



MINUTES

FORT MYERS BEACH TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

2523 ESTERO BOULEVARD

FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA 33931

WORKSESSION

Tuesday September 7, 2010 9 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kiker called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Present with Mayor Kiker, Vice Mayor Raymond, Council members Babcock, List and Mandel along with Town Manager Stewart, and Town Clerk Michelle Mayher.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All stood for Pledge of Allegiance

III. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS SEAFARER'S

Councilmember Babcock asked if minutes had been taken at the meeting between Mayor Kiker and Commissioner Ray Judah regarding the Seafarer's property and was told there were no minutes since it was a meeting between two appointed representatives. The discussion continued regarding Sunshine Laws and a better understanding of the same.

Councilmember Babcock suggested a workshop pertaining to the Sunshine Law as well as invitations to other taxing authorities along with chairmen of the other town committees.

Mayor Kiker began a status review of the Seafarer's property with Council; with some issues on the gulfside according to Lee County staff, being demolition debris still in the sand, electrical issues from old wiring and electrical boxes as well as issues with the sea wall deterioration on the property and the possibility of the property being fenced off if the issues were not taken care of. Safety issues were also addressed due to the fact that the Seafarer's building was now totally vacant with concern for anyone entering the building. Mayor Kiker also stated he

presented a demand for the County to look at possibilities to relieve traffic issues in the area.

Mayor Kiker discussed the need to speak to each of the County Commissioners and then proceeded to review a draft letter to the County addressing issues such as County-provided seasonal shuttle service, revenue sharing with the first \$10,000 coming to the Town and ownership of the park and recreation area.

Councilmember Babcock addressed his concerns that the Town not make promises in advance when there may be issues with the Town's Land Development Code and zoning.

Council discussed what information should be sent to the County and whether Council agreed to send the document Mayor Kiker had written. Councilmember Babcock continued to stress the need for the County to follow the Comp Plan and to keep the information general. Councilmember Mandel felt all that was needed was to convey that the Town wanted a park, traffic issues dealt with, parking and money to manage the area for the Town.

Town Manager Stewart indicated he felt Mayor Kiker was correct with what would happen with the park due to the limited amount of money the County had to work with and that it was needed for Council to say the minimum was not enough.

Recess: 10:50 AM Reconvene: 11:05 AM

Councilmember Mandel felt that once the property was purchased by the County they would need to take whatever safety precautions necessary and then to allow Mayor Kiker and Town Manager Stewart to negotiate a park to the standards of the island. That they go for a minimum of 50% of proceeds to help fund the properties and to help the flow of traffic on Estero Boulevard along with parking.

Councilmember Babcock felt the discussion needed to start with the park and the safety issues, then jumping to Estero Boulevard regarding traffic and pedestrian flow and to not be too extensive with the conversation on the building.

Vice Mayor Raymond did not have a problem with the information on the document but just wanted the park to be acceptable to both sides, noting he does have definite opinions on what should happen with Estero Boulevard and felt the information regarding the building would be ok, but didn't want anything that would bring more cars to the island, stressing the need for more public transportation.

Councilmember List wanted to see the language on the building portion trimmed down.

Council began going through the document paragraph by paragraph discussing how to rework the document to all of Council's approval to allow Mayor Kiker to move forward to the next discussion with the County.

Recess: 11:55 AM Reconvene: 12:12 PM

IV. DISCUSSION REGARDING RECOGNITION OF DONATIONS TO THE TOWN

Councilmember List noted she had received an email from a resident stating concern over one level of monetary donation against another, indicating she agreed with the resident and felt there was a need to look at the issue.

Vice Mayor Raymond questioned the need to discuss the issue at the worksession and had suggested previously to have it placed on agenda management.

Councilmember Mandel questioned the topic being on the day's work session as well.

Councilmember Babcock and Mayor Kiker felt the topic should also be put on agenda management, however, Councilmember Babcock indicated that it needed to be discussed as some people were feeling punished and Council had never had the discussion on the plaque system.

Town Manager Stewart stated Councilmember Babcock communicated his concern over the issue and noted he would like to have it on under discussion items and added it for the work session. Councilmember Babcock stated he was fine with adding it to agenda management.

Council decided to skip the item and put it on agenda management during the Council Meeting later in the evening.

Town Manager Stewart felt going through agenda management during a work session was an excellent idea. Council scheduled the meeting for September 20th.

V. DISCUSSION REGARDING 2010 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

Town Manager Stewart asked Council who they wanted to invite to the dinner and what criteria did they want to use.

Discussion ensued as to who would be invited regarding committees with the thought being those committees who had been appointed by Council as well as clergy, the CAC representative and the person heading up Bicycle Safety.

Councilmember Babcock asked if it were appropriate to recognize a resident who had given much to the Town but had passed away, such as Claude Boyer with a decision made to acknowledge him during the program.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vice Mayor Raymond made a motion to adjourn with a second by Councilmember List.

Meeting Adjourned (no time noted)

Adopted 10/4/10 With/Without changes. Motion by Raymond/Babcock

Vote: 4-0 (List absent)


Michelle D. Mayher, Town Clerk

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