

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Southwest Ranches, Florida

Thursday 7:00 PM

April 8, 2021

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 7:03 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: Newell Hollingsworth, George Cailis, Javitpaul Makkar, Pavitpaul Makkar, and Parneet Singh.

4. Board Reports

Jason Halberg, Chair of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board spoke about the recent Town Council discussion to add additional members to the Board. He indicated that he would ask the board to push back the discussion on the proposed nursery ordinance if the Town Council needed more time.

George Morris, Chair of the Drainage and Infrastructure Advisory Board advised that the board had discussed fill permit penalties and requirements at the last meeting. They discussed several recommendations including requiring signs indicating that a fill permit had been acquired, making level 1 permits more affordable, and increasing the fines for level 2 and level; 3 permits acquired after work without permit. He also discussed the 188th Avenue paving project drawing to a close.

5. Council Member Comments

Council Member Jablonski advised that the Virtual Bingo SEAB fundraiser would be held Saturday April 17th. He also advised that on July 13th a photo shoot would be held at the Barn to recognize all Town first responders. He also advised that the Broward County Property Appraiser's Office has a new online program in place that prevents unscrupulous activity on the deeds of property owners. He also spoke about a program available from the United Postal Service that would keep you apprised of mail that is forthcoming. Lastly, he discussed a project list that was identified by Parks Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Manager December Lauretano-Haines as necessary projects that have remained unfunded in previous budget years. The list encompassed 5 projects totaling \$111,307. The projects identified and recommended for funding are the Sunshine Ranches Equestrian Park Playground Upgrade, Rolling Oaks Fitness Trail Upgrade, Rolling Oaks Wetlands Improvement, Country Estates Ballfield Upgrade, and Country Estates Playground Signs. He felt that funding for these projects could come from the recent lien recovery attained by the

Town Attorney. He advised that by funding these projects with the recovery it was actually a tax decrease over future year budgets.

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 Breitzkreuz voting Yes.

MOTION: TO UTILIZE THE FUNDS RECOVERED BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO FUND PARKS RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PROJECTS IDENTIFIED BY PROS MANAGER DECEMBER LAURETANO-HAINES (TOTALING \$111,307).

Council Member Allbritton spoke about a recent burglary and commended the quick and diligent work of the Davie Police Department which led to the quick apprehension of the suspect. He believes that with the addition of the License Plate Reader cameras and the work of the Davie Police the word might be getting out to criminals that Southwest Ranches is not the place to try and commit a crime.

Council Member Kuczenski spoke regarding the Founder's Park mural project. He advised that the Southwest Ranches Parks Foundation has offered to split the Town's portion of the cost. He advised that a quote was received to pressure clean and prep the wall in the amount of \$600. He felt this quote was very reasonable. The only additional cost would be for paint supplies and any kind of compensation for the artist. He asked for Town Council support in sending this item back to the Rural Public Arts Board and make this item a priority. He was hopeful that this project could be completed by the fall. The Town Council voiced their support.

Vice Mayor Hartmann addressed comments raised during Public Comments concerning trash collection. He advised that he spoke with Waste Pro employees during trash collection who spoke about staff shortages. He agreed with resident concerns and felt something needed to be done about the lack of service. He also spoke about the basketball backboards at Town parks that are being vandalized frequently.

Mayor Breitzkreuz also felt that the time to start implementing penalties against Waste Pro for lack of performance has come. In response to other comments made during Public Comments he asked Town Attorney Poliakoff to see if any relief could be provided to Mr. Cailis due to the amount of dumping that was occurring on the adjacent property. He spoke about divisive comments being made on social media by people who have disagreed with decisions made by the Town Council. He asked that everyone be respectful when they disagree with another opinion. Lastly, he advised that he would be holding virtual meeting forums for residents and interested parties to have an open dialogue with him about Town affairs. The meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. beginning on April 14th using the Zoom platform. He further explained that no other Town Council Members would be on the call so as to avoid any potential Sunshine Law violation.

6. Legal Comments

Town Attorney Poliakoff thanked Mayor Breitkreuz for clarifying that no other Council Members would be participating in his Zoom calls with the residents. He confirmed that this would avoid any potential Sunshine Law violations and further advised that all Council Members could hold meetings such as these individually with their constituents.

7. Administration Comments

Town Administrator Berns acknowledged the Public Comments and the comments made by members of the Town Council regarding the performance of Waste Pro. He believed it would be helpful to confer with Public Works Director Rod Ley and prepare a presentation to the Town Council. He believed it would be beneficial to outline the parameters of what the contract allows for and what liquidated damages may apply. He also wished to further examine the staffing issues claimed by Waste Pro and see how that related to any minimum staffing provisions that may be outlined in the contract. Additionally, he spoke about the widespread availability of the COVID-19 vaccine and indicated that staff has been strongly encouraged to get vaccinated. He advised that he was working on a reopening plan with some members of staff and has a target date in mind but wished to monitor positivity rates before those plans would be solidified.

Resolutions

8. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH IMECO, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$543,930.00) FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUNDED GREEN MEADOWS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 ADOPTED BUDGET; 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 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 RESOLUTION.

9. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO OPPOSE UNWARRANTED OR OVERLY BROAD PREEMPTIONS OF MUNICIPAL HOME RULE POWERS; DIRECTING A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO BE TRANSMITTED TO MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES.; 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 RESOLUTION.

10. A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING AND APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH BROWARD COUNTY TO RECEIVE ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$124,000.00) OF SURTAX FUNDING TO COMPLETE THE SW 50 STREET AND SW 182 TERRACE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS (SWRA-032); AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOWN ATTORNEY, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT; APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 TOWN BUDGET; 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 SUBJECT TO CORRECTING PAGE 2 OF THE RESOLUTION TO CORRECT A SCRIVENOR'S ERROR TO THE APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE ACCOUNT NUMBER TO 101-0000-399-3990 FOR THE \$52,507 AMOUNT.

Discussion

11. Comprehensive Plan Board Discussion

Mayor Breitreuz explained that this item was brought forward to discuss the possibility of adding two new members to the Town's Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board to reflect a greater diversity of opinion.

Council Member Jablonski suggested that David Pradilla who is a resident and Jorge Lorenzo who is not a resident for the sole purpose of reviewing and advising the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Board regarding the Nursery Ordinance. Both of these gentlemen have extensive nursery experience.

Town Council discussion ensued regarding the merits of adding these two new members to the Board.

Mayor Breitreuz did not feel comfortable adding these members for just this issue. He felt that they should have membership through the end of the year and when Board Appointments were discussed at the end of the year the issue could be revisited.

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 ADD JORGE LORENZO AND DAVID PRADILLA TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ADVISORY BOARD AND AUTHORIZE THE INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS TO NINE.

12. Approval of Minutes

- a. **March 11, 2021 Workshop**
- b. **March 11, 2021 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 Breitreuz voting Yes.

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MARCH 11, 2021 WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

13. Appointments

a. Broward League of Cities - Appointment of Board Director, Alternate and Second Alternate

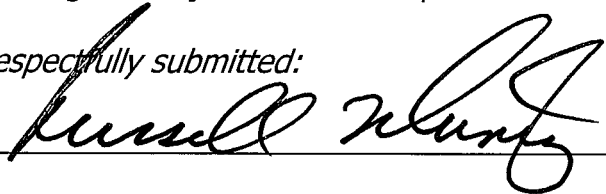
The following motion was made by Council Member Jablonski, seconded by Vice Mayor Hartmann and passed by 5-0 roll call vote. The vote was as follows: Council Members Allbritton, Jablonski, Kuczenski, Vice Mayor Hartmann, Mayor Breitreuz voting Yes.

MOTION: TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER ALLBRITTON AS BOARD DIRECTOR, COUNCIL MEMBER KUCZENSKI AS ALTERNATE, AND COUNCIL MEMBER JABLONSKI AS SECOND ALTERNATE.

14. Adjournment

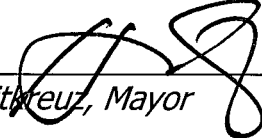
Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Adopted by the Town Council on this 13th day of May, 2021.



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.