

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

November 19, 2020

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Steve Breitkreuz

Andrew Berns, Town Administrator

Vice Mayor Bob Hartmann

Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Council Member Jim Allbritton

Martin D. Sherwood, Town Financial Administrator

Council Member Gary Jablonski

Keith Poliakoff, Town Attorney

Council Member David Kuczenski

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 Breitkreuz at 7:05 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Breitkreuz introduced newly elected State Representative Robin Bartleman who congratulated the newly elected Town representatives. She introduced herself to the residents and the Town Council and pledged to work hard on behalf of the Town at the State Legislature.

3. Selection of Vice Mayor

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPOINTING COUNCIL MEMBER BOB HARTMANN AS THE NEW VICE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

4. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: James Barry, and Newell Hollingsworth.

13. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AN ECONOMIC HARDSHIP GRANT FOR THOSE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY OWNERS FINANCIALLY IMPACTED BY THE MOST RECENT FIRE ASSESSMENT ON AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES; PROVIDING FOR THE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP GRANT PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Breitkreuz advised that item #13 scheduled for this meeting would be withdrawn as a better option concerning the issuance of a Certificate of Correction (CC) was suggested by the Broward County Property Appraiser's office. As it related to the CC, Mayor Breitkreuz asked Town Attorney Poliakoff to walk through the mechanics of the CC. Town Attorney Poliakoff explained

that the Town could advise the State Department of Revenue through the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office of the need to issue a Certificate of Correction to correct the fire assessment for affected property owners. Of the 21 properties in question the Town was able to inspect 19 of them. That list was further refined to determine which properties were not commercial in nature with the intent to provide the rebate. Based on the revised list, a notice of correction would be sent to the Property Appraiser's Office to then assess them at the residential rate of \$629.14. Their Fire Assessment would be corrected and they would receive a new bill from the Department of Revenue reflecting the corrected amount.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE TOWN'S LIST OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTIONS.

Mayor Breitkreuz apologized to the public for not making the list available prior to the meeting but the information was put together very quickly and could not be included in the meeting. Responding to a request from a resident he asked that the list of affected properties be announced. Town Financial Administrator Sherwood announced the list of 10 properties.

Mayor Breitkreuz acknowledged that a new study may not be done but the Town would be reexamining this issue and determine whether a new study would be needed. He advised that the Town's consultant has advised that they would work with the Town on the shortcomings and make the adjustments necessary.

5. Board Reports

George Morris, Chair of the Drainage and Infrastructure Advisory Board, advised that with the rainfall as a result of Tropical Storm Eta he drove around Town to look at the drainage projects around Town to see if they were operating as designed. He was happy to see the drainage projects did appear to be functioning as designed but due to the amount of rainfall several streets did flood.

Christina Brownlow, Secretary of the Schools Education Advisory Board gave an update on fundraising initiatives. She thanked the Town Council for their continued support.

6. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski congratulated Vice Mayor Hartmann on his appointment. He also congratulated Mayor Breitkreuz, Council Member Allbritton, and Council Member Kuczenski on their election victories. He thanked former Mayor Doug McKay and Council Members Delsa Amundson and Dee Schroeder. He also wanted to correct his comments from the last meeting concerning the LPR camera project in Rolling Oaks. He inadvertently referred to I-95 but he intended to say I-75. He also spoke about the mosquito problem as a result of the rainfall from Tropical Storm ETA and informed the residents that the Town was in constant communication with Broward County Mosquito Control Division about the need for additional spraying. He urged residents to call them and provided the phone number. He spoke about the amount of flooding

due to Tropical Storm ETA and was thankful for the efforts to secure funding and install guardrails. He believed if not for the Town's efforts several cars would have ended up in the canal. Lastly, he spoke about the Holiday Lights contest and indicated that the entry forms were on the Town website and needed to be completed and submitted by December 7, 2020.

Vice Mayor Hartmann congratulated the newest members of the Town Council. He also congratulated State Representative Robin Bartleman and Fred Segal of the Broward Soil and Water Conservation Board on their recent election victories. He also recognized Senior Procurement Officer Venessa Redman on her recent scholarship award from the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP). He suggested that the Town begin a strategic plan initiative. He felt that having Town Council retreat to kick off this initiative would be a good idea. He outlined some steps that the Town could follow to complete this process. Mayor Breitkreuz was a firm supporter of the strategic planning process and indicated his support. He felt that the best starting point would be a resident survey. Council Member Jablonski indicated his support for this initiative as well. He felt that the proposed timeline might be too aggressive and June might be more realistic.

Vice Mayor Hartmann continued his comments and discussed the flooding he encountered while he drove around after Tropical Storm Eta. He advised that he received many calls from Town residents asking the Town to pump water. He advised them that the Town does not operate any pumps but conveys water to the South Broward Drainage District and to the South Florida Water Management District. Those districts have pumps that can be operated to help water drain. Regarding mosquitos he echoed comments made by Council Member Jablonski and urged residents to contact the Broward County Mosquito Control District. He urged residents to be aware that horse slaughtering appeared to have occurred again in the Redlands and was concerned about it occurring in Town. He also spoke about the Town's appointments to the Broward League of Cities and the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). He advised that the League of Cities action agenda makes annexation one of their top priorities.

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

MOTION: TO APPOINT VICE MAYOR HARTMANN TO THE BROWARD METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.

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

MOTION: TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER ALLBRITTON TO THE BROWARD LEAGUE OF CITIES.

Lastly, Vice Mayor Hartmann addressed advisory boards. He felt the advisory boards were an integral part of the Town and urged residents who might be interested to consider serving on an advisory board and complete advisory board application for Town Council consideration.

Council Member Allbritton thanked all of his supporters for his recent election.

Council Member Kuczenski thanked all of his supporters for their efforts. Regarding advisory boards, he indicated that he had been contacted by several residents and indicated that there would be new members appointed to the boards. He wanted to explore the feasibility of putting all Town meetings on one page of the website. He further indicated that he had resigned as President of the Sunshine Ranches HOA (SRHOA) and indicated that Chris Brownlow would be the new President. He indicated that the SRHOA had voted to donate \$1,000 to the Town's College Scholarship fund. Additionally, the SRHOA voted to maintain two entranceway signs. Lastly, he spoke of the plaque that had been created to honor Town founders in Sunshine Ranches and indicated it had been prohibited by a previous Town Council and wished that it be allowed to be installed on Hancock and Griffin Road.

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

MOTION: TO ALLOW THE SUNSHINE RANCHES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION TO ERECT PLAQUES COMMEMORATING TOWN FOUNDERS FROM THE SUNSHINE RANCHES NEIGHBORHOOD ON HANCOCK ROAD AND GRIFFIN AND STIRLING ROAD WEST OF FLAMINGO ROAD.

Lastly, Council Member Kuczenski discussed the flooding at Hancock and Luray Road. He wondered if the Drainage Board could look at the flooding in his area.

Mayor Breitreuz thanked the Town residents for their confidence in him. He congratulated the other members of the Town Council that were recently elected. He thanked the previous Town Council for their service. He reiterated his commitment to the Rural Lifestyle and felt that all things to be considered would be judged against that ideal. He spoke of what the Rural Lifestyle means to him. He felt that every new home should have the ability to house a barn. He felt the Dark Sky ordinance needed to be adhered to, and open spaces needed to be preserved. He felt that individual property rights needed to be protected. He also spoke about accountability and how it is the responsibility of the Town Council to hold the Town staff and the Town Attorney accountable to the residents. Similarly, he expressed that the residents needed to hold the Town Council accountable. Lastly, he spoke about a COVID-19 mortgage assistance program that is intended to assist individual homeowners that have been financially affected by COVID-19. He advised that the program had an application deadline of November 27, 2020 and urged those in need to apply promptly.

7. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff congratulated the newly elected Town Council members. He was excited to see the direction of the new Town Council and looked forward to working with them. Adding onto comments made by Council Member Kuczenski regarding the flooding concerns along Luray, he indicated that several residents have begun to plant in the swale area, and believed this may be causing some of the water to flood onto Luray. He felt that the Town Council should look to this as possible area of proactive code enforcement at the Strategic Planning session. He congratulated Representative Robin Bartleman on her recent election.

8. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Berns also congratulated the new Town Council members and Vice Mayor Hartmann on his appointment. He congratulated Representative Robin Bartleman on her recent election and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Lastly, he spoke about the Business Assistance program within the CARES Act and advised that business owners could get further information through the County website.

Ordinances – First Reading

9. AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FIVE-YEAR SCHEDULE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025 PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 163, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE ORDINANCE.

Resolutions

10. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH R & D ELECTRIC, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$133,500.00) TO PURCHASE AND TO INSTALL A GENERATOR AT THE SOUTHWEST RANCHES FIRE STATION; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

11. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, CONSENTING TO THE CITY OF COOPER CITY PROVIDING WATER SERVICES TO 5950 ASAD COURT, 13590 STIRLING ROAD, 5850 ASAD DRIVE, AND 5900 ASAD WAY, FOUR SINGLE

FAMILY HOMES 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 COOPER CITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

12. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA APPROVING A NEWLY REVISED FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN BROWARD COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES PROVIDING FOR COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY INTRANET; REPEALING AND REPLACING THE INITIAL FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL ON MARCH 12, 2020 PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION R-2020-030 ADOPTED ON MARCH 12, 2020; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

13. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR AN ECONOMIC HARDSHIP GRANT FOR THOSE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY OWNERS FINANCIALLY IMPACTED BY THE MOST RECENT FIRE ASSESSMENT ON AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURES; PROVIDING FOR THE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP GRANT PROCESS; PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This item was withdrawn earlier in the meeting.

14. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING A YEAR END BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION.

Discussion

15. Significant Rainfall Planning and Response - Mayor Breitkreuz

Mayor Breitkreuz felt that the rainfall and flooding that resulted from Tropical Storm Eta required some discussion of the drainage system. He felt the drainage system operated well overall given the volume of the rain experienced in such a short period of time. However, he felt that the Town response could be better related to alternatives for animals being placed on higher ground. He also felt the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary property could be used since it had recently been elevated. He asked Public Works Director/Town Engineer Rod Ley to provide some feedback on what he experienced.

Public Works Director/Town Engineer Ley provided data on rainfall accumulation for the event to provide perspective and reported that 15 to 18.4 inches of rain were reported in a 48-hour period depending upon location of the Town. He indicated that this amount of rain exceeded the 100-year rain event threshold and could easily have resulted in homes being submerged. Since there were no reports of homes being submerged he was pleased because he believed that was an indication that the drainage system was working as designed. He stated that there were some limitations with the S-9 pump station operated by South Broward Drainage District (SBDD). He believed that the sheer amount of water was just too much to move to have improved the flooding experienced. He did feel there were opportunities to improve including better coordination with SBDD and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), and quicker response to closing of roads.

Mayor Breitkreuz expressed a need to have a discussion with the residents, SBDD and SFWMD, other municipalities to discuss the district's plans for future events. He also felt that the Town could be more proactive as it related to animal sheltering at designated locations throughout the town. Representative Bartleman expressed a desire to attend the meeting because she felt there would need to a regional approach. Council Member Jablonski also felt there should be an emergency towing location for vehicles that get stranded. He also felt that the Southwest Meadows Sanctuary area be stabilized, and grass could be used for a turnout area for large animals. Vice Mayor Hartmann asked what type of large animals would be allowed. Not all animals get along and should be housed together. Council Member Jablonski felt that there could be various fenced in areas. Mayor Breitkreuz requested the Town Council support to direct the Administration to put together a "summit" on this in February or March and develop an agenda. Vice Mayor Hartmann felt that these types of storms would become more frequent. He expressed concern with some of the older homes built around Town and the fact that flooding on the roadway was approaching their homes as cars passed by. He felt that it may be time to reconsider the floor elevations on new homes.

16. Approval of Minutes

a. September 14, 2020 Regular Meeting

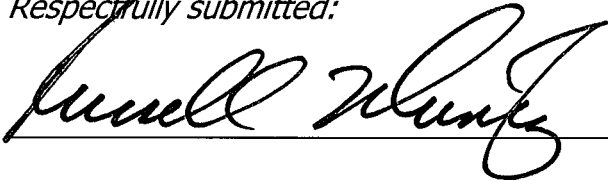
The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski seconded by Vice Mayor Hartmann and passed by 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Jablonski, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Hartmann, Mayor Breitkreuz voting Yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

17. Adjournment

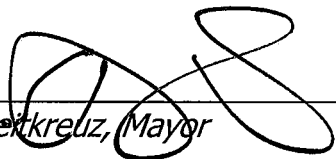
Meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 11th day of February, 2021.



Steve Bretkreuz, 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.