



Loxahatchee Groves Town Council

Regular Town Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District Council Chambers

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Members Present:

Dave Browning, Mayor

Marge Herzog, Vice-Mayor

Dave Autrey, Council Member

Dennis C. Lipp, Council Member

Dr. J. William Louda, Council Member

Members Absent:

None

Others Attending:

Michelle Kantor (NCS)

Matthew Lippman, Interim Town Clerk (NCS)

Dr. Irv Rosenbaum, Interim Town Manager (NCS)

David N. Tolces, Esq., Town Attorney

Members of the Public

A meeting of the Loxahatchee Groves Town Council; "Council," "Board," or "Committee" was held at 7:00p.m.on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at the Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District Council (LGWCD) Chambers; 101 D. Road, Loxahatchee, FL.

1. – 4. Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

Mayor Dave Browning called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. He then requested the roll call by Matthew Lippman, Interim Town Clerk. Upon completion of the roll, Mayor Browning requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

5. Approval of Agenda

Vice-Mayor Marge Herzog MOTIONED to approve the agenda, SECONDED by Councilman Dave Autrey and discussion was then opened:

Mayor Browning asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Councilman Lipp asked if we could add an agenda item Southern Crossings since they would be coming before the Council at the next meeting.

Mayor Browning said he would add a discussion Item #19 to the Agenda.

Town Clerk Lippman stated that he wanted to let the Public know that the copies of the agenda handed out were missing two items. The presentations by Frank Schiola and Victoria Williams (My Safe Florida Home Program) had been left out.

the MOTION to approve the agenda with the above additions passed 5-0.

Consent Agenda:

6. Approval of Minutes from:

a.) October 2, 2007 Town Council Meeting

Town Clerk Lippman requested that Item #6 would be tabled until the next meeting.

Mayor Browning asked if anyone wanted anything pulled or added to the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Lipp asked to pull Item #6.

7. Expenditure Report

Mayor Browning said he was asked to add the attorney invoices to the report.

Item approved with Consent Agenda.

8. PBC Planning, Zoning, & Building Town Report

Item approved with Consent Agenda.

Vice-Mayor Marge Herzog MOTIONED to accept Consent Agenda, Items 6-8 with Item 6 removed, and the attorneys invoice added to Item 7 SECONDED by Councilman Autrey and the MOTION passed 5-0.

Regular Agenda:

9. REGULAR AGENDA: Presentations:

o Frank Schiola: Containerized garbage can options and video footage of the process for picking up

Mayor Browning called on Frank Schiola to show his video and make a presentation to the Council.

Frank Schiola, Marcella Boulevard- Mr. Schiola began his presentation by saying that he hasn't viewed the video yet himself but he thinks this is what the Council is looking for. He states that he received the video from Southern Waste Authority of how they handle the collection of the Village of Wellington.

The video showed durable cans with wheels which would be supplied by the sanitation company. It shows that they won't blow away and are safe from animals. The video also

showed specially designed trucks with mechanical arms used to lift and dump. It pointed out that this reduces spilled waste. The video encouraged the residents of Wellington to recycle and said that they can use old cans they might have for vegetation since it should always be separated from waste.

Mr. Schiola said as you can see in the video, the arm goes out 10 feet from the truck and helps reduce spillage. He then showed a physical sample of a standardized can to the Council. He mentioned that some might have reservations about using these cans but said we are trying to save the tax payer money and this would be one way the Council could do it. He mentioned that when the Town sends out their RFP that we should ask haulers for 2 copies. One copy being for the traditional service and one for automated service and the difference will be substantial. He recommended the left over money from the savings could be kept as reserves for building a town hall. He stated this is a way we would already have money saved without having to go out and raise it.

Mayor Browning asked if we included the automated service in the RFP.

Town Clerk Lippman responded yes we have it in the proposal, and also have it written with containerized service and without the service.

Councilman Lipp asked about enclaves that bring out their trash to the lettered roads.

Mr. Schiola said they would have to work with them.

Councilman Lipp responded that someone who would take out their trash in a golf cart or pickup truck ½ mile away would not be able to lug the can onto the cart or truck.

Mr. Schiola responded that maybe a supervisor could help run them out. He said that for people that are disabled they offer a back door service where a supervisor will help them lug their trash out. He said that when his wife was pregnant a supervisor would run it out there for her.

Councilman Lipp said he lived in the Groves when there was no trash collection. Back in the day you had to bury, burn, or compost the trash. He said that this has to be something that works for everybody. If as much as 10% of the community can't work with the mega can then it won't work.

Mr. Schiola responded that they do make smaller cans for households that don't produce as much trash. He also mentioned that we have to look at this as an individual case by case basis- we are a different community and we need to make it work for everybody.

Mayor Browning said that John Ryan is here from LGWCD, he then asked Mr. Ryan if this would require 2 trips up and down the road.

Mr. Schiola answered yes it would.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any other questions from the Council.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if they have tried this in Jupiter Farms or the Acreage. She stated that it might not be possible and won't work with the canal based roads.

Mr. Schiola said he didn't know but he is sure the hauling companies do other similar places like the Groves.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said she spoke to someone who runs the containerized system and she recommended going in with Jupiter Farms or Unincorporated Palm Beach County because she doesn't think it will be workable. She also said that the 10ft arm can't go across canals to pickup.

Councilman Louda said conventional would still be 2 trips.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any other questions from the Council.

Councilman Louda said in his situation he is on a back 5. His neighbor has a chained fence so to stay 10ft away would be difficult. The only way I see this working is throughout the entire district everyone would have to put in a pad area. He said that in the RFP he thought we had mentioned 1 day a week –vs-2 days a week pick up to try and reduce costs.

Councilman Autrey said he basically had the same concerns that Councilman Lipp had mentioned earlier. He said he spoke with Joe Sandora of Onyx earlier and that he also said he didn't think it would work. The main roads and canals would be problematic. When we send out the RFP we need those companies who bid to come out and see the lay of the land to know

what they are dealing with. I don't think it is practical for us. Can it be done is the question I have.

Mr. Schiola said that it would cut the costs of the residents in half. It is significant.

Mayor Browning told Mr. Schiola that he appreciated what he was doing. He said when we get the prices back if it is doable then good. He then called Bill Gurney up to comment.

Bill Gurney-1453 E Road-Mr. Gurney asked if we are considering 1 pickup per week. This can be large enough so if we can save in 2 ways it might be a worthwhile thing, if not then it is a no go.

Mayor Browning said he sees some advantages. The mechanical arm would go back to the spot when picking up trash.

Mr. Schiola repeated that this is a great system in other areas and it might work and it might not.

Mayor Browning said one other concern he had is that you can't trust everybody. The driver might see something hazardous –vs- a mechanical arm with these cans.

Mr. Schiola mentioned that we are trying to protect our water sources now more than ever.

Town Clerk Lippman said that we needed to hear from Bill Gurney and then move to another subject.

Town Attorney Tolces said that once the RFP's are in that the Council will be able to discuss then.

Mr. Gurney asked if vegetation and appliances were the same contract.

Mayor Browning responded yes.

o Victoria Williams (My Safe Florida Home Program): Wind Inspection Pilot Program and Partnership with Volunteer Florida Foundation (VFF) to provide non-matching mitigation grants to lower-income Floridians homes.

Town Clerk Lippman introduced Ms. Williams and thanked her for coming on a 3 day notice.

Ms. Williams said that the reason they are here is to increase awareness because insurance companies must discount for what protections homeowners have on their house to make it stronger against hurricanes. We take complaints on insurance companies. The program for My Safe Florida Home will give a free inspection to a site built home. It is not for condos, townhomes, or mobile homes. She gave the example that she had to get a new roof and her premium should have been brought down.

Inspectors look at all openings, basically anywhere wind can come in. She mentioned there is also grant money available to help fortify the house. A detailed report is provided after the

inspection that advises the home owner as to what to do. She said they have done over 100,000 state wide and that 75% of the people saved money on their insurance premiums. The house must be located in a windbourne area, built before March 1, 2002, have a Homestead Exemption, and have an insured value of \$300,000 or less. If a family of 2 makes less than \$41,200 per year then this can be free.

Ms. Williams asked the Council if any of them had taken advantage of the program yet.

Vice-Mayor Herzog responded yes that she had a great inspector come out. It took 4-6wks to get the report. She then did securing of the garage door.

Councilman Autrey asked if the inspectors are contractors or engineers.

Ms. Williams responded that the inspectors are hired by firms who answered their RFP.

Councilman Autrey asked if there was a list of inspectors.

Ms. Williams responded yes.

Councilman Autrey asked after the inspection if you get a form that insurance companies know how to honor that. He said he had his windows done and his insurance company still said they needed the drawings.

Ms. Williams thanked the Council for their time.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any questions from the Public.

Linda Issacs, Marcella Boulevard-asked if there was a cost for this inspection.

Ms. Williams responded that it was free.

Mayor Browning asked Ms. Issacs to fill out a comment card. He asked if there were any other comments from the Public.

Ms. Issacs said that she had paid \$125 for a one time inspection but she wound up having a reduction of \$112 per month. She then asked about a 1 person family income.

Mayor Browning asked again if there were any other comments from the Public.

Councilman Autrey mentioned this should be a newsletter topic.

Councilman Louda said he would make a note on insurance reduction for water on site.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 9.

9. RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-014 (*EM Excavation*)

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, RECOMMENDING THAT THE PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSION DENY KING RANCH, INC. AND RINKER MATERIALS' CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION THAT WOULD ALLOW EXCAVATION OF LIMESTONE FROM APPROXIMATELY 3,000 ACRES WITHIN THE EVERGLADES AGRICULTUAL AREA; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Town Attorney Tolces conducted the reading of the Resolution.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Public.

Councilman Lipp MOTIONED to accept Resolution 2007-14, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the MOTION passed 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 10.

10. Inter-local Agreement with PBC for Land Development Services

Town Attorney Tolces said that in association with the engineering department this provides for the county to issue permits such as land clearing, paving or draining. The applicant will pay whatever fee is being charged. The Town will have to retain the services of an Engineer.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if Calvin-Giordano could do this.

Town Clerk Lippman explained that we will need a planner and an engineer and that Calvin-Giordano will provide both these services.

Councilman Autrey referred to Pg 7 where it says the Town is responsible for the advertising of the public hearings. Can those costs be passed on from the Town to the Applicant.

Town Attorney Tolces said yes that they could.

Town Clerk Lippman said that was a good point and he has to place an advertisement and pay from the Town.

Councilman Louda said the applicant should pay for that.

Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to accept the Inter-local Agreement with PBC for Land Development Services, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and discussion was then opened:

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Town Attorney Tolces said that he will provide an Ordinance that will say the applicant will blanket all costs.

Vice-Mayor Herzog pointed out on Pg 7 that the word envelopes should be spelled correctly on the final version.

MOTION to accept the Inter-local Agreement with PBC for Land Development Services passed 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 11.

11. Waste Special Assessment for Residential Properties -Uniform Method of Collection

Town Attorney Tolces said he provided the Council with a memo regarding this. To make sure that you will be on the tax bill next year, you will have to begin by public notice in the paper. Statue requires you to advertise 4wks before public hearing. The information must be forwarded to the Property Appraiser's office before January 1, 2008.

Councilman Louda MOTIONED to direct staff to do whatever is necessary to have Solid Waste Assessment on next year's tax bill, SECONDED by Vice-Mayor Herzog

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Public.

MOTION to direct staff to do whatever is necessary to have Solid Waste Assessment on next year's tax bill passed 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 12.

12. Update on issues regarding Okeechobee Blvd, i.e. 4 lanes to C and Round-Abouts

Councilman Lipp said he met with Commissioner Santamaria and he will be setting up a meeting with George Webb to discuss the 4 laning of Okeechobee and it being taken off of the thoroughfare maps. We will also discuss roundabouts at one or two of the alphabet roads. I am asking permission from the Board to have this meeting. This meeting will be set for the week of November 12. LGWCD will authorize Clete to talk on their behalf.

Councilman Autrey asked if we were saying we wanted roundabouts.

Councilman Lipp responded no just looking to get a cost from them.

Councilman Louda asked Councilman Lipp to inquire about a blinking yellow at the fire station. The light just goes to red when a truck pulls out. This light might slow traffic on Okeechobee.

Councilman Lipp said we don't qualify for one.

Town Attorney Tolces commented that it would be the Town's responsibility to do the study and to take responsibility to maintain the roads. We are looking at issue with respect to E Road in town boundaries and I would be interested in seeing what Mr. Webb would have to say about that.

Councilman Lipp asked if the Town Attorney should attend this meeting also.

Town Attorney Tolces said he didn't think he should go to the meeting.

Councilman Louda said originally the meeting was just on Okeechobee.

Councilman Lipp said he would keep this meeting only on Okeechobee and shoot for another meeting later on E Road.

Mayor Browning asked for a consensus from the Council for Councilman Lipp to attend the meeting and the general consensus was yes.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 13.

13. Audit Firm RFP

Town Attorney Tolces pointed out that Town Council is now meeting as the audit committee. He mentioned they had a draft of an RFP from the Town Manager in front of them.

Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to authorize staff to put out the RFP for an Audit Firm, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and discussion was then opened:

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if on Pg 7 if there was any significance to the census population being significantly different than anything we have ever quoted. We have always said 3200-3500.

Town Clerk Lippman said he got the number from a recent study done by the University of Florida. He said that the number will be accurate once he gets the tax roll from the property appraiser. It won't really impact this RFP but for logical purposes people need an accurate number.

Vice-Mayor Herzog also pointed out on Pg 7 when it says and contract with a law firm shouldn't we mention who the law firm is.

Councilman Autrey said we have the original data from the feasibility study on disk and that figure was 3211 in the incorporation study.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Public.

MOTION to authorize staff to put out the RFP for an Audit Firm passed unanimously 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 14.

14. Emergency Operations Plan

Town Clerk Lippman said the goal of this discussion is for Council if they want to engage in a plan for the Town. This is not required. I spoke with Ken Johnson about incorporating CERT and whatever language that would require them to do whatever they normally do. We would not be solely dependent on CERT so if later down the road they disband we would still be okay.

Councilman Louda MOTIONED to direct staff to research, create, and implant an Emergency Operations Plan for the Town, SECONDED by Vice-Mayor Herzog and discussion was then opened:

Councilman Lipp said he was a member of CERT and that he recommended that the Council not approve this motion. He said he feels we would be taking on too much responsibility and that the CERT group only has 18 members and is just getting started. There needs to be more like 50 members to serve this community. We need to encourage more people to join and then I think it would be self-generating. We don't even have a Comprehensive Plan yet.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if this was brought forward by Ken.

Councilman Lipp responded that it was brought by him.

Town Clerk Lippman said he recommends that we as a Town become very familiar with what they do in emergency situations, such as hurricanes, so in case of an emergency we can merge as one.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if it would be possible for them to present their plan.

Town Clerk Lippman said he had a copy of their plan at the office he could give to the Council. He said that we won't adopt our own plan, we will join theirs.

Mayor Browning commended all who went through the CERT training.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any additional comments from the Council.

MOTION to direct staff to research, create, and implant an Emergency Operations Plan for the Town did not pass, 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 15

15. Code Enforcement

a. Code Enforcement Update

Town Clerk Lippman started by saying that he wanted to update the Council that the transfer site on C Road has been shut down. They are out and done-I drove by personally today to check it out. He also mentioned that we will need PBSO support for Aguirres Ranch if we do need to address a situation on Sunday.

Councilman Autrey asked if Ted had to be there.

Town Clerk Lippman responded yes that Ted had to be there. We will give him an hour notice to go on Sunday and meet PBSO there. He also said that he showed Ted the aireal photos taken by Dennis and that they spoke about the ordinance and multiple calls that would come from that. He said lately it has been relatively quiet. Everyone that is on the sheet that has a violation has received a letter.

Councilman Autrey asked if Aguirres is an event.

Town Clerk Lippman responded yes.

Councilman Autrey asked if we had a process where if people want to have an event they can fill out an application requesting special times and such.

Town Clerk Lippman said that the County process is what we should follow because it is very strict.

Councilman Autrey said if you want to hold an event this is what the rules are. He referred to a resident who came before the Council earlier in the year and asked to hold an event for Cinco de Mayo.

Mayor Browning said that they went through the correct channels and went to their neighbors first.

Town Attorney Tolces said they had needed to get an Alcohol Beverage License to sell Alcohol at that event.

Mayor Browning asked if anyone had any other comments on Code Enforcement.

Councilman Louda referred to the handout that said mobile homes are not allowed.

Mayor Browning said years ago it was 10 acres to have a permanent mobile home on the property and you couldn't do it on 5.

Town Clerk Lippman said he would pull that part of the code and look at it.

Town Attorney Tolces said it depends how you are using it.

Mayor Browning said years ago it depended on how big it was.

Town Attorney Tolces told the Council that this is a good example of why you have a special magistrate process set up.

Mayor Browning said he was wondering about illegal signs that were posted.

Town Clerk Lippman said along Okeechobee on several telephone poles there had been signs posted but they had been taken down.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 16.

16. Water Utility and Conservation:

a.) Water Utility Discussions with Palm Beach County Update

Town Clerk Lippman began this section by saying that this is not a discussion to turn the whole town on to water. He referred to a handout from Irv Rosenbaum, Town Manager that gives the Town 3 options. The first would be to create our own water plant, the second would be a bulk purchase, or the third would be to recognize Palm Beach County as the franchisee. I met with Beavin Beaudet (Palm Beach County Water Management) and we discussed if people do want to hook up to county water what would be the best way to go about this. I want to express a point that because of the lay of the land this is not the easiest thing. We will get a list of who is hooked up to water right now. There are very few and the people who are live currently by the lines. We asked anyone that wanted to hook up to please hold off for now so we can gather our thoughts.

Town Manager Rosenbaum said he doesn't believe that financially the Town can do the first option. We would like to go back to the County and come back to you with some suggestions.

Councilman Autrey said he was at the meeting and this does give us some options. It encourages staff to put it together and then bring it forward with no rush.

Mayor Browning asked the Council if they had any more comments.

Mayor Browning asked the Council for a general consensus for staff to bring back some options and the general consensus was yes.

b.) SFWMD Workshop on Water Conservation

Councilman Lipp said it was brought to his attention by Bill Gurney and Elise Ryan that we have some responsibility to providing our own water. I did see Fred Rapach at Commissioner Santamaria's meeting and he will come if we do a workshop on water. I am asking staff to suggest a date and formulate an agenda that we can share with the LGWCD before November 12.

Mayor Browning opened the topic up for discussion.

Councilman Autrey said he noticed the water on the North Road canal went down 2 feet in one day. He asked John Ryan if we were still dumping water out.

Mr. Ryan said that it is to his understanding that Clete doesn't have the flexibility with water restrictions. He said he thinks that the reason to have a workshop is for Clete to let us know

about the day to day water level and so engineers can help us learn what will happen to us in a few months heading into the dry season.

Councilman Autrey asked again, so we are not dumping water.

Mr. Ryan responded not to my knowledge.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked, then where is the water going?

Jim DeLong-LGWCD-We have water logs we maintain. What is going on now is we are at the beginning of the growing season. The nurseries are pumping a lot of water out.

Mayor Browning said so the answer is we are not pumping out any water.

Councilman Louda said he has talked to Clete about the historical levels of the lands and water surfaces and we do leak out to the East. Maybe we can look into sealing F Canal.

Mayor Browning asked the Council if they had any more comments. We definitely need to look into this and do a workshop. This could get very critical.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any comments from the Public.

c.) **Workshop with LGWCD regarding Water Issues**

Town Clerk Lippman said that he would get with Clete and develop an agenda.

Councilman Lipp said we would have to have the information done by November 12 when LGWCD has their next meeting. He mentioned a different location where everyone could sit comfortably and discuss.

Councilman Autrey said he felt we should do this sooner than later.

Town Clerk Lippman said he and Town Manager Rosenbaum would be in touch with Clete and let him know this is an important subject and that we need to move forward.

Mayor Browning said from the Town's standpoint we don't want our residents to run out of water in their wells. The LGWCD's responsibility is to maintain the levels and everything else. We need to make sure we are covered for the sake of the Town and the residents.

Town Clerk Lippman said if the Council would like to appoint a representative to meet with Town Clerk Lippman, Town Manager Rosenbaum, and the LGWCD. We can set the agenda through your e-mail feedback.

Mayor Browning asked for a general consensus for Councilman Autrey to be the representative from the Council to attend this meeting and the general consensus was yes.

Jim DeLong-LGWCD-For example if we were trying to save water and we shut down the system so the gates didn't open-we would be flooded-even from the little rain we had tonight. Overnight by morning we would be flooded. Clete knows what he is doing with those controls.

John Ryan, 3508 A Road-Clete has explained before as to what goes into managing the ground levels and the pars. The bottom line as I understand it is there is a desire for a 16ft level but that has to adjust for rainfall and usage. With the restrictions imposed on us, without waivers, though shall not pump anymore outside of C-51.

Councilman Louda said it was 93 acres feet.

Mr. Ryan said to have flexibility during dry season we have to make ourselves heard.

Councilman Autrey said he is not an expert on this subject but he hopes we can make this happen sooner then later.

Mayor Browning said years ago their number one priority was getting water out and now it is a new era.

Bill Gurney, E Road-The important thing is not the water in the canals, it is the ground water. They drain according to the standardized operating procedures. Under emergency situations we need to determine if the standardized operating procedures are what should be used.

Councilman Louda said some have to recycle their water.

Mayor Browning repeated that we will set up a workshop for this topic.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 17.

17. Support Services for Emergency Distribution of Strategic National Stockpile

Town Clerk Lippman started by saying this was brought up because of the presentation by the Health Department at the last meeting.

Councilman Lipp said he thinks we need to get the ball rolling here and direct staff to do so, but hopefully we will never have to use it.

Mayor Browning said we would need to find a location to host this.

Councilman Autrey said he had questions about the logistics of this and said with people parking and other things he sees pandemonium.

Councilman Lipp said we would need to have a dry run and have the CERT group help manage it. Maybe the spot isn't here, maybe some church, Beck's Red Barn, a place with better parking.

Vice-Mayor Herzog suggested Acts II or Palms West Presbyterian Church.

Councilman Lipp MOTIONED to direct staff to start planning for the Groves to be an Emergency Distribution Center , SECONDED by Councilman Louda. Discussion was then opened to the Public:

Linda Issacs, Marcella Boulevard-This issue is one that was brought up at a CERT meeting the other night and we talked about where we would have this distribution center. Also mentioned was that the Town would have to get the medication because the CERT team could not. If you got with our team leader they would share the information with you.

MOTION to direct staff to start planning for the Groves to be an Emergency Distribution Center passed unanimously 5-0.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 18.

18. Town Website Update (www.loxahatcheegroves.org)

Town Clerk Lippman said that the Town government website is now up and running. I encourage everyone to visit this. The Town is extremely grateful for all the work Don Williams has done and is still doing. His response time is incredible and he provides an avenue which a government website can't with the communication aspect. I think this Town needs both.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said she was going to donate an autobiography by Don Williams.

Town Clerk Lippman announced the new email address which is clerk@loxahatcheegroves.org. In addition he told the Council that each of them could have their own email through the site. There is a drop down box to send a message to each Council Member. It may be advantageous as a government aspect to separate your personal and business emails from this point on.

Town Attorney Tolces said it makes it easier for Public Record requests also.

Mayor Browning said he would like to see some sort of declaration to thank Don Williams.

Town Clerk Lippman then went through a slide presentation on how to navigate through the website. He said he was looking for feedback from the Town on any links that should be added. He said Newsletters can go under the Community Information section.

He said the website will advertise things for the Public that are good for the Public.

Town Manager Rosenbaum said that everything should be related to the community and what we do here.

Councilman Autrey asked if there was a polling feature on the site.

Mayor Browning thanked Mr. Lippman.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 19 which had been added to the Agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

19.) Discussion of Southern Crossings

Town Attorney Tolces said he wanted to mention before this Item was open for discussion that it has been noticed and is being advertised for the meeting in November. If you have any comments in respect to the information you have received that you direct them to your Town Staff since the applicant is not here tonight, so they can make their presentation as to what you want to do.

Councilman Lipp said his purpose is to come up with something with the Council's approval to direct staff to come up with Local Street Standards. One of the first items would be paved –vs- unpaved. If it is paved, what is it paved with. Does it have speed bumps.

Town Attorney Tolces said we will do research in anticipation for November meeting.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said the LGWCD did a study that they have already.

Councilman Autrey said the LGWCD is responsible for maintenance; the standard of the street will come out of the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilman Lipp said we really need to encourage the applicant to push it back. Maybe where the backs of the stores are facing Southern Boulevard and they can be gotten into from a local street. Maybe we can have the look of the Old West.

Town Attorney Tolces verified Councilman Lipp was talking in general.

Town Clerk Lippman cautioned the Council to not get into specifics.

Town Attorney Tolces cautioned the Council about commenting about any application that will be submitted to you. I would caution any reference to specific projects until the applicant comes to you. You will certainly have time to present impacts on vision and development of this town when the applicant comes to you. There will be opportunity to comment and to encourage viewing the future as you see it. This is why you are adopting the Moratorium.

Town Clerk Lippman told the Council to email town staff any concerns about the staff report so before we meet with the applicant the concerns will have been addressed.

Vice-Mayor Herzog suggested a Workshop for a Corridor Study.

Councilman Lipp replied that would be part of the visioning process.

Mayor Browning asked if this was an information type thing.

Councilman Lipp said we really can't take action on this tonight.

Town Attorney Tolces said you are working on getting your visioning and strategic planning together. With respect to a certain application that may come before you, we can certainly work with you and guide you at the Public Hearings.

Mayor Browning asked if there were any other comments.

Mayor Browning then moved on to Item 20.

20. Public Comments

Maureen Lefkowitz, 3485 D Road- She thanked the Council for all their hard work. She said that her comments probably related more to the Ordinance Workshop that was held the week before. Why do so many people who have decided to live in the Groves live here? I thought of the country and was excited to save money and move here. I am posing the question-is it not what I envisioned?. The Groves is zoned ag and residential. I thought of tractors, grass, cows, and horses. Our experience is with aviaries. I can hear the birds from 10am-10pm. My husband and I have invested a lot for our quiet. She questioned Councilman Autrey about his quote in the paper regarding innovative industry being encouraged in the Groves.

Councilman Autrey said he philosophically sees the Groves like she does. It is getting more expensive and not cheaper and if we start to selectively decide what can and can't be done I'm afraid we will lose everything. We need to be open minded about what can be done here. The

state has recognized certain species, we can't get species selective. My vision is the freedom for people to use their land as defined by the state. Not everyone is going to like it.

Ms. Lefkowitz said she thinks that there are certain things that have to be experienced. You have to live next to that. One motto for Loxahatchee Groves is love it and leave it alone and that has not necessarily happened. There has been a lot of manipulation that has gone into changing codes.

Councilman Lipp suggested she read carefully the Right to Farm Act and the answer might be there.

Councilman Louda said he does not see the difference between a commercialized kennel and an aviary.

Town Attorney Tolces said that the county is doing what they are legally authorized to do to the extent of anyone who has a private property complaint can seek legal advice according to the state.

Linda Issacs, Marcella Boulevard-Can we add INC. to the Town sign. Also, people ask me questions all the time knowing that I come to the meetings, apparently people have been paying their water control bill in increments, will they be still be able to do that now.

Town Clerk Lippman answered her that it is a separate entity and we don't control that.

Ms. Issacs also inquired about the Waste Management Bill and was told that is a 1 time billing. She also mentioned that Don Williams should be acknowledged for all his hard work on his website and presented with a plaque.

21. Town Clerk Comments

Town Clerk Lippman said he had 2 quick things. The first was he has received several complaints on the school zone not being followed. He has called PBSO to let them know this. The second, the day workers representative says there is nothing to report on. He would have been here today with an update but he had a prior obligation. He will be here next time. He is working on it and is moving forward.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if he had forwarded the information from her.

Town Clerk Lippman responded, yes, that he had given him everything from Ms. Herzog.

22. Council Member Comments

Councilman Lipp-The importance of visioning came to me when reading about these upcoming projects. I do not want us to be an urban area 20yrs from now that looks like Military Trail.

Councilman Autrey-I agree with Councilman Lipp, have we gotten anything back on that.

Town Manager Rosenbaum replied that is is coming.

Councilman Aurtrey-I want to let Mr. Lippman know the website is excellent.

Vice-Mayor Herzog -The Halloween party and Square Dance November 10 need to be added to the calendar. She also mentioned LGLA is having a speaker on going green the 25th of November. She also added that the info out about the extra Homestead Exemption being available should be added to the website link. She then thanked Mr. Lippman for doing a fantastic job on the website.

Councilman Louda-In the PBSO process can we ask about spot enforcement on Okeechobee and Collecting Canal and F Roads.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said it was mentioned at the LGWCD that we needed to provide them with a list of signs needed.

Councilman Louda asked if our new logo will be on the signs after the contest ends and stated that we should add INC. to the sign that Ms. Issacs had mentioned earlier.

Mayor Browning-Thank you all for coming out. I am glad we are getting into this visioning thing. It is important.

23. Town Attorney Comments

Town Attorney Tolces said our office is monitoring current special session tax reform. We know it will affect the Town in the future. I have prepared and have a hand out for you tonight for you to look at and can send comments back to me.

Councilman Autrey said that water control didn't approve the ILA with the signs.

Town Clerk Lippman said that it was due to typographical errors. He said that he and Mr. Tolces fixed those and forwarded it to Lynette.

Town Attorney said that their legal department had several questions which he answered.

24. Adjournment

Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to adjourn meeting, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

There being no further discussion and no additional public comment the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

