

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

June 24, 2021

13400 Griffin Road

Present:

Mayor Steve Breitzkreuz	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 in person and virtually using the ZOOM meeting platform. The meeting, having been properly noticed, was called to order by Mayor Breitzkreuz at 7:15 PM. Attendance was noted by roll call and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Public Comment

The following members of the public addressed the Town Council: Chris Brownlow, Fred Cox, Marianne Allen, Gay Chaples, Newell Hollingsworth, Dee Schroeder and Chase Pepper.

6. Board Reports

Jason Halberg, Chair of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board, advised the nursery ordinance has been completed and ready to go before the Town Council for consideration. He thanked his fellow board members for their time and patience as well as the public for their input.

7. Council Member Comments

Council Member Kuczenski advised as to why he was not at the meeting physically due to his having had surgery. He advised that he did go back and visit George Cailis and he expressed his concern regarding Mr. Cailis' neighbor's property. He then encouraged the residents to consider getting the COVID-19 vaccine, especially since Town Hall was reopening. Lastly, Council Member Kuczenski spoke on the previous day's storm and the death of two horses in the Town due to a lightning strike.

Council Member Jablonski thanked everyone that worked so hard to raise money for the Town scholarship which resulted in a record year. He then presented a sign for the public to see regarding animals and fireworks and advised the residents to please be mindful of the animals during the 4th of July festivities. Council Member Jablonski reminded the residents of the July 10th "Hazmat at the Barn" household hazardous waste event. He advised the public \$113,000 was allocated for refurbishment of all the parks which included such projects as, the playgrounds at the Country Estates Fishing Hole and the Sunshine Ranches Equestrian Park , both wetlands at Rolling Oaks Park along with the fitness trail and resurfacing the ball field at Country Estates park. Council Member Jablonski spoke about the increase of applications for lot splits. He stated he will not support any applications for them when they involve removal of Rights of Way and Easements. He then spoke about the June 17th Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board meeting and he felt the number of people on the Board made it very difficult to manage the meeting. He was concerned

as the Charter Review was next on the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board's schedule. He felt the original number of board members, which is 7, is where the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board should be. Council Member Jablonski spoke about the Nursery Ordinance coming forward for consideration and he wondered if it shouldn't. He asked for his fellow Council Members opinion.

Council Member Allbritton agreed with Council Member Jablonski regarding the nursery ordinance however, he reminded everyone the reason why the ordinance was originally put in place. He stated a workshop should be held to discuss how to stop people coming in under the pretense of nurseries when they are really lawn maintenance companies. He addressed a member of the public to see him after the meeting to discuss his concerns. He advised the residents he reported approximately 40 potholes in Green Meadows and Deems Ranches to be repaired.

Vice Mayor Hartmann spoke about the issues with bulk and trash pickup and he felt Waste Pro has done a terrible job. He asked Town Financial Administrator Sherwood, when Waste Pro's contract was up to which he responded, "One year left, 2022". Vice Mayor Hartmann spoke about the coyote problem throughout the Town. He asked Town Attorney Poliakoff a question regarding shooting a coyote if it is attacking his livestock, to which the Town Attorney stated he couldn't answer right then but would get that answer for Vice Mayor Hartmann. Vice Mayor Hartmann also addressed a member of the public to speak to him after the meeting. A conversation was had between Vice Mayor Hartmann and Council Member Jablonski regarding the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board performing the Charter Review, the number of landscape maintenance company vehicles parked throughout the Town and whether the item should be pulled from the nursery ordinance or start enforcing the Code, keeping the zoning in progress in place regarding landscape companies and standing by their decision to appoint non-Town members to the Comprehensive Plan Advisory board.

Mayor Breitzkreuz commented on items addressed by other members of the Town Council. He mentioned the Town is working on an event in observance of the 9/11 tragedy. Mayor Breitzkreuz stated he spoke with George Cailis and assured him the Town Council is working on getting together and there may be some other options or alternate ways to approach his issue. He then advised the public that starting in July all meetings must be in person and not virtual, however the Town is working on livestreaming the meetings so the public can at least be present virtually. Next, Mayor Breitzkreuz provided his thoughts on the Nursery ordinance and discussed it further with the Town Council. He then thanked the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board for the time and effort they put into it. Lastly, Mayor Breitzkreuz clarified the Fire Methodology fee in response to a comment made during the Public Comments portion of the meeting.

8. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff provided the Town Council a "heads up" regarding the increase in property value and more homeowners in the Town are interested in subdividing their properties. Town Attorney Poliakoff advised the Town is seeing an increase in applications submitted for lot splits and in the coming months he advised the Town Council there will be more. Vice Mayor Hartmann asked if somebody comes in and applies to split their property and the applicant meets all the legal requirements, could the Town stop them, to which Town Attorney Poliakoff indicated that they could not. Lastly, he wished everyone a very happy 4th of July.

9. Administration Comments

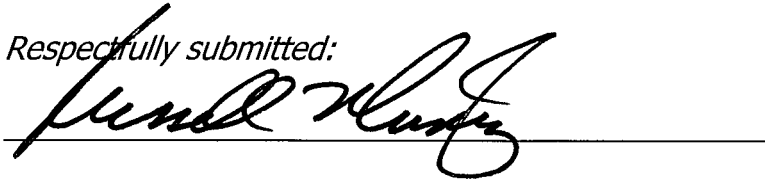
Assistant Town Administrator Muñiz expressed grief and offered thoughts and prayers on behalf of the Town to the residents and employees of the Town of Surfside following the tragic collapse of the Champlain Towers condominiums. He wished a happy vacation to Town Administrator Berns and a speedy recovery to Council Member Kuczenski.

Discussion

10. Adjournment

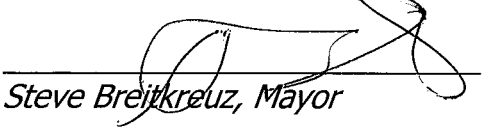
Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 29th day of July 2021.



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.