



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Council Chambers – 340 Ocean Drive and YouTube

PRESENT: PEGGY WHEELER, MAYOR
DD HALPERN, VICE MAYOR
MARIANNE HOSTA, VICE MAYOR PRO TEM
DIANA DAVIS, COUNCILMEMBER

ALSO PRESENT: FRANK DAVILA, INTERIM TOWN MANAGER
LEONARD RUBIN, TOWN ATTORNEY
EMILY ALVES, FINANCE/HR DIRECTOR
ANDREA DOBBINS, PROJECT COORDINATOR/RISK MANAGER
STEVEN J. HALLOCK, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
STEPHEN MAYER, PRINCIPAL PLANNER
CAITLIN E. COPELAND-RODRIGUEZ, TOWN CLERK

AUDIENCE: 36

CALL TO ORDER – 5:30PM

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Wheeler, Vice Mayor Halpern, and Councilmember Davis gave consensus to pull Consent Agenda Item #12 and move it to the first Action/Discussion Item.

Council gave unanimous consensus to move Item #13 to #18B; and Item #15 after Item #12.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Ceremonial Swearing in of Police Officer Todd Ostuni

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, THE TOWN ATTORNEY, AND STAFF

***MOTION:** Davis/Halpern made a motion to proceed with ONMJ for engineering services for the Pelican Lake North Gazebo and authorize the Interim Town Manager to execute the contract.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

All Non-Agenda items are limited to three (3) minutes. Anyone wishing to speak is asked to complete a comment card with their name and address prior to the start of the meeting as well as state their name and address for the record when called upon to speak (prior to addressing the Town Council). Town Council will not discuss these items at this time.

Public Comments Opened at 5:48PM.

Public Comments Closed at 5:53PM.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes - November 13, 2024
3. Approval of Special Town Council Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2024
4. Approval of Town Council Public Interview with Town Manager Finalist Jay Boodheshwar Minutes - December 3, 2024
5. Approval of Town Council Public Interview with Town Manager Finalists Darren Coldwell & Patrick Comiskey Minutes - December 4, 2024
6. Approval of Special Town Council Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2024
7. Special Town Council Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2024
8. Special Event Request – Classics by the Sea Road Runners
9. Discussion on Town Manager Job Description
10. Year to Date (YTD) Financial Statements
11. Resolution 2024-24 (PBA Collective Bargaining Agreement)

***MOTION:** Halpern/Davis made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. 2025 Health Insurance Renewals

***MOTION:** Halpern/Hosta made a motion to approve the Florida Blue BlueCare S14354 HMO Plan as the base employee health insurance plan, The Solstice dental plan, FMIT vision plan, the health care Flexible Spending Accounts, and opt-out provisions as outlined above for the plan year 2025, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed 3-1 with Councilmember Davis opposed.*

15. Special Event Request - Art Fest by the Sea

***MOTION:** Davis/Hosta made a motion to approve the request for the special event proposed in Juno Beach as stated above, subject to the applicant being responsible for the application process of the special event and all conditions and requirements following said application, including any additional agency reviews/approvals/fees.*

***ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.*

14. Discussion on Traffic Concerns (U.S. Highway One and Donald Ross Road)

***MOTION:** Davis made a motion to have staff write a letter to oppose the lane widening until the master plan is complete.*

***ACTION:** The motion failed for lack of a second.*

No further action given on this item.

16. Caretta Project Gateway Plaza Features

Council gave unanimous consensus to have staff send out a Polco survey to the citizens for input on artwork for the Caretta Plaza; and to have the developer proceed with the fountains.

17. Selection of Code Rewrite Consultant

MOTION: *Halpern/Davis made a motion to approve Chen Moore and Associates' (CMA) as the Code Rewrite consultant.*

ACTION: *The motion failed 2-2 with Mayor Wheeler and Vice Mayor Pro Tem Hosta opposed.*

MOTION: *Halpern/Davis made a motion to select Chen Moore and Associates' (CMA) as the Code Rewrite consultant and have them provide an itemized cost sheet for each task for future consideration by the Council.*

ACTION: *The motion passed unanimously.*

18. Atlantic Boulevard Roadway Improvements Project

MOTION: *Davis/Halpern made a motion to approve a Contract with J.W. Cheatum LLC in the amount of \$56,217.20 for the construction of the Atlantic Boulevard Roadway Improvements project and a determination that the obtaining three written quotations is not the best interest of the Town.*

ACTION: *The motion passed unanimously.*

18B. Filling of Vacant Seat #3

Andrew Spilos announced his name withdrawal from consideration.

Council conducted a ballot method to select from the list of candidates (see attached) and then gave unanimous consensus to select John Callaghan to fill vacant seat #3 until March 2026.

19. Continued Discussion on Selection of Town Manager

MOTION: *Davis made a motion to hire Jay Boodheshwar for the position of Town Manager.*

ACTION: *The motion failed for lack of a second.*

Council gave unanimous consensus to direct Colin Baenziger & Associates to restart the search for the position of Town Manager.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Hosta provided her resignation letter as Vice President of the Ecology Group (*see attached*).

Council gave unanimous consensus to have staff work with the TPA on the Complete Streets impact; and to add a discussion on their traffic concerns to the January agenda; and have staff draft a letter opposing the minimizing of the Donald Ross Road median.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 9:20PM.

Peggy Wheeler, Mayor

Caitlin E. Copeland-Rodriguez, Town Clerk