenda items was placed in the Manager's Monthly and briefly spoke about communicating with the residents to increase meeting participation.

There was a discussion about communicating with residents in regard to upcoming project costs and budget meetings.

**13. TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Town Attorney Torcivia had no comments.

**14. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manger Labadie reported the following:

The Town received good news as it relates to property values. There is a 13% improvement in revenue on the property side.

He reminded everyone that the trash rates were reported in the Manager's Minutes which will go into effect in June.

He will be signing a professional services agreement with Node0 IT Consultants and the additional cost is less than \$25,000.

Insurance rates are going up and not getting any better. The anticipated cost next year would be about a 50% increase, and all insurance costs are going up - automobile, homeowners, and flood, etcetera.

Mayor Moore asked Town Manager Labadie to shop for insurance. He said they will research all options and information will be brought back to the Town Commission for discussion.

He will send an email to the Town Commission from a resident in regard to sea turtle nest communication. The Town may send a direct mailing to residents about sea turtle nests.

Mayor Moore asked about sending the information to the Natural Resource Preservation Advisory Board.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

**APPROVED:** June 20, 2023, Town Commission Meeting.

ATTEST:



Jaclyn DeHart on behalf of  
Lanelda Gaskins, MMC  
Town Clerk

Natasha Moore

Natasha Moore, Mayor

Transcribed by  
Jaclyn DeHart and Lanelda Gaskins

06/20/2023

Date

Disclaimer: Effective May 19, 2020, per Resolution No. 20-008, all meeting minutes are transcribed as a brief summary reflecting the events 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/>.