

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

March 28, 2024

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Steve Breitzkreuz
Vice Mayor David S. Kuczenski
Council Member Jim Allbritton
Council Member Bob Hartmann
Council Member Gary Jablonski

Russell Muñiz, Town Administrator
Dan Stewart, Deputy 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 Breitzkreuz at 7:07 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Quasi-Judicial Hearing

3. Resolution Approving Haydee Grove Plat

A RESOLUTION AND FINAL ORDER OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING APPLICATION NO. PL-62-23, HAYDEE GROVE PLAT, COMPRISING FOUR SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING LOTS ON 9.05 ACRES; GENERALLY LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF LURAY ROAD AND THE EAST SIDE OF APPALOOSA TRAIL; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION WITH THE CONDITIONS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF WITH THE ADDED STIPULATION THE HORSE TRAIL BE MAINTAINED BY THE PROPERTY OWNER.

4. Presentation – Legislative Update – Representative Robin Bartleman

Representative Robin Bartleman provided a Legislative Update to the Town Council.

Council Member Jablonski recognized Town Resident Savannah Hodgers and asked that she be allowed to make a brief presentation to Town Council.

Ms. Hodgers discussed the danger of accidental drowning in the State of Florida and proposed placing lifesaving flotation devices at the Town's retention ponds. She stated she is currently working with the Aden Perry Foundation and Florida Gulf Coast University to place life rings around bodies of water on the college campus and would like to do the same here around the Town. She provided background information on Aden Perry and the purpose and goals of the foundation

created in his honor. Town Administrator Muñiz stated that he had spoken to Ms. Perry in the past regarding the Aden Perry Foundation and would love to work with Ms. Hodgers on the project.

5. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023

Town Financial Administrator Lopez provided a brief explanation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and thanked the Mayor and Council Members for their support. He also thanked Town Administrator Muñiz for his assistance and thanked Town Controller Richard Strum and Town Accountant Arianna Durbeej for their hard work and dedication. He introduced representatives from Keefe McCollough, the Town's auditing firm, to present their report to the Town Council.

The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, seconded by Mayor Breitkreuz, 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 MOVE PUBLIC COMMENT TO THE END OF THE MEETING AFTER ITEM 12

7. Board Reports

Richard Ramcharitar spoke on behalf of the Zero Waste Broward Task Force. He said the Task Force has been working on an outreach program and discussed the involvement of a newly formed student committee with the Task Force. He announced the Task Force has a new Executive Director, Todd Storti, and spoke about his qualifications and experience. He talked about the upcoming training classes members of the Task Force will be attending and described various coalitions in the Miami area that are involved with the zero-waste initiative. He also discussed the Task Force's Facebook page.

Debbie Green spoke on behalf of the Zero Waste Broward Task Force. She discussed the youth committee that was created as part of the Task Force and their involvement with the initiative. She also talked about the Task Force's new Executive Director, Todd Storti, and his credentials.

George Morris spoke on behalf of the Aster Knight Parks Foundation and discussed the idea of having the Country Fair Carnival and the Car Show at the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary. He stated the Board was concerned the upcoming projects of stabilization and restroom facilities would not be completed in time and asked the Town Council or Town Administrator Muñiz to provide an update on the project.

8. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski spoke about upcoming events within the Town such as the Broward County Property Appraiser Outreach Program at Town Hall on April 2nd, Hazmat at the Barn on April 27th, and Bingo at the Barn on May 11th. He stated the FLOW DMV events for April and May are cancelled and would provide an update on future dates when more information is available.

Council Member Hartmann discussed his upcoming article in the Town Newsletter regarding the Clusia plant and the dangers it presents to animals. He asked everyone to read the article and to research the Clusia plant before planting it on their property.

Vice Mayor Kuczenski discussed the "Dark Skies" ordinance and having the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board review it. He stated that after review by the Board and some minor changes, there should be no issues enforcing the ordinance. He talked about designating the rights-of-way along Mustang Trail and Luray Road as part of the Horse Trail Map and how that would keep the equestrians of the Town safe along those streets. He spoke about requesting Town Administration to have a recycle dumpster placed at the Farmer's Market and said there would be a dumpster and bins at the next Farmer's Market.

Council Member Allbritton spoke about the Broward League of Cities and the issue of the incinerator. He said the League does discuss the issue of the incinerator and that he speaks to members about the initiatives the Town has started to stop the incinerator and to move towards zero waste. He talked about the purpose of the Town's Zero Waste Advisory Board was to move the Town towards "reusing, recycling, and refurbishing" through education and initiatives. He discussed attending an online meeting regarding "reusing, recycling, and refurbishing". He spoke about the class that members of the Zero Waste Advisory Board are attending and the class project they were working on that can be used to help the Town move towards zero-waste.

Mayor Breitreuz discussed the issue of the incinerator and how the members of the Town have accomplished so much in a short time frame. He said that six to eight months ago it seemed like there would be no way to deter the issue but through hard work, members of the community have started mobilizing and educating people on alternatives to incineration. He said this has made a difference to the Executive Committee responsible for deciding on the incinerator as the members have become more open minded to alternatives and are deprioritizing incineration. He discussed the Open Play Chess Event occurring on March 30th at Town Hall. He stated this would be a fun and exciting event and said this was the "kick off" to the recreational programs planned for the Fall. He spoke about the recreational programs planned and how the events would build a sense of community for the Town. He read a letter from Pat Diaz, Chairman of the St. Marks Carnival, to Fire Chief Lee Bennett describing how Southwest Ranches Volunteer Firefighters Lieutenant Romeu and Paramedic Vollman performed CPR and used an AED to save the life of a carnival vendor. Mayor Breitreuz commended the firefighters and said the Town was blessed and fortunate to have them as members of the Town.

9. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff discussed the lawsuit involving the Town and Sky One Real Estate, LLC. He stated the business is still operating even after the Appellate Court ruled they could no longer conduct a landscape business from a landscape nursery as the Town Code states. He said the only way to enforce the Final Order of the Court was to sue Sky One Real Estate, LLC. and asked the Town Council to approve the lawsuit to enforce the order.

The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, 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 AUTHORIZE THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO FILE A LAWSUIT AGAINST SKY ONE REAL ESTATE, LLC. TO ENFORCE THE COURT ORDER.

10. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Muñiz discussed the Open Play Chess Event happening on March 30th at Town Hall. He provided an update to the Town Council regarding the acquisition of property for the future fire station. He stated that the Town made offers for the two parcels that have been discussed and the offers were initially rejected. He said the Town is also considering using a secondary parcel that is owned by the Town as an alternative. He stated the Town was going to weigh the benefits of the properties and make a recommendation to the Town Council. He briefed the Town Council on the status of the restroom facility at the Southwest Meadows Preserve. He said the architect has provided drawings that were permit ready, but the cost estimate of the project was higher than expected. He said the Town and architect have met to finalize the costs and plan on modifying the project into two phases, the first phase being the building and the second phase to include stabilized parking and possibly a road to Dykes Road. He informed the Town Council that there would be a presentation at the next meeting to show renderings of the project and to provide more information to the Town Council on the project. He spoke about the Letters of Interest for the Special Magistrate position and said that at the end of the opening period, April 8th, the responses would be evaluated, and a recommendation would be made to the Town Council on the matter. He advised the Town Council that the agreements for the sports programs would be items on the next Town Council Meeting. Lastly, he revised a statement made by Representative Bartleman during her legislative update, and said it was the SW 163rd project the Town received full funding, not the 183rd project.

Resolutions

11. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER TO ABSOLUTE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$45,000.00) TO MILL AND RESURFACE SW 54TH PLACE EAST OF DYKES ROAD AS PART OF THE SW 54TH PLACE FROM DYKES ROAD TO THE IVANHOE CANAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 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 Allbritton, 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.

12. Approval of Minutes

- a. March 14, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, 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 Breitzkreuz voting yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MARCH 14, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

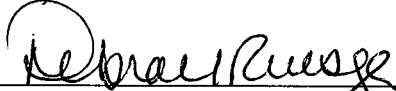
6. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Laura Vetter, Mary Michel, Dee Schroder, Maryanne Allen, Debbie Green, and John Steven Garate.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Debra M. Ruesga, CMC, Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 25th day of April, 2024.



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.