

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Southwest Ranches, Florida**

Thursday 7:00 PM

July 13, 2023

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz	Andrew Berns, Town Administrator
Vice Mayor Jim Allbritton	Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk
Council Member Gary Bob Hartmann	Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator
Council Member David S. Kuczenski	Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

Regular Meeting of the Town Council of Southwest Ranches was held at 13400 Griffin Road in the Southwest Ranches Council Chambers. The meeting, having been properly noticed, was called to order by Mayor Breitkreuz at 7:01 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following motion was made by Vice Mayor Allbritton, seconded by Council Member Kuczenski, and passed by a 4-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Hartmann, Jablonski, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Allbritton, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

**MOTION: TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER JABLONSKI'S ABSENCE.**

Mayor Breitkreuz asked to observe a moment of silence for the recent passing of Southwest Ranches residents, Denise Houghtaling and Curtis Epps.

**3. Public Comment**

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: David Sears, Marianne Allen, and Richard Ramcharitar.

**4. Board Reports**

There were no Board Reports.

**5. Council Member Comments**

Council Member Kuczenski provided information regarding the Town of Davie's Police Department program of registering a vehicle's catalytic converter to help in recovery if it is stolen. He also discussed the topic of Code Enforcement issues being moved from reactive to proactive. He did not believe Code Enforcement should have "carte blanche" to enter someone's property solely to investigate if there is a code violation, and that private property rights should be respected.

Vice Mayor Allbritton spoke about the speed sign being placed in the proper location on SW 186 Avenue. He discussed the Broward County Water Advisory Board and the Resilience Program to aid with flooding. He explained the Governor signed a bill providing \$400 million for 71 projects to reduce flooding. However, he stated that the cost of materials needed to alleviate the flooding far exceeded what was provided and the Town will probably not see any relief of flooding from the funds. He mentioned the Rural Public Arts and Design Board "Beauty in the Ranches" photo contest, and for everyone in Town to turn in photos so that it can be a great contest and calendar.

Lastly, he reminded residents how dangerously hot it has been recently and for everyone to be safe when working outside.

Council Member Hartmann thanked Mayor Breitreuz for asking for the moment of silence for Denise Houghtaling and Curtis Epps. He brought up that the Council was notified by Town Administrator Berns and Senator Geller about the Broward Water Leaders Academy. He explained how the Academy works with the Broward Resilience Program on all the County infrastructure and projects regarding water and drainage. He encouraged the Town Council to attend the meetings because of the importance of the information provided.

Mayor Breitreuz informed everyone that the Town has been organizing how to respond to the potential placement of a waste to energy plant nearby in unincorporated Broward County. He said he has met with several Mayors from municipalities in Broward County, and he is pleased with the meetings and the progress they have made so far in developing ideas on how to proceed. Mayor Breitreuz stated that there have been some municipalities that have not wanted to meet and discuss the plant, so that is also being considered when planning on how to move forward. He pointed out that building these relationships with the neighboring communities and developing a plan on how to address the issue of the plant will take some time and be ongoing over the next 18 months. Mayor Breitreuz then addressed the duties and responsibilities of the Town's Volunteer Fire Department. He stated that the Town of Davie provides a full-service fire station at the intersection of Volunteer Road and Stirling Road, and we have an adaptive fire service out west. He explained that our Volunteer Fire Department has been instructed to remain on the west side because they are responsible for responding to calls when the adaptive response team is unavailable. This ensures that the west side of Town will be protected in case an emergency response is needed. He also said that the Volunteer Fire Department can and does provide basic medical response and life support to stabilize a patient until additional support arrives. Lastly, Mayor Breitreuz was asked by Council Member Kuczenski which mayors he has met with from neighboring municipalities, regarding the plant. He responded that he has met with the Mayor and representatives from the City of Weston and the Mayor and staff of the City of Miramar. He said that both meetings went extremely well and there was a great exchange between them.

## **6. Legal Comments**

Town Attorney Poliakoff had no comments.

## **7. Administration Comments**

Town Administrator Berns informed the Town Council that he and Assistant Town Administrator Muñiz attended a virtual meeting with the Solid Waste Working Group Technical Advisory Committee, earlier in the week. He thanked Mayor Breitreuz for meeting with the Mayor of Weston, because if that meeting had not taken place, they would not have been informed of the meeting by the Assistant City Manager of Weston. He then stated Assistant Town Administrator Muñiz will be serving as the liaison to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and asked him to provide Council details of the meeting.

Assistant Town Administrator Muñiz started his report about the TAC meeting by informing the Town Council that the Town is now a part of the email list established to provide information and

notifications of meetings regarding the waste to energy plant. He stated that the following items were discussed at the meeting, an overview of the County's procurement process and that the County has a draft scope of work regarding the issue. The draft addresses compliance with regulatory requirements, however, it seemed to fail to mention independent monitoring or any zero waste initiatives. The draft scope also described the options of expanding the current waste to energy site, building a new facility at the current location, or finding other "reasonable" sites to build upon. The draft scope also included the cost and estimated time of construction for each option. It also provided the details to create an evaluation committee for a consultant to develop a master plan. According to the County, the estimated timeline for the master plan to be created after it is awarded is roughly six to twelve months. However, Mr. Muniz stated that the County is still developing the criteria for the scope of work and evaluation so it may be six to twelve months before the process is even started, so it may take up to two years before the master plan is completed. He also discussed that the term for original appointments to the Technical Advisory Committee is expiring and new appointments will be needed soon. He said that public input was allowed during the meeting, with two members of the public asking for zero waste initiatives to be added to the draft scope. Lastly, he stated an industry professional from the Composting Council was present at the meeting and wanted their industry included in the master plan.

### **Resolutions**

**8. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, OPPOSING ANY EFFORT BY BROWARD COUNTY TO PLACE ANY WASTE TO ENERGY (WTE) PLANT(S) ADJACENT TO, OR NEARBY, THE MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The following motion was made by Council Member Kuczenski and seconded by Council Member Hartmann and passed by a 4-0 roll call vote. The vote as follows: Council Members Hartmann, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Allbritton and Mayor Breitkreuz voting Yes.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED BY CORRECTING THE SCRIVENERS ERROR AND INCLUDE THE WORD "PLANT" IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH TO REMAIN CONSISTENT THROUGHOUT.**

- 9. Approval of Minutes**
- a. May 25, 2023 Workshop Minutes**
  - b. May 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

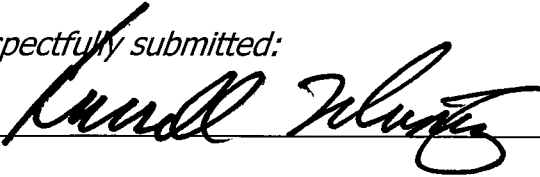
The following motion was made by Council Member Hartmann and seconded by Vice Mayor Allbritton and passed by a 4-0 roll call vote. The vote as follows: Council Members Hartmann, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Allbritton, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting Yes.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MAY 25, 2023 WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

### **10. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

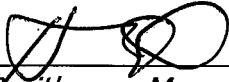
*Respectfully submitted:*



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*Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk*

*Adopted by the Town Council on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.*



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*Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor*

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES 286.0105, THE TOWN HEREBY ADVISES THE PUBLIC THAT IF A PERSON DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THIS COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT ITS MEETING OR HEARING, HE OR SHE WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND THAT FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THE AFFECTED PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS MADE, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED THIS NOTICE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE CONSENT BY THE TOWN FOR THE INTRODUCTION OR ADMISSION OF OTHERWISE INADMISSIBLE OR IRRELEVANT EVIDENCE, NOR DOES IT AUTHORIZE CHALLENGES OR APPEALS NOT OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY LAW.