

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

October 12, 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 Bob Hartmann

Emil C. Lopez, Town Financial Administrator

Council Member Gary Jablonski

Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

Council Member David S. Kuczenski

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. A moment of silence was observed for the loss of Council Member Kuczenski's mother as well as the tragedy that occurred in Israel.

Mayor Breitkreuz welcomed Broward County Property Appraiser Marty Kiar to the podium and congratulated him on becoming the President of the Florida Property Appraiser's Association.

3. Presentation – Marty Kiar, Broward County Property Appraiser

Broward County Property Appraiser Marty Kiar spoke a little about what his objectives are as the new president of the Florida Property Appraiser's Association. He praised the Town and its staff for all the word work they do, then congratulated Andy on his retirement, congratulated Russell on his promotion and stated what a great job Town Attorney Poliakoff does for the Town and its residents. He spoke about the functions of Property Appraiser's Office and all the resources available to the residents of Broward County.

4. Proclamation – Zero Waste Month – October 2023

The Town presented a proclamation on behalf of Zero Waste Month.

5. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Bill Byrd, Ed Flores, Rick Cormier, Michael Cardenas, David Rivera, Gay Chaples, Jim Laskey, John Garate, and Newell Hollingsworth.

6. Board Reports

Debbie Green shared an update of the Zero Waste Task Force, provided flyers and advised the public how to get involved. George Morris, chair of the Drainage and Infrastructure Advisory Board provided updates from the September 19th advisory board meeting. He then spoke on behalf of the Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation and provided information on the upcoming events, such as the Southwest Ranches Country Fair as well as the Chili Cookoff. He spoke about a conversation he had with Mayor Breitkreuz regarding the invasive trees that are invading the landscape buffer at the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary and are taking over the growth of the native trees. He mentioned maybe the Town could put out a bid to clear out the invasive growth. He would like the park to be seen from Griffin Road by its residents.

7. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski spoke about the upcoming events happening in the Town such as the Rolling Oaks Civic Association Halloween at the Barn, the 6th Annual Holiday Lights Contest and the DMV Flow Mobile. He then addressed a resident and asked him to provide him his phone number so they can speak during the week regarding his issue.

Council Member Kuczenski provided the latest traffic citation statistics he received from the Davie Police Department. He advised the residents to let their landscapers know to lock their trucks as there has been property stolen from the trucks. He spoke about the Schott Center 5K that occurred the previous weekend and advised there had been a request for future 5K's to provide access for property owners so they aren't blocked in during the run. He spoke about the Zero Waste Task Force and how to get the word out to more people. He suggested possibly creating a Tik Tok video as it is a widely popular platform at the moment. He also inquired about having the Town create a composting area as it ties in to the Zero Waste initiative. He spoke about the violence in Israel by Hamas and directed the Deputy Town Clerk to read his resolution into the record. Mayor Breitkreuz asked if the resolution can be read as the new Item 10 of the agenda to which Council Member Kuczenski and the rest of the Town Council agreed.

Council Member Hartmann spoke about the Zero Waste Task Force meeting and the discussion was mainly about talking to their neighbors. He advised that education is the key and advised that a flyer was available on the back desk of Council Chambers which has information on the proposed incinerator as well as contact information for the task force. He then advised the next Zero Waste Task Force meeting would be November 8, 2023.

Vice Mayor Allbritton advised he heard a lot of things during public comment that he wasn't aware of and like Council Member Jablonski, he will research the issues mentioned and find out what is going on. He then thanked the Town residents as well as the residents from the surrounding municipalities for coming out to the Zero Waste Task Force meetings to help fight the proposed Waste to Energy Plant. He spoke about Broward County's elaborate plan for resiliency for climate change. Broward County leads the state in their commitment to climate change and they have received close to \$220 million dollars in grants to fight sea level rise when the heavy rains bring flooding to the area as well as saltwater intrusion. He spoke about the Town's Stormwater Master Plan and what a great team the Town has in securing Federal, State and local grants to assist with Town projects. Lastly, Vice Mayor Allbritton advised if a resident would like a mobile speed sign placed in a certain location, to give him a call and he will have it placed.

Mayor Breitkreuz thanked the public for attending the Town Council Meeting and bringing their concerns to the Town. He then welcomed former Mayor Doug McKay to the meeting. Mayor Breitkreuz stated he would also like to speak with the resident in response to his comments during public comment. He stated he wanted to set the record straight, as there were some misconceptions that were spoken about and get to the bottom of the issue so it can be addressed. He doesn't like to see the division between agricultural and residential property uses. He stated the Town needs both and wants to see them work together because they all bring something to the table. He addressed the Noise Ordinance which hasn't been amended in four or five years. He also wanted to advise the public that no policy has been changed regarding proactive Code

Enforcement. He again stressed that he would like to get together with the residents and discuss the issues that are occurring. Lastly, he mentioned the discussion that was held between himself and George Morris regarding the invasive landscape out at the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary. He thanked Town Attorney Poliakoff for his relief efforts to the victims of the crisis in Israel and then he asked Town Attorney for an update on future Town Administrator Muñiz's contract as he would like it wrapped up in November.

8. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff met with Town Council individually regarding future Town Administrator Muñiz's contract to see where they are at regarding salary and other contract items. Future Town Administrator Muñiz sent Town Attorney Poliakoff Town Administrator Berns' contract along with his thoughts and he will have it for the November Town Council Meeting. Town Attorney Poliakoff expressed his condolences to Council Member Kuczenski for the loss of his mother and he also expressed his condolences to City of Hollywood Mayor Josh Levy for the loss of his family members during the terrorist attack on Israel. He then spoke about assisting numerous families in getting their family members home from Israel with the help of El Al Airlines and other individuals.

9. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Berns spoke about Council Member Kuczenski's comments on composting. He advised a member of the public who had provided some information and the Town is in the process of setting up a staff level meeting to explore its viability. He also spoke about the comments made regarding the Schott Center 5K walk and the resident that was unfortunately inconvenienced. He wanted it known that a note has been made to address the issue with Davie Police Department for the next Schott Center 5K.

At this time, Mayor Breitkreutz requested to hear Council Member Kuczenski's walk on resolution, which was added as item number 10 and remaining items renumbered after.

Walk on Resolution

10. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AMIDST THEIR ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM, DENOUNCING THE BRUTAL AND UNPROVOKED ACTIONS OF THE MILITANT GROUP HAMAS, AND URGING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS ALLIES TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE ACTION TO DENOUNCE AND CONDEMN THESE TERRORIST ACTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Ordinances – 1st Reading

11. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE INSTALLATION OF WATER AND SEWER LINES WITHIN THE TOWN'S RIGHTS OF WAY; REQUIRING UTILITY PROVIDERS TO SEEK TOWN CONSENT BEFORE WORKING IN THE TOWN'S RIGHT OF WAY; REQUIRING UTILITY PROVIDERS TO ABIDE BY THE TOWN'S CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PRIOR TO INITIATING ANY WORK; ESTABLISHING BASELINE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL; REQUIRING A PROPERTY OWNER TO OBTAIN A PERMIT FROM THE TOWN IF THEY ARE BRINGING WATER AND/OR SEWER TO THEIR PROPERTY; REQUIRING A PROPERTY OWNER TO SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGE AS PART OF THE PERMIT THAT THE PUBLIC UTILITY CANNOT BE ACTIVATED UNLESS THE TOWN'S PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED AND FINALED; REQUIRING ANY CONTRACTOR TO CERTIFY THAT THE PUBLIC UTILITY CANNOT BE ACTIVATED UNTIL THE TOWN'S PERMIT HAS BEEN APPROVED AND FINALED; ENABLING PROPERTY OWNERS TO RECUPERATE THEIR INVESTMENT FOR THE EXTENSION OF WATER AND/OR SEWER LINES; PROVIDING FOR PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION IN THE TOWN'S CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. **{Second Reading to be held on October 26, 2023}**

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING.

Resolutions

12. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A POLICY AND RATE SCHEDULE OF REASONABLE FEES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF VACATION RENTALS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 45 SECTION 045-030 OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES' UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

13. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN INCREASE TO PURCHASE ORDER 23-026 TO CAP GOVERNMENT, INC IN THE AMOUNT OF SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTEEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$67,813.50) FOR ENGINEERING AND CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER (CFM) SERVICES; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 TOWN BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY, TO EXECUTE THE PURCHASE ORDER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

14. Approval of Minutes

- a. August 15, 2023 Budget Workshop Minutes**
- b. August 24, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes**
- c. August 24, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

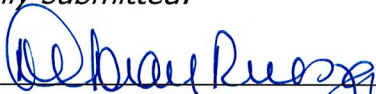
The following motion was made by Council Member Hartmann and seconded by Council Member Jablonski and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. The vote as follows: Council Members Hartmann, Jablonski, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Allbritton, and Mayor Breitreuz voting Yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 15, 2023 BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES, THE AUGUST 24, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES AND THE AUGUST 24, 2023 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

15. Adjournment


Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 8th day of February, 2024.



Steve Breitreuz, 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.