



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES**  
**TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY OPEN DISCUSSION MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 3, 2023**

*Meeting audio available in Town Clerk's Office  
Meetings are also available on YouTube.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Danowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Mayor Danowski, Vice Mayor Shorr, Councilmembers Herzog, Maniglia, and Miles. Town Manager Ramaglia, Town Attorney Torcivia, Assistant Public Works Director Matos, and Town Clerk Burch.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were public comments from the following: Katie Lakeman, Todd McLendon, Frank Schmidt, and Cassie Suchy.

Katie Lakeman spoke about Code Enforcement, and parking of semi-trucks on the corner of C and Okeechobee Blvd.

Todd McLendon spoke about the roads, and votes. Vice Mayor Shorr responded to Mr. McLendon regarding the conditions of the roads that have been paved. There was a discussion between the Town Council and Mr. McLendon.

Frank Schmidt spoke about the roads in which he lives on (paving) he doesn't feel that they are not important enough. There was dialogue between Mr. Schmidt and the Town Council. Mayor Danowski stated that if she was given a date that she would meet with him and his neighbors.

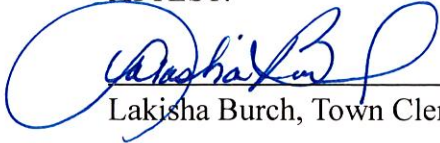
Cassie Suchy spoke about looking into traffic enforcement at Okeechobee Blvd. She needs to have a conversation with Town Manager Ramaglia. Ms. Suchy also stated she is aware of the difficult time-want elected officials to be honest. Vice Mayor Shorr responded to Ms. Suchy's comments.

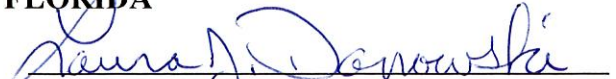
**ADJOURNMENT**

The workshop was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,  
FLORIDA**

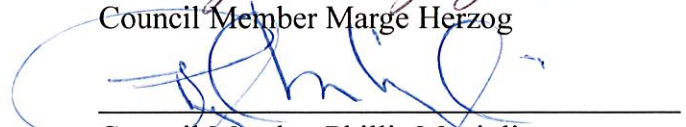
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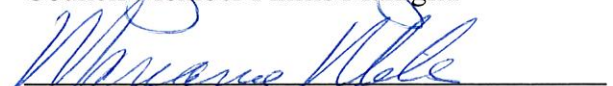
  
Lakisha Burch, Town Clerk

  
Mayor Laura Danowski

  
Vice Mayor Robert Shorr

  
Council Member Marge Herzog

  
Council Member Phillis Maniglia

  
Council Member Marianne Miles



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES  
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 3, 2023**

*Meeting audio available in Town Clerk's Office  
Meetings are also available on YouTube.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Danowski called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Danowski led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Danowski led a prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Laura Danowski, Vice Mayor Robert Shorr, Councilmembers Margaret Herzog, Phillis Maniglia, and Marianne Miles. Town Manager Francine L. Ramaglia, Town Attorney Elizabeth Lenihan, Assistant Public Works Director Mario Matos, Town Clerk Lakisha Burch.

**ADDITIONS, DELETIONS AND MODIFICATIONS**

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Shorr seconded by Councilmember Maniglia to approve the agenda as is it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor Danowski, Vice Mayor Shorr, Councilmembers Herzog, Maniglia, and Miles. Motion passed unanimously.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Consideration of **Resolution No. 2023-54** authorizing the entry by the Town into an agreement with Royal Auction Group, Inc. for auctioneering services utilizing the City of Fort Lauderdale auctioneering services solicitation event No. 21.
2. Consideration of **Resolution No. 2023-65** authorizing the entry by the Town into an agreement with Aquatic Vegetation, Inc. for canal cleaning.

3. Consideration of **Resolution No. 2023-69** approval of ratification of expenditures in excess of \$25,000.00 for FY23 and authorizing payment for FY24.
4. Consideration of **Resolution No. 2023-68** authorizing Surplus Items in the Public Works department.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Shorr seconded by Councilmember Maniglia to approve the Consent Agenda; it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor Danowski, Vice Mayor Shorr, Councilmembers Herzog, Maniglia, and Miles. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

5. Consideration of **Resolution No. 2023-70** expressing support for the extension and continuation of the Palm Beach County One-Cent Sales Surtax to Fund Local Infrastructure Projects through December 31, 2036.

Town Manager Ramaglia presented the item to the Town Council expressing support for the extension and continuation of the Palm Beach County One-Cent Sales Surtax to Fund Local Infrastructure Projects through December 31, 2036.

**Motion was made by Councilmember Maniglia seconded by Councilmember Herzog to approve Resolution No. 2023-70 expressing support for the extension and continuation of the Palm Beach County One-Cent Sales Surtax to Fund Local Infrastructure Projects through December 31, 2036; it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor Danowski, Vice Mayor Shorr, Councilmembers Herzog, Maniglia, and Miles. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **DISCUSSION**

6. Discussion of potential Wellington Annexation of 249 acres to the west of the Town.

Town Manager Ramaglia presented the item to the Town Council by introducing Ms. Patricia Bane. Ms. Bane presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Town Council which included review proposed annexation by the Village of Wellington, compare current County land use with potential Village land use, consider County maps of the rural area and Comprehensive Plan directions, evaluate annexation process, and review Town Council options.

Town Manager Ramaglia gave an update, she also stated that we have not had any conversation with the landowners of the properties. She feels that the County has an overall standing in this situation.

Councilmember Maniglia asked Ms. Bane did she worked for the County; Ms. Bane clarified that she works for the Town. She also stated that she would discuss her concerns with the Town Manager and Town Attorney.

There was a public comment from Cassie Suchy.

Vice Mayor Shorr stated as of right now the County has a rural designation for the area. He supports options 2 or 3.

**There was consensus by the Town Council for staff to DRAFT a letter and bring back to the Town Council complete option 2 as well as option 3 drafting of a letter.**

7. Update on Canal restoration and roads.

Asst. Public Works Director Matos presented the item to the Town Council. Mr. Kurtz also added additional information to the Town Council regarding canal restoration and roads.

Councilmember Miles stated the following: Tangerine Road -Mr. Kurtz responded by stating that there needed to be drainage issues that needed to be addressed. There was conversation among Councilmember Miles and Mr. Kurtz.

Councilmember Maniglia asked why the Council is dictating what roads are paved. She also spoke about drainage, and nothing has been done, should be left up to staff. She also spoke about a bond that was voted on but was never used. Should vote on the budget of paving but not what roads should be paved. The council needs to back off and allow staff to do their jobs.

Vice Mayor Shorr asked what was learned that we should be put in the bid, which is don't touch the berm. He continued to express his concerns. He also spoke about canal banks has been an issue from the binging. Like to see us move forward to repairing the canal banks. He asked APWD Matos what is are we doing about a long-term situation. Mr. Matos responded. There continued to be dialogue between Mr. Matos and Vice Mayor Shorr.

Mayor Danowski commented about residents holding up progress regarding easement. Work within the scope of roadway in which we have. Stated staff created the mess so staff needs to fix it.

**There was consensus to look at 25th and make it a neighborhood road so that a price can be given to complete the road. With the consensus Councilmember Maniglia stated she would agree with her fellow Councilmember, but she stated her disagreement as well.**

8. Discussion and direction regarding Seasonal Special Events.

Town Manager Ramaglia presented the item to the Town Council stating that the Town's current special event regulations limit the number of special events that can occur on any one property to 3 events not exceeding 3 days in length per year on any one property. The regulations seem to be directed at and work fairly well for churches and charitable events. In reality, there are more frequent, yet intermittent types of activities that occur in Town and are generally consistent with a rural lifestyle and atmosphere and serve the demonstrated needs of the community that are in the realm of recreational/entertainment but need to have a more extended time frame or series of time frames to operate and yet are not truly permanent venue.

There was a public comment made by Cassie Suchy.

Councilmember Maniglia asked what is camps and camping? Town Manager Ramaglia responded. She also stated that there is a need to beef up Sheriff presence with directing traffic on Sunday for church services. Town Attorney Lenihan also responded to her comments.

Councilmember Herzog spoke about equestrian camps are already in Town. Groups that have events

Vice Mayor Shorr stated that all of these places have occupancy limits. He continued to give his thoughts.

### **TOWN STAFF COMMENTS**

#### **Town Manager**

Town Manager spoke about the State regarding Rural Designation with great reception. Someone has come in regarding easements. Spoke about the termination of SAFEbuilt and building official.

#### **Town Attorney**

#### **Public Works Director**

#### **Town Clerk**

- Spoke about one meeting a month-Consensus to have Town Council bring back an ordinance to become the LPA. Have 2 meetings in November, one in December and starting the binging of the year to one meeting per month.
- Public Records Software
- Website Changes
- Veteran's Day Sunday, November 12, 2023, from 9:00-11:00 (breakfast will be served)
- Contact Town Crier, will partner with LGLA with regarding banner on Okeechobee Blvd.

### **TOWN COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

#### **Marge Herzog (Seat 5)**

- Discussion of neighbor roads be discussed. Town Manager Ramaglia responded.
- Historic Legacy - ending date
- Storage shed to be removed can't get corporation for the utility companies.

#### **Phillis Maniglia (Seat 1)**

- FPL will come to speak about the underground.



- Flooding on Okeechobee Blvd.

**Marianne Miles (Seat 3)**

- FPL
- SAFEbuilt-handing of permits. The Town Manager responded. Spoke about GovEZ. Flood Plan so engineers are out for the money - some are not as hard as they are making it. Building Official
- Code RED message of nuisance ordinance.
- Sign in Publix plaza.

**Vice Mayor Robert Shorr (Seat 4)**

- Oct 2024 effects our EAR. Town Attorney responded. The new code cycle will change in January 2024.
- Appropriation request 750,000. The Town Manager responded. He also stated with Rep. Roth regarding a comment Councilmember Maniglia made at the last meeting and Rep. Roth stated he didn't make the comment. Councilmember Maniglia stated she would be calling him tomorrow and that he did say it.
- Speed limit signs on Okeechobee.
- Excited about the new Public Works Director.

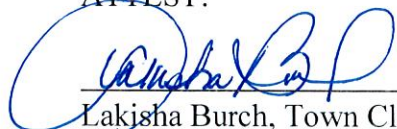
**Mayor Laura Danowski (Seat 2)**

- Wellington Chamber of Commerce for the Holiday parade.
- Spoke about private canal flow - how do Town make them comply.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The workshop was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

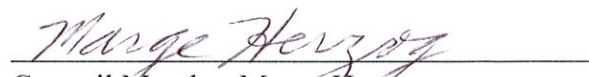
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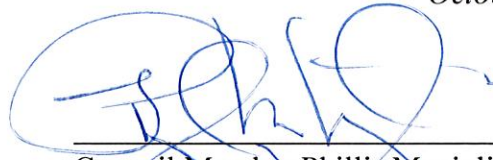
  
Lakisha Burch, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,  
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Mayor Laura Danowski

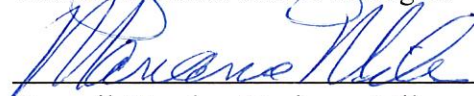
  
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