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2525 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, Fla. 33931 / www.fmbgov.com

Council had brief agenda at last meeting of 2021

Town of Fort Myers Beach, FL – Agenda items at the Monday, Dec. 6, Town Council meeting included a utility easement, pool setback, new sidewalks in the Downtown District, open containers in Times Square for the New Year's Eve Fireworks display, and extra annual marine patrol by the Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO).

The Town Manager was authorized to execute a stormwater outfall agreement with Charlie's Boathouse at 6241 Estero Boulevard. A public hearing on a variance about a pool setback at 6036/38 Estero Boulevard was postponed due to the absence of the applicant.

Tetra Tech was authorized to oversee construction engineering inspection and administration services for new sidewalks in the Downtown District at a cost not to exceed \$73,640. The Lee County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) was funded to provide marine patrol in Fiscal Year 2021-22 in the amount of \$50,000. A grant awarded to the Town by the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) provides \$25,000 of the \$50,000.

A report from Cheri Smith of the Cultural and Environmental Learning Center Advisory Board (CELCAB) praised Mound House's museum admissions, kayak trips, and programs as well as the successful sale at the museum store on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Public comment focused on traffic and sidewalks, lighting in the Downtown District, and open containers in Times Square on New Year's Eve. Town Councilor items involved the Chamber's successful holiday boat parade on December 4, boater safe speeds, pumpout enforcements of boats in the back bay, lighting plans, residential parking permits, complete submittals including site plans with dimensions for variance requests, and the upcoming Christmas Tree Festival sponsored by the FMB Women's Club.

The Town Manager's items included a request from Times Square Merchants to allow open alcohol containers on Times Square for New Year's Eve this year from Noon to 1:30 a.m. Town Council approved this request.

The next regular Town Council meeting is scheduled in 2022 on January 10 at 9 a.m. at Town Hall, 2525 Estero Boulevard.

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The Town of Fort Myers Beach is on Estero Island off the southwest Florida coast facing the Gulf of Mexico and backed by Estero Bay. Known for white sugar sand and spectacular sunsets and shell finds, the Gulf beach stretches for seven miles. Incorporated since 1995, the Town has a variety of unique parks, recreation, cultural facilities, shops, and restaurants.