

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

Thursday 7:00 PM

July 27, 2023

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Vice Mayor Jim Allbritton

Andrew Berns, Town Administrator

Council Member Bob Hartmann

Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Council Member Gary Jablonski

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

Council Member David S. Kuczenski, Esq.

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 Vice Mayor Allbritton at 7:02 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**MOTION: TO EXCUSE MAYOR BREITKREUZ' S ABSENCE**

**3. Public Comment**

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Tim Wilder, Keith Paikin, David Brubeck, Newell Hollingsworth, Jim Laskey, Dee Schroeder, MaryGay Chaples, Marianne Allen and Richard Ramcharitar.

**4. Board Reports**

Debbie Green – Spoke on behalf of the Waste to Energy Task Force town residents are creating to oppose the Broward County Incinerator Project. She invited all who wanted to be a part of the group and advised an update of what was talked about at the first meeting. She thanked Town Administrator Berns and Assistant Town Administrator Muñiz for their support.

**5. Council Member Comments**

Council Member Jablonski clarified the proposed location he believed would be shovel ready for the incinerator project would possibly be a 40-acre plot, which is owned by Broward County, next to the Bergeron Park of Commerce. He spoke about upcoming events in the Town such as:

- "HazMat at the Barn" on July 29<sup>th</sup>
- National Night Out on August 1<sup>st</sup>
- First Budget Workshop on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>
- "Bingo at the Barn on August 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Town Hall closure for Labor Day on September 4<sup>th</sup>
- "Beauty in the Ranches" photo contest due date of September 15<sup>th</sup>

He advised the new speed sign has been installed on SW 186 Avenue and is working. He spoke about the location of the WM contract on the Town's website and the contact email listed would

go directly to Barbara Herrera. He advised the dates for the August Town Council meetings and the DMV Flow Mobile had been cancelled for the August Event. Lastly, he advised the summer hours for Town Hall which are Monday through Thursday 8:00-5:30 and Fridays 8:00 – 4:00.

Council Member Hartmann responded to a couple of comments made during public comment. The first being about the history of the incinerator project which began approximately three years ago and had to do with the bottom dropping out of the recycling market and China not buying it any longer. Next, he spoke about Franklin and Somerset Academies and all the schools within a 10-mile radius of the proposed incinerator that would be affected. He spoke about the smoke the proposed incinerator would give off and what would be contaminated because of it. He stressed to the residents not to adopt the “not in my backyard” mentality and he stated Mayor Breitkreuz had reached out and met with other municipalities regarding the issue. He spoke about needing a public relations professional to assist with getting the task force off the ground and appealed to the residents for someone to volunteer their time. He advised that the Broward County Waste to Energy information has been placed on the Town’s website. Lastly, he spoke about budget season and the ongoing negotiations with the Town of Davie regarding the public safety contract. He advised the budget book is online and available as a hard copy as well and if anyone would like to give feedback on the proposed budget, they can come to the August 15<sup>th</sup> workshop or the First and Second Budget Hearing meetings.

Council Member Kuczenski spoke about the CSSB 1764, Municipal Solid Waste to Energy Program, that passed last year by the Florida Legislature. The item provides for \$100 million dollars of recurring State money to go to the program plus \$160,000 for administration and advised people to look it up. He spoke about the Town of Southwest Ranches being the largest municipality with Aquifer recharge. He is concerned about the water that runs from other municipalities to the Town and contaminates the canals and poison the animals. Next, he spoke about the budget, the fire fee assessment and how construction property is assessed to which Town Administrator Berns answered, “vacant property”. Council Member Kuczenski would like to investigate creating an additional category that has to do with construction property and a fire fee that shares the burden with the rest of the residents.

Vice Mayor Allbritton thanked the residents and Pembroke Pines Commissioner Tom Good for showing up to the task force meeting. The municipalities need all the help they can get. He then clarified the reason the Town signed the Broward County Solid Waste ILA was to make sure the Council and administration had a seat at the table while this issue is being discussed. He stated he attended one of the HOA meetings and was surprised to find out that there are 3-4 more incinerators in the planning stages to be built in the next 30 years. He was confident Mayor Breitkreuz will fight for the Town as the representative for the task force. He encouraged the residents to please email him if they would like a speed trailer in their neighborhood.

## **6. Legal Comments**

Town Attorney Poliakoff responded to a comment made by a resident regarding the gates at SW 207<sup>th</sup> Terrace and advised the gates have been removed after reaching out to the City of Pembroke Pines and making an offer which was rejected.

## **7. Administration Comments**

Town Administrator Berns provided information for the residents as to how to locate the solid waste and recycling page as well as the Broward League of Cities Solid Waste Authority information on the Town's website. He then advised Town Staff had attended an extensive hurricane tabletop exercise led by the Public Works Department.

## **Resolutions**

**8.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SETTING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND CURRENT ROLL BACK RATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 200.065, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND ESTABLISHING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE AT WHICH PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024; DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK TO FILE SAID RESOLUTION WITH THE PROPERTY APPRAISER OF BROWARD COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FLORIDA STATUTES AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA; DIRECTING THAT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE BROWARD COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER AND TAX COLLECTOR; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

### **MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**9.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA PROVIDING FINDINGS; AMENDING IN PART SECTION 3 OF RESOLUTION 2011-084 BY PROVIDING A NEW DEFINITION; INCORPORATING THE 2023 FIRE ASSESSMENT REPORT; APPROVING PRELIMINARY FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENT RATES RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24; PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COMPUTATION OF FIRE PROTECTION ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN'S WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE DETERMINATIONS OF SPECIAL BENEFIT AND FAIR APPORTIONMENT; ESTABLISHING THE PRELIMINARY RATES OF ASSESSMENT; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF MAILED AND PUBLISHED NOTICE THEREOF; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

### **MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**10.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA; PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR SOLID WASTE SERVICES ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FINDINGS; INCORPORATING THE SOLID WASTE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY REPORT; DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR A 50% EXEMPTION FOR VETERAN'S SERVICE-CONNECTED TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY; AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING AND DIRECTING THE PROVISION OF NOTICE THEREOF; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**11.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING HONORARILY DESIGNATING THE PORTION OF S.R. 823/SOUTH FLAMINGO ROAD BETWEEN SOUTHWEST 52ND STREET AND SOUTHWEST 55TH STREET IN BROWARD COUNTY AS ARCHBISHOP EDWARD A. MCCARTHY HIGH SCHOOL WAY; AND PROVIDING FOR 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, Jablonski, Kuczenski, and Vice Mayor Allbritton voting Yes.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**12.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, ENTERING INTO A REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH BROWARD COUNTY ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" AND INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE, TO ALLOW THE PLACEMENT OF LICENSE PLATE READERS (LPRs) WITHIN COUNTY OWNED RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG GRIFFIN ROAD, AND AUTHORIZING THE PROPER TOWN OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**13.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA OFFICIALLY ADOPTING THE BROWARD COUNTY ENHANCED LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY PLAN, WHICH CREATES A COMPREHENSIVE MITIGATION PROGRAM MINIMIZING

THE IMPACT OF NATURAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DISASTERS THROUGH THE DISTRIBUTION OF GRANT FUNDS FOR IMPLANTATION OF REQUESTED, NEEDED AND TOWN APPROVED MITIGATION PROJECTS WITHIN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.**

**14. Approval of Minutes**

**a. June 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

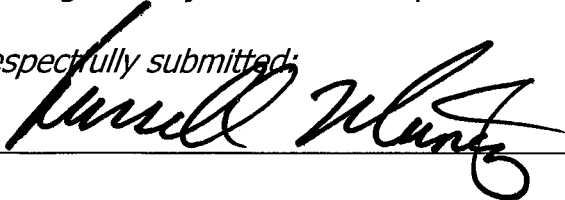
The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski and seconded by Council Member Hartmann and passed by a 4-0 roll call vote. The vote as follows: Council Members Hartmann, Jablonski, Kuczenski, and Vice Mayor Allbritton voting Yes.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE JUNE 8, 2023 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.**

**15. Adjournment**

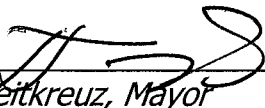
Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:*



*Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk*

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



*Steve Breitzkreuz, 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.