

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

September 24, 2020

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Doug McKay

Andrew Berns, Town Administrator

Vice Mayor Denise Schroeder

Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Council Member Delsa Amundson

Martin D. Sherwood, Town Financial Administrator

Council Member Bob Hartmann

Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

Council Member Gary Jablonski

Regular Meeting of the Town Council of Southwest Ranches was held virtually via the ZOOM Meeting Platform. The meeting, having been properly noticed, was called to order by Mayor McKay at 7:04 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Jim Allbritton, David Kuczenski, Steve Breitzkreuz, and Mary Gay Chaples.

4. Board Reports

There were no board reports.

5. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski announced his endorsement of Jim Allbritton for the District 3 Council Member race. He voiced his concern with the allocation of the fire assessment, and expressed his desire to reconvene the Fire Assessment Methodology Committee to reevaluate the allocation. He also presented an excerpt of the Town Code pertaining to Horse trailers (Sec. 045-030) and discussed talking points he developed to help clarify questions he received for those property owners with the Agricultural classification that own horse trailers.

Council Member Hartmann wished to clarify some statements made by a candidate during the Candidate Forum regarding the Southwest Ranches Volunteer Fire Rescue Department (SWRVFR). He explained that the SWRVFR can only administer Basic Life Support (BLS) not Advanced Life Support (ALS) contrary to the claim made. He felt that residents should be assured that SWRVFR could begin treatment if they were first on scene and provide BLS, and once Davie Fire Rescue arrived ALS could be provided.

Council Member Amundson spoke about Mayor McKay and Vice Mayor Schroeder and felt that they were honest and cared about the Town. She expressed her displeasure with comments made against her by other members of the Town Council. She asked for residents to vote for her.

Vice Mayor Schroeder was pleased with the reduction in the number of people infected with COVID-19. She indicated that during her campaign residents have expressed their concern over two issues – taxes and trash pickup. She was happy to tell them that the Town's portion of the

tax bill is the lowest it has been in five years. She also asked Town Administrator Berns to demand improved service from Waste Pro. She announced that her daughter was getting married in a few weeks and thanked those who offered her well wishes. She refuted comments made by David Kuczenski earlier in the week about his supporters being intimidated by her supporters over the erection of campaign signs on their property.

Mayor McKay indicated he was shocked by the statements made during Public Comments accusing his supporters of intimidating supporters of any other candidates. He urged anyone who felt intimidated to make a police report.

6. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff offered no comments.

7. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Berns provided the Town Council an update on his plan to transition the management of the Waste Pro contract to the Public Works/Engineering Department under the direction of Rod Ley to address service delivery issues. He indicated that the Town was developing a GIS layer to help track customer services issues. He believed that setting the service level expectations and having Waste Pro meet those expectations was the key to resident satisfaction.

Resolutions

8. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING A PURCHASE ORDER TO ALL FLORIDA CONTRACTING SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$14,895.00) FOR THE TOWN HALL GENERATOR RETROFIT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

9. Discussion – "Consideration of a Resolution to publicly censure Council Member Bob Hartmann for his conduct at the September 14, 2020 Council Meeting." Submitted by Mayor Doug McKay

Mayor McKay read a prepared statement that explained his displeasure with the conduct of Council Member Hartmann at the September 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting. He believed his conduct was unbecoming someone serving in public office.

Town Attorney Poliakoff advised that he asked Attorney Gary Resnick to weigh in as he believed Council Member Hartmann did not violate any rules or laws based on his speech at that meeting. Attorney Resnick is also a municipal attorney and could provide an opinion independent of Town

Attorney Poliakoff on any question that might be asked so there would be no conflict. Attorney Resnick indicated that he performed research relative to this matter. He could find nothing in state law that would have prohibited Council Member Hartmann's comments. He advised that the Town could adopt their own rules to prohibit such comments.

Council Member Amundson suggested that some rules of decorum for Council Members should be adopted that would require Council Members to address each other with respect. Council Member Jablonski advised that he was working with Town Attorney Poliakoff on developing a policy that he wished to bring forward a policy at the October 8, 2020 meeting to establish rules for civility and decorum at Town Council and Advisory Board meetings. He felt this was the best approach instead of moving forward with a public censure.

Mayor McKay asked if both resolutions could be brought forward at the next meeting. Town Attorney Poliakoff advised that both resolutions could appear at the next meeting and the Town Council could decide on either item or both.

The following motion was made by Mayor McKay, seconded by Council Member Amundson and passed by 4-1 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Amundson, Hartmann, Vice Mayor Schroeder, Mayor McKay voting Yes and Council Member Jablonski voting No.

MOTION: TO BRING A RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY REPRIMAND AND PUBLICLY CENSURE COUNCIL MEMBER BOB HARTMANN AT THE OCTOBER 8, 2020 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING AND ALSO PUBLISH THE CENSURE IN THE TOWN NEWSLETTER AND A FULL-PAGE AD IN THE SUN-SENTINEL.

10. Approval of Minutes

a. August 13, 2020 Regular Meeting

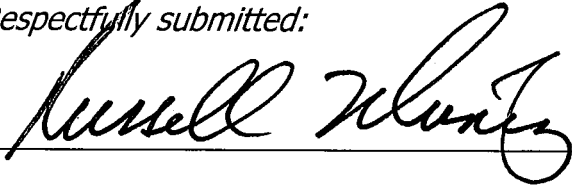
The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, seconded by, Vice Mayor Schroeder and passed by 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Amundson, Hartmann, Jablonski, Vice Mayor Schroeder, and Mayor McKay voting Yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

11. Adjournment

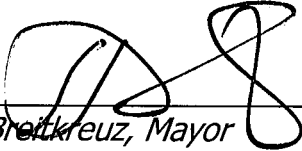
Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 28th day of January 2021.



Steve Breikreuz, 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.