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

Thursday 7:00 PM

January 25, 2024

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz Vice Mayor David S. Kuczenski Council Member Jim Allbritton Council Member Bob Hartmann Council Member Gary Jablonski Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator Debra M. Ruesga, Town Clerk Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator 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 7:02 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Breitkreuz asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Council Member Delsa Amundson and for the father of Debbie Mantel.

## 3. Proclamation - Southwest Ranches Arbor Day

The Town presented a proclamation that recognized the third Friday in January of 2023 and the third Friday in January of 2024, as Arbor Day.

## 4. Rural Arts Advisory Board Presentation to Laura Warren

The Rural Arts Advisory Board presented a plaque to Laura Warren in recognition of her painting of the wall mural at Founders Park.

# 5. FPL Hardening Project Update

Ben Wesley, Michelle Saunders, and Chris Duncan, of Florida Power and Light, addressed the Town Council of the ongoing FPL Hardening Project within the Town and answered questions regarding the project.

#### 6. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Newell Hollingsworth, Gloria Murphy, Michael Katz, Mary Gay Chaples, Mary Michael, Richard Ramcharitar, John Steven Garate, Dee Schroeder, and Debbie Green.

### 7. Board Reports

Debbie Green discussed issues concerning the Zero Waste Task Force. She stated the next meeting of the Executive Committee for the Broward Solid Waste Authority will be Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 AM at Cooper City Hall. She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting and to voice their opposition to the incinerator. She said the Committee does listen to public comments and that there has been a shift in the thinking of the Committee towards more sustainable, eco-friendly options being considered, whereas, before there were none. She thanked Mayor Breitkreuz and Town Administrator Muñiz for their work on the Executive Committee and TAC Committee. She advised the next Zero-Waste Broward Task Force Meeting would be held at Town Hall,

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM. She stated volunteers are needed for committees for the task force, and that a student committee has been started.

George Morris provided the Town Council an update on the SWR Country Fair Carnival, that was held from January 11<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>. He said that even with bad weather the Carnival was a great success. He thanked the Town Council for helping secure a stage and thanked the Town of Davie for providing it. He said the Carnival put on music shows of various genres, including country music, hip hop, jazz, and DJs with dancers. He thanked PROs Manager Lauretano-Haines for the help she provided throughout the Carnival. He also thanked sponsors Gentle Teeth, Tommy Crivello, and AirPro Murphy Bed Services for their donations. He estimated after ticket sales the event grossed between \$52,000 and \$55,000, with the exact amount to be provided when it was final. He thanked the members of the Aster Knight Foundation, aka the Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation, for their help before and during the Carnival. He stated there would be a Carnival next year and hoped the planned improvements of permanent restrooms and stabilization would be completed by then. He said a few cars got stuck in the mud due to the rain but there no major incidents concerning the Police or Fire Departments.

Rose Allbritton spoke for the Rural Public Arts and Design Board and thanked the Town Council for attending all the Board meetings, and for their support of the Board. She discussed that in the previous year the Board approached the Town Council for authorization to change the look and design of the Town Newsletter the Southwest Rancher, and it was approved. She stated since that time they have made several changes, including the cover designs, paper used, etc. She said the response to the changes has been completely positive. She thanked Susan Kutz for her help with the Newsletter. She stated there are some areas of the Newsletter that could be improved and said at the last Board meeting the specific issues were brought to the attention of the Town Council. She requested the Town Council approve adding four additional pages to the Southwest Rancher, which could be used to provide more information to the residents of the Town.

Debbie Green addressed the Town Council on behalf of the Schools and Education Advisory Board. She advised the Sikh Unity in Diversity 5k event would be held March 9<sup>th</sup>, and all proceeds would benefit the Town scholarship fund. She also advised the Barn Dance will be coming up on March 16<sup>th</sup>, and more information will be provided soon.

#### 8. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski thanked everyone for attending the meeting and those that were watching it on YouTube. He spoke about upcoming events within the Town such as the Unity in Diversity 5k on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Police & Fire Expo happening at the Davie Public Safety Complex on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Barn Dance on March 16<sup>th</sup>, and Hazmat at the Barn on April 27<sup>th</sup>. He discussed the restrooms slated for construction at the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary. He stated the draft plans for the restrooms, ADA access, landscaping, and parking lot plans have been submitted to the Building Department for review, and explained the target completion date would be next December. He talked about the damaged storage trailer behind Town Hall, and that Town Administration is developing the scope of the proposed storage building that is needed to replace

it. He discussed that he had given Town Administrator Muñiz his list of locations of where to place the new speed signs in his district and suggested locations in the other districts as well. He encouraged the other members of the Town Council to give their suggestions to the Town Administrator as soon as possible. He advised the Town Council that he wanted to address issues that he sees as a threat to the Town's rural lifestyle occurring in Rolling Oaks. He stated that there are numerous types of code violations occurring that he would like to designate as proactive items instead of reactive items, but solely in Rolling Oaks. He said there are five items that he would like designated; those items are commercial vehicles parked on properties that are not registered to the property, vegetation and plantings obstructing the Horse Trails, storage containers and storage sheds being placed into properties without permits, construction work done without permit, and clearing of landscape and tree removal done without permit. He emphasized that this would only be for Rolling Oaks, and that these items being designated to proactive would help the equestrian lifestyle.

Council Member Hartmann asked Town Attorney Poliakoff if the Town could create Ordinances that were only enforceable for specific districts or areas of the Town. Town Attorney Poliakoff explained that the Town Council directs Code Enforcement on how to enforce the Code, and it is strictly a policy decision. He stated the Code would not change, just the policy of proactive enforcement or reactive enforcement would be changed. He said the Town Council was free to choose what issues could be designated as proactive or reactive, and what areas those issues could be designated as such.

Council Member Allbritton stated that having a Workshop Meeting about the topic of proactive versus reactive has been discussed in the past and he would like to have that meeting. He said he would rather address these issues as Town-wide instead of just for one district, because that would be more beneficial to the Town. Vice Mayor Kuczenski stated that he wanted to address the issues at a workshop as well and his main concern with moving items to proactive was the capabilities of the Code Enforcement Department. He questioned that with an increase of proactive items would that mean an increased workload and necessitate an increase to their budget. Town Attorney Poliakoff interjected that having a proactive policy would not mean a guaranteed increase of workload for Code Enforcement. He said it would just mean that if Code Enforcement saw a violation they could report it, alleviating residents, or Council Members from having to be listed as the complainant. Mayor Breitkreuz reminded Town Council that there was a discussion on proactive and reactive items at a Council Meeting in August of 2023, and that the opinion of the public that attended the meeting was against proactive enforcement. He stated that he was open to having another workshop because the issues were becoming more problematic and should be addressed. He said that the issues brought up by Council Member Jablonski were issues that related to the Town as whole, and he would not be in favor of passing items that only affected specific areas of the Town. He felt that three of the items brought up by Council Member Jablonski were straight forward and he would feel comfortable voting on them right away but felt the other two were more nuanced and needed to be worked out further. Mayor Breitkreuz suggested adding the item as a discussion item on the next meeting and the Town Council agreed on the matter. Town Attorney Poliakoff stated that at the direction of the Town

Council, the Town Administration will put the discussion item on the next agenda meeting and separate each issue into its own category. He said they would provide as much back-up information as possible, including a copy of the Horse Trail Map.

Council Member Hartmann spoke about the Country Estates HOA barbeque happening on Saturday the 27th, at Country Estates Park. He stated there were going to be fun kid activities, including pony rides, there would be vendors, and the Southwest Ranches Volunteer Fire Department would be cooking food for the event. He spoke about the Davie Police & Fire Expo happening on February 3rd and reminded everyone that the Town of Davie Police and Fire Departments are the Town's departments and encouraged everyone to attend. He discussed the dedication ceremony honoring longtime resident Vince Falletta, who passed away last year. He said that Mr. Falletta served as a Commissioner on the Central Broward County Water Control District, was a member of the Sunshine Ranches HOA from its inception until his passing, was on the Town's Drainage Board from its creation until his passing, and that he ran for Mayor when the Town was formed. The ceremony will be on February 24th at 9:00 AM at the southeast corner of Hancock Road and Luray Road. He also spoke about the Town of Davie's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training. He said the most recent course started earlier in the week on Tuesday and many residents from the Town, students from Archbishop McCarthy, and Town employees Angelica Arosemena and Jennifer McCarty were enrolled. He thanked the Aster Knight Foundation for the work they did on the Carnival and said he went twice and that it was a lot of fun. He recognized Town resident Bob Parker and wished him a happy birthday for his upcoming 90th birthday on February 5th. He said he liked the idea of publishing the statistics of the traffic citations in the Town Newsletter and that it would show the residents the great job the Town of Davie Police Department was doing. He addressed the complaint made during Public Comments of the garbage and recycling not being picked up and stated the first step is to report it to WM so the matter could be fixed by the vendor. He said that if the matter is not resolved after that, then bring it to the attention of the Town Council and they will handle it.

Council Member Allbritton responded to the issues of the canal between 164<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue needing to be cleaned and about potholes throughout the Town. He spoke about the placement of the speed signs and wanted to bring the matter before the Public Safety and Traffic Committee, if the reinstatement is approved, to help determine the locations to place the signs. He talked about attending the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new City of Sunrise City Hall. He said it was a great event with residents of the City coming to show their support. He said he was looking forward to the building of the new Town EOC building and residents taking part in the opening ceremony. He discussed that he and Council Member Hartmann will be attending their last class for the Broward County Water and Climate Academy. He said it was an enlightening experience learning about the problems the County faces with saltwater intrusion and how they are addressing the issue. Lastly, he announced that he opened his campaign account for his reelection campaign and was looking forward to serving the Town another four years if re-elected in November.

Vice Mayor Kuczenski discussed the speed sign placements and stated he decided to make it an issue for the Sunshine Ranches HOA. He said they would be voting on the locations at their next meeting on January 31st. He provided the latest traffic citation statistics he received from the Town of Davie Police Department. He spoke about the Town of Davie Police Department Catalytic Converter Etching Event occurring on February 17th, by appointment only at the Town of Davie garage at 6915 Orange Drive. He discussed the Rural Arts and Design Board and its upcoming events. He stated the Board is already planning the next photo contest for the Town calendar and looking into creating a Halloween Decorating Contest similar to the December Holiday Lights Contest. He addressed the incinerator issue and informed residents that the Town is against the incinerator and the issue will be decided on by the Broward County Solid Waste Authority. He said the Town is working diligently to stop the incinerator and encouraged residents to attend the Zero Waste Broward Task Force meeting on February 14th.

Mayor Breitkreuz discussed the Town and its efforts to stop the incinerator and move toward sustainable and eco-friendly options for waste. He stated he was proud of the Town Council, Town Administration, and Town residents, for the work they have done so far and the education they have provided to others on the issue. He also addressed the resident complaint about garbage and recycling pick up. He said WM has been an outstanding provider to the Town and has received very few complaints over the last 15 months. He thanked Rose Allbritton for bringing the topic of the four additional pages to be added to the Town Newsletter before Town Council. He asked for a consensus from the Town Council about adding the four pages and all agreed it was a good idea. He asked Town Administrator Muñiz to provide information regarding the costs associated with adding those pages as part of the Administrator Report at the next meeting. He discussed the construction of the Public Safety building and the urgency that is needed to complete the process of getting it built. He provided an update on the recreation programs being developed for the Town's younger and older residents. He said there are a lot of steps to the process, but the programs should be available in the Fall and will be great for the community. He discussed a "Resident Academy" which would help residents learn more about the Town. He explained it would be developed to help educate residents about the Town's history, Ordinances of the Town, departments of the Town, Advisory Boards, HOAs, the Volunteer Fire Department, and other services provided by the Town. He said he would like to have the "Academy" begin in the Fall. He announced he would be running for Mayor again in November and that he was honored to be able to lead the Town and work with such a community. He said he was looking forward to the opportunity to possibly serve the Town again.

#### 9. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Keith Poliakoff offered his thoughts and prayers to the Amundson and Matel families. He discussed that it was his family's 43<sup>rd</sup> year of living in the Town and the importance of preserving the rural lifestyle. He advised Council about the leadership programs that Broward County and other municipalities offer their residences to learn about their community as a point of reference for Mayor Breitkreuz's "Resident Academy". On behalf of Town Administration, he asked that when the Town Council requests items to be added to Advisory Board Meetings, the Town Council make the formal request at Town Council meetings, receive a consensus for the

item to be added and then direct the Board, rather than making the request directly of the Board. Council Member Jablonski interjected the request may be a result of his action requesting the Drainage Board to work with Code Enforcement on developing a grid system to inspect the Town for violations of the "Dark Skies" ordinance. He then asked the Town Council for a consensus to have the Drainage and Infrastructure Board develop a grid system for Code Enforcement to inspect for darks skies violations. The Town Council discussed the issue and instructed Code Enforcement Director Medina to work with the Drainage and Infrastructure Board on creating a grid system to police the dark skies ordinance. They also decided to ask the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board to review the dark skies ordinance for any areas that may not be enforceable. He spoke about the mural at Founders Park and the creation of the park. He reminded everyone that the Town has an easement in the CVS parking lot for people to use when visiting the park. He thanked George Morris and the Aster Knight Foundation members for their work on the Carnival. He thanked Debbie Green and Richard Ramcharitar for all the work they have done to inform the community about the incinerator and addressed that this has been the number one topic for the Town over the last several months. He also provided an update on the Special Magistrate procurement process. He stated that there were no responses to the bid, so the Town is going to compile a list of qualified persons and approach them as sole providers for the purpose of hiring them. He also advised the Town Council that because of the recent changes and additional pages to the Town Newsletter, the newly estimated cost of publishing would exceed the procurement threshold and a bid would be required to produce the books. He said the Town Administration would go through the procurement process and then bring the cost analysis back to Council.

#### 10. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Muñiz expressed his condolences to the Amundson family. He spoke about the Town of Davie's Civilian Police Academy starting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. He discussed the Sikh Unity in Diversity 5k and informed the Town Council that the section of the road at the Rolling Oaks Park being used for the race has a lot of "alligator cracking". He said he would like to improve the area before the race and advised the Town Council that the Town received a quote for approximately \$23,000 for an asphalt overlay in that area. He stated the Town has money allocated in the budget for the purpose of asphalt overlay in the Town. He asked permission from the Town Council to proceed with the work to have the area repaired. Vice Mayor Kuczenski asked for a copy of the proposal so he could review it and Mayor Breitkreuz asked for the proposal to include the entire parking lot. He advised the Town Council he would have a proposal completed for the entire area and would provide the information to them for review.

# Ordinance - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

11. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE ("ULDC")," ARTICLE 35, "CONDITIONAL USES," SECTION 035-080, "INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY IN RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS," TO AMEND THE LIST OF EXEMPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AMENDED PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. {Tabled from January 11, 2024}

The following motion was made by Council Member Hartmann, seconded by Council Member Allbritton, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING AS AMENDED BY CHANGING THE LANGUAGE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY TO 1:00AM TO 9:00AM FOR NO NOISE AND CHANGING 3 BUSINESS DAYS TO 5 BUSINESS DAYS FOR APPLICATION REVIEW.

#### Resolutions

**12.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH C DANNER, LLC FOR POLICE CIVILIAN COORDINATOR SERVICES; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 TOWN BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, seconded by Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED BY CHANGING THE LANGUAGE OF AN INCREASE OF 4%, TO AN INCREASE OF UP TO 4% BASED ON PERFORMANCE.

**13.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, CONSENTING TO THE CITY OF SUNRISE PROVIDING WATER SERVICE TO 5556 HANCOCK ROAD, REAL PROPERTY LYING WITHIN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA; PROVIDING THAT NO FURTHER EXPANSION OF SERVICE SHALL BE PERMITTED WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE TOWN; PROVIDING FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO BE FURNISHED TO THE CITY OF SUNRISE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following motion was made by Vice Mayor Kuczenski, seconded by Council Member Hartmann, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

#### MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

**14.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, CONSENTING TO THE CITY OF SUNRISE PROVIDING WATER SERVICE TO 14100

STIRLING ROAD, REAL PROPERTY LYING WITHIN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA; PROVIDING THAT NO FURTHER EXPANSION OF SERVICE SHALL BE PERMITTED WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE TOWN; PROVIDING FOR A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO BE FURNISHED TO THE CITY OF SUNRISE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following motion was made by Vice Mayor Kuczenski, seconded by Council Member Hartmann, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

#### MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

**15.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, CREATING THE "ZERO WASTE ADVISORY BOARD", FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVISING THE TOWN COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY CONCERNS AND ISSUES AS IT PERTAINS TO THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELL-BEING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE TOWN'S RESIDENTS; PROVIDING FOR THE BOARD'S GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following motion was made by Vice Mayor Kuczenski, seconded by Council Member Hartmann, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

#### MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

**16.** A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, REINSTATING THE "PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE" FOR A SIX-MONTH PERIOD, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVISING THE TOWN COUNCIL OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES; PROVIDING FOR THE BOARD'S GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The following motion was made by Council Member Allbritton, seconded by Council Member Hartmann, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Kuczenski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes.

#### MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

#### **Discussion**

# 17. Annual Review of Charter Officials (Tabled from December 14, 2024)

Mayor Breitkreuz stated the Annual Review of Charter Officials was completed at the January 11, 2024 Town Council Special Meeting. Town Administrator Muñiz advised that because the item was

tabled to this meeting, legally it needed to appear on the agenda and no further action was needed on the item.

### **18.** Park Policy Discussion

Town Administrator Muñiz explained to the Town Council there was a request from Doug McKay to make an exception to the Town policy prohibiting balloons as part of park reservations. He stated he researched the issue but could not find anything authorizing him to allow an exception and therefore the matter was brought before Council. He said the options for the Town Council were a) keep the policy as it is and leave balloons as a prohibited item b) amend the policy to allow for ballons Town wide or c) allow for an exception in this specific instance. Town Attorney Poliakoff advised Town Council that it was never appropriate to change a policy of a municipality for one individual or for one event. He recommended the Town Council to choose either the option of keeping balloons prohibited in the parks or choose to make a one-time exception but with conditions, such as additional deposit or extra clean-up requirements. Former Mayor Doug McKay addressed the Town Council stating that he was renting the Barn for an event and was aware that ballons were not allowed to be affixed to the walls at the Barn but did not realize balloons were not allowed at all. He said the balloons he wants to use at the party are part of their own standalone structure and are not free floating and would not be placed on anything in the Barn. He said the party planners provide the decorations and will clean them up before leaving. He stated he was not asking for a policy change but just an exception for this instance. Mayor Breitkreuz stated he understood the reason for the policy and said that reason is sound but felt that if someone was willing to come before the Town Council and ask for an exception would understand the importance of the rules and would be more responsible in following them. He said he would not be open to changing the policy itself but was open to making the exception. Council Member Jablonski agreed that an exception should be considered but with the stipulation that no helium ballons be allowed. Council Member Hartmann spoke about attending many events over the years at the Barn and half of them had balloons as decorations. He said it doesn't seem that the Town enforces the policy and did not agree with enforcing it now on a person asking for an exception. He suggested maybe making a policy change in the future for Town Administrator Muniz to make the determination on these cases, but the Town Council was against the idea. The Town Council discussed the issues of the trash left behind with both helium and non-helium balloons and possibly requiring an extra deposit. Mayor Breitkreuz asked PROS Manager Lauretano-Haines to the podium for her recommendation on the matter. PROS Manager Lauretano-Haines recommended not allowing the exception, her reason being the environmental impact of balloons. Public comment was opened with some residents speaking for allowing the exception and some residents against allowing the exception. After public comment the Town Council debated the issue of the impact of balloons on the environment and the Town's zero waste initiative. Vice Mayor Kuczenski stated he did agree with granting an exception because of the risk to wildlife once the balloons end up in the landfill.

The following motion was made by Vice Mayor Kuczenski but failed for lack of second.

# MOTION: TO STICK WITH PARK POLICY AND NOT MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO ALLOW BALLOONS IN ROLLING OAKS BARN.

Town Council further spoke on the issue of the impact of balloons and wildlife and the importance of disposing of trash properly. They also spoke about recognizing that the individual resident came before them to ask for an exception to the rule instead of doing it without anyone knowing about it. They also discussed the need to ensure everyone making reservations is aware of the rules and policies for rentals in the Town.

At this point in the meeting Council Member Jablonski stated the time was 11:00 PM, and a unanimous vote of yes would be needed to continue the Town Council meeting past 11:00 PM.

The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski and seconded by Council Member Hartmann. No vote was taken.

#### MOTION: TO EXTEND THE COUNCIL MEETING BY 15 MINUTES.

Before a vote was taken, Vice Mayor Kuczenski stated he would not vote for an extension of the meeting.

Town Attorney Poliakoff informed Mayor Breitkreuz under the Charter Rules, the current Agenda Item would be finished, and the meeting would be adjourned after that. He stated that the Approval of Minutes Item would be moved to the next meeting.

The following motion was made by Council Member Allbritton, seconded by Council Member Jablonski, and passed by a 4-1 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Hartmann, Jablonski, and Mayor Breitkreuz voting yes, and Vice Mayor Kuczenski voting no.

MOTION: TO APPROVE A ONE TIME EXCEPTION TO ALLOW BALLOONS AT ROLLING OAKS BARN AND TO PROVIDE MORE EDUCATION ON RULES AND POLICIES WHEN MAKING PARK RESERVATIONS.

[Signatures on Next Page]

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 11:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 22nd day of February, 2024.

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.