



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES  
TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY OPEN DISCUSSION WORKSHOP  
TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 155 F. Road, Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470  
Tuesday, November 12, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Kane called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Anita Kane, Vice Mayor Margaret Herzog, Councilmember Laura Danowski, Councilmember Phillis Maniglia, Councilmember Robert Shorr, Town Manager Francine Ramaglia, Town Attorney Glen Torcivia, Public Works Director Gallant Richard Gallant, Project Coordinator Jeff Kurtz, Town's Planning Consultant Kaitlyn Forbes (of Complete Cities), Town's Planning Consultant Jim Fleischman (of Land Research Management, Inc.) and Town Clerk Valerie Oakes were present.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

Cassie Suchy introduced a proposal for the creation of an Ad Hoc Volunteer Committee aimed at improving government efficiency and financial transparency that would operate without decision-making authority and outside of the sunshine law. Town Attorney Glen Torcivia opined that any committee providing advice to the Town Council is subject to the Sunshine Law requirements. Mayor Kane suggested an alternative approach by advertising open committee positions to create a pool of volunteers and allowing the Council to select participants for specific projects.

Virginia Standish submitted written comments addressing concerns about Marcella Boulevard regarding the repaving schedule and whether flood mitigation measures for south-side properties were planned. Public Works Director Richard Gallant explained that Marcella Boulevard is not scheduled for repaving unless specific damage is reported. Councilmember Maniglia clarified that previous paving projects on Marcella Boulevard were funded by grants and Town resurfacing efforts, not by residents.

Public Works Director Gallant detailed the existing design, which directs water from the south side of the road to the north side via culverts. However, unmaintained swales obstruct water

flow, exacerbating flooding issues. Public Works cleared several swales after recent storms but encountered challenges in areas where tree obstructions required vendor assistance. Councilmember Danowski advocated for providing support to elderly or financially constrained residents unable to maintain their swales and urged Public Works to evaluate specific cases and explore potential assistance programs.

Virginia Standish praised the Town’s tornado response, commending staff and Public Works for their efficient handling of debris cleanup and emergency management. Additionally, concerns were raised about utility coordination during emergencies, noting that FP&L linemen unfamiliar with the area had difficulty locating addresses. Additionally, suggested assigning staff or volunteers to assist linemen during such events and moving PBSO and Fire Department reports to the beginning of Town meetings. Also, requested more transparency in Code Enforcement case resolutions, particularly regarding asphalt paving violations. Town Manager Ramaglia responded by explaining the varied nature of such code cases and provided examples that included underground storage installation and project delays, illustrating the Town’s enforcement of regulations.

Brian McNeil echoed praise for the Town’s tornado response, emphasizing the impressive speed and effectiveness of debris cleanup. However, he raised concerns about the uniform six-cubic-yard limit for debris collection, suggesting a prorated system based on property size to account for larger properties generating more debris. Town Manager Ramaglia clarified that during tornado recovery, there is no limit on debris collection. Residents are encouraged to place all debris curbside by December 1, 2024, to ensure grinding and disposal can be completed before the January 2025 compliance deadline. Additionally, community pile arrangements could be scheduled for larger collections.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Kane adjourned the community meeting at 6:29 p.m.

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**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,  
FLORIDA**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Anita Kane, Seat 3

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Town Clerk

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Vice Mayor Margaret Herzog, Seat 5

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Councilmember Phillis Maniglia, Seat 1

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Councilmember Laura Danowski, Seat 2

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Councilmember Robert Shorr, Seat 4