



## Loxahatchee Groves Town Council

Regular Town Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District Council Chambers

7:00PM– 10:30PM

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### **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 Tolces, Esq., Town Attorney

Members of the Public

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### **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 Town Clerk Lippman. Upon completion of the roll, the Mayor requested everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

### **5. Approval of Agenda**

Town Attorney Tolces requested that Item #10 be removed from the Agenda due to the fact that the fee for the advertising had not been paid yet.

Town Clerk Lippman requested that an Item #21 be added to the Agenda for direction on the distribution of the local gas tax money.

**Councilman Louda MOTIONED to approve the amended agenda, SECONDED by Vice-Mayor Herzog and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**6. Approval of Minutes from:**

- a. November 20, 2007 Regular Town Council Meeting
- b. November 26, 2007 Drought Workshop

Vice-Mayor Herzog mentioned a few corrections to the November 20, 2007 minutes. First, she said on Page 8 the last sentence before the motion was incomplete. She also said that on Page 11 that the spelling should read I PARC. On Page 22, she said that it should read that the Health Department forced them to connect to Seminole water and they were ordered to do that because their water is too salty. Last, she said that the spelling on Page 23 should read CEO Bland Eng instead of Lang.

Councilman Louda said that Drought was spelled wrong on the title page of the November 26, 2007 Workshop minutes. He also said that on Page 30 it should read 16 feet not 16,000 feet. On Page 38, he said the spelling of Pray was wrong in the 4<sup>th</sup> line from the bottom.

- 7. Approval of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol November Invoice**
- 8. Financial Report**
- 9. PBC Planning, Zoning, & Building Town Report**

**Councilman Autrey MOTIONED to approve the Consent Agenda with corrections to the minutes as noted, SECONDED by Councilman Lipp and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**10. Appeal for exemption from Moratorium:  
(Control No.1984-186) (Acts 2 Worship Center)**

**PROPOSED REQUEST TO THE TOWN:** The applicant is requesting an exemption from the Town's moratorium in order to continue with their application with the county. The applicant would still be required to seek approval from the Town Council on the Final Site Plan.

**PROPOSED REQUEST TO THE COUNTY:** Proposed for review by the DRO is a request for final site plan approval for the Acts 2 Worship Center (1984-186). The subject property is located within the Town of Loxahatchee Groves and is located approximately 0.25 miles west of Folsom Road on the south side of Okeechobee Boulevard.

This item was removed from the Agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

**11. Presentation (10 minutes):** SR 80 (Southern Boulevard) Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study from Seminole Pratt-Whitney Road to Forest Hill Boulevard Palm Beach County, Florida (FDOT)

Councilman Lipp introduced the presentation by saying that recently DOT had their first meeting for the P D & E study which stands for Project Development and Environment Study.

Robert Carballo introduced himself and said he was a Project Manager from the firm C3TS. He also introduced Ray Holzweiss-Supervisor from FDOT, Miguel Vargas-FDOT Project Manager, Sylvia Beltre-Assistant Project Manager from C3TS, and Michael Sexton-Consultant Sexton & Associates. Mr. Carballo then gave background information on the project. He said the study limits were from Seminole Pratt to Forest Hill Boulevard and that Southern Boulevard is one of the two main East West roadways in Palm Beach County. He said the project is being funded through private development who is paying for the study and the construction of the project. He mentioned that Florida State Law says it has to comply with the statutes and everything has to go through DOT, they are managing the contract and they will either approve or not approve the project. He mentioned the project was being looked out on a fast pace basis.

The study description includes:

- widen from 4 to 6 lanes
- upgrades to sis & fihs standards
- evaluate access Management (median openings)
- evaluate environmental impacts (seir)
- evaluate traffic 2012 open date, 2022 interim & 2032 design
- evaluate existing conditions: drainage, safety & signalized intersections
- public involvement: kick-off meetings, presentation to MPO & Public Hearing

Mr. Carballo explained the environmental evaluation which would include social and cultural impacts, natural impacts, and physical impacts. He said the study will also look at wildlife and wetlands impacts with minimal risk within right of way. He mentioned the public involvement with meetings, presentations, and a hearing. He said the construction was estimated to be done in December 2009.

Councilman Lipp asked when the study would be ready for review.

Mr. Carballo responded June 2008.

Councilman Autrey commented that the speed you want to do this will make it hard for us to help you with this plan. This project affects us more than anything. The Groves will be affected by this the most. We will roll this into the Comprehensive Planning Process. I don't think the pace you want to move is going to let us react. I hope we can slow it down and find out why it is being rushed because all of a sudden it is on a fast track.

Mr. Carballo said that he would leave his contact information and that the Town could set up future meetings.

Councilman Louda questioned why the project was being fast tracked.

Mr. Carballo responded that the County was requiring it to be done at this pace.

Councilman Autrey said that the project drives traffic North on our dirt roads which are paid for and maintained by the land owners of the Groves. He said he thinks we need direct staff into looking into slowing this down.

Mayor Browning commented that we are definitely concerned.

Mayor Browning asked for comments from the Public.

**Rob Rennebaum-928 North Shore, North Palm Beach-** Mr. Rennebaum said he represents Bradley Miller's project Southern Crossings located on the North Side of Southern at E Road. He questioned what will happen with the median and the right of way. He questioned the Council as to what would happen to projects that want to move forward.

Councilman Lipp stated that the Council had asked Mr. Miller at a previous meeting to join in the planning process with the Town.

Councilman Autrey said that the project blanked out 30 homes behind it. He said a combination of intensity will push all this traffic North.

Mayor Browning said that from Mr. Miller's project they were looking at a long construction phase and that the Southern Boulevard widening will really impact that.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said that the building of Mr. Miller's project could be planned right where the road would be.

Mr. Rennebaum said the construction would slow us down and affect us and asked what the Council's thought was on this and other projects.

Town Attorney Tolces said since Mr. Miller's project is quasi judicial that those issues will have to be discussed when they come back to present to the Council in 30 days and he would suggest nothing about the project be discussed.

Town Clerk Lippman said that there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 20 with Mr. Miller where these issues will be discussed.

**Bill Gurney, E Road-** Mr. Gurney question what happens to the utilities on the North side of Southern Boulevard. If they have to be moved it could infringe on properties. He also said whoever is putting in the sidewalks right now might want to stop.

Mr. Carballo said James Wolf has district final approval on this project. He also mentioned a contact Paul Lampley.

Councilman Lipp said that they could put the utility lines under the ground.

**Chris Gilman-** Mr. Gilman said the project will definitely impact his business, a horse operation on Citrus Drive. He mentioned trucks flying up and down the private road.

## **12. Strategic Visioning & Planning Finalist Interviews:**

Town Clerk Lippman said that it had been communicated with the four firms prior to the meeting that the Council would like them to address the American Assembly Process in their presentations.

Mayor Browning called for a short break to allow time to set up for the presentations.

### **a. The Mellgren Planning Group, Michelle Mellgren & David Oakes**

Michelle Mellgren said she was familiar with what the issues would be. She mentioned Southern Boulevard as one of them. She referred to the handouts she gave the Council with updated price information including the American Assembly Approach. She explained how the process would work and who they would interview to frame the issues to get ready for the Assembly Process which would be 3 days.

She highlighted the issues:

- development pressure-Southern Boulevard
- new residents and maintaining heritage
- illegal dumping
- cut through traffic which will affect the character of the community
- future governments upholding values
- tax base and services

### **Council Questions:**

Councilman Louda said he liked how they brought in the American Assembly process and he didn't have any questions.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said that she liked the way the proposal was broken down.

Councilman Autrey said what jumped out at him was that he didn't see an example of a Strategic Plan done by her firm.

Councilman Lipp said he noticed that her firm had done a corridor study on Griffin Road in Davie and asked what that entailed.

Ms. Mellgren said that they were proactive with the community and showed them what the corridor would look like after DOT was done with it.

Ms. Mellgren said that she thought it would be difficult to stop the DOT project. She said the job of DOT is to keep traffic moving and I think it would be better to be proactive with the community on this.

Mayor Browning thanked the group for their presentation.

### **b. Analytica, Herb Marlowe**

Herb Marlowe introduced himself for the record and said he was from North Florida. He said he wanted to make it clear that his firm is not a Comprehensive Planning Firm. He explained that he would NOT recommend the American Assembly Process here, saying it was a good tool and one he does use but not for here.

Mr. Marlowe said the residents role would be values, concerns, priorities, and vision. He said the elected official's role would be strategy and resource allocation to achieve vision. He said the voters role would be to affirm this via their response.

Mr. Marlowe outlined his proposed public engagement process. He said he would begin with Town Council meetings and ask the questions: What features of the Groves do you want to keep? What additional features do you want to add? He said he would propose a series of focus groups: open, invited, and random, and conduct a visual preference survey, a table top mapping exercise, and service priority and purchasing polling with these groups.

Mr. Marlowe concluded his presentation by saying 3 things:

1. There are different concepts and skills in Strategic Planning and Comprehensive Planning
2. The Strategic Plan should drive the Comprehensive Plan-not the other way around.
3. Public Engagement Processes should build on the effective role of the public in the process.

### **Council Questions:**

Councilman Louda questioned how a Town Hall Meeting differs from an American Assembly meeting.

Mr. Marlowe responded that a Town Hall Meeting is based on a document and American Assembly is a debate on that document.

Vice-Mayor Herzog questioned if the fee would remain the same with the addition of the public involvement.

Town Attorney Tolces requested the Council focus on the firms responses and not price proposals.

Councilman Autrey said he agreed with not having to do the American Assembly approach and said that he found the plans Mr. Marlowe had sent for review were laid out great. He said he liked the plan that had been executed for Naples.

Councilman Lipp questioned the situation of SR-80 and said that trying to deal with FDOT is frustrating. He asked if Mr. Marlowe had ever participated in a corridor study before.

**c. LPA-TMH, Rochelle Lawandales**

Town Clerk Lippman read for the record a letter from Tom (Rochelle's partner) apologizing for not being present at the meeting due to a conflict in Tallahassee.

Rochelle Lawandales introduced herself and said she wanted to reiterate some important things. She said that the American Assembly is what she calls PIP planning and it includes the public.

She discussed the steps she would take:

1. Establish a Vision Committee  
(kick-off meeting with this committee to cultivate initial ideas regarding values, issues, opportunities, assets, and potential pitfalls)
2. Community Values and Issues/Community Forum
  - a. Community Values
  - b. Open House/Open Forum
  - c. Visioning/Strategic Planning Workshop (Charette)
  - d. Validation Exercise
  - e. Final Report

**Council Questions:**

Councilman Louda asked Town Attorney Tolces how the Council would interact with a Committee and if it would have to be publically advertised.

Town Attorney Tolces responded that it would have to be advertised as a hearing, but that public comment would not have to be taken.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked how the direct mailing system would work.

Ms. Lawandales responded that they would work with staff in identifying the best resource, for example, a registered voters list or tax roll. She said they would suggest to take a sampling like every 10<sup>th</sup> address. She said they like to get a 10% response back. She said they would also use the resources we already have and post comment boxes

Councilman Autrey said after he read the Strategic Plan for South Daytona he was not sure what is was driving. He said if Tom was present he would question him if this document would differ from the one to be prepared for the Groves.

Councilman Lipp asked how long the process would take and how long they would spend in the Groves.

Ms. Lawandale responded a good 6-8 months and at least 1 month spent in the Town.

**d. I.C.C., Julia Trevarthen**

Julia Trevarthen introduced herself and said she had worked on projects on all scales from small communities such as Southwest Ranches to large scale in Miami. She said she had added more detail to the proposal to the Town.

Ms. Trevarthen mentioned that she had access to the Regional Planning Council's expertise also.

She highlighted a 3 part process:

1. Background Resource Document
2. American Assembly Visioning Process
3. Strategic Plan

Ms. Trevarthen discussed the 2 day intensive facilitated American Assembly event to reach out to the citizens of the Groves.

**Council Questions:**

Councilman Louda asked who did the visioning for Southwest Ranches.

Ms. Trevarthen responded that she did the visioning and then Michelle Mellgren came on as the Town Planner.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked when you have the meetings will you bring your staff. She also asked if Ms. Trevarthen had access to any transportation experts to help with the Southern Boulevard issues.

Ms. Trevarthen responded that she would bring enough staff so that every small group had a Facilitator and that yes, they had a transportation expert on staff.

Councilman Autrey asked how large of an area the firm covered.

Ms. Trevarthen responded that it starts at Key West and runs all the way to Broward County.

Councilman Autrey commented that he was disappointed that her firm didn't submit any examples of plans they had done.

Ms. Trevarthen apologized but said that there are many samples of their work on the website.

Councilman Lipp asked how long the process would take from beginning to end.

Ms. Trevarthen responded it would be a 3-5 month process. She said you need lead time to build desire and interest in the process.

Councilman Lipp asked as far as stakeholders outside the Town borders who would that be in your opinion.

Ms. Trevarthen responded that PBC, DCA, DOT, and SFWMD would all be people who could be interviewed. She said the Town could broaden to neighboring communities and invite them as guests or participants. She said you never know where a good idea is going to come from.

Councilman Lipp also asked about grant writing and if the firm had any writers on staff.

Councilman Autrey said that it seemed like much of what was presented was in regards to the Comprehensive Plan Process.

Ms. Trevarthen said that the process all goes together.

### **DECISION PROCESS:**

Town Attorney Tolces let the Council know that they could discuss what they wanted to do. He said you can do a ranking system or make a motion to direct staff to negotiate with a particular firm.

Mayor Browning said he preferred the ranking system.

Councilman Autrey asked how to begin the discussion.

Councilman Louda said that he liked the Mellgren Group based on their broad expertise. He said Analytica was good but small and he hadn't seen enough, he said ICC was broad based expertise with a little less cost. He said his choices would be between Mellgren and ICC.

Town Manager Irv Rosenbaum said that all of these firms can do the job for you and I have worked with 3 of the 4 in the past. He said that having the source documents is a great advantage and we need to look at the visioning session.

Town Clerk Lippman said there were 3 things he would look at. First, I would look at the people who had expertise in the Strategic and Visioning Process. Second, I would look at the fire power of each of the individuals. Third, I would look at how open they are about the American Assembly process and how they would achieve that.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said she was very impressed with ICC-Julia and their work with Southwest Ranches.

Councilman Autrey said his choice would be Analytica. He said the work he has done is impressive and he had sent 4 actual examples of plans prior to the presentation. He said only 2 of the 4 firms had done that and other than the examples of the plans it would be based on a sales presentation only.

Councilman Lipp said his first choice would be Analytica also. He said Mr. Marlowe had done the Palm Coast plan which he liked.

Town Attorney Tolces said that based on the ranking have Staff work an agreement with the top ranked firm.

Mayor Browning said that he liked the Town Hall Approach and he would go with Analytica also.

Town Clerk Lippman announced the #1 firm choice was Analytica and the 2<sup>nd</sup> firm choice was ICC.

**Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to direct Staff to negotiate a contract with Analytica-Herb Marlowe and if it was not successful then to negotiate a contract with ICC-Julia Trevarthen SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

Town Attorney Tolces said that we should invite the firms in to let them know the decision.

Town Clerk Lippman announced that they had left.

### **13. Rev. Calvin Lyerla (Acts II): Update on Day Labor Center**

Town Attorney Tolces said that Town Staff had discussions with the Reverend on Ordinance development in regards to restrict street site solicitation. He said he anticipated bring that Ordinance to the Council the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in January to pass the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in February and then Mr. Lyerla would be able to start the facility.

Councilman Louda asked if there would be anything to preclude him from people who just want to show up voluntarily.

Reverend Lyerla said it wouldn't work until it becomes the law of the Town and he is fine to move to later February to wait for the legal Ordinance. He said they hadn't advertised or publicized when it will open yet. He said he would look for the Town's help in respect to direct mailing lists and information on nurseries and other people that usually hire these workers. He said the Western Communities will have to be notified by newspaper along with the local TV stations. He said if the migrant workers know about the site they will come, but if professionals don't embrace it, it won't work. He said the time line is more effective now. He said in Jupiter they put up signs on the streets and suggested maybe doing so at the alphabet roads in the Groves.

Vice-Mayor Herzog suggested advertising in Morena Molina's Spanish newspaper and she has offered to advertise this.

Reverend Lyerla said he prepared information on flyers to hand out but he also would like the Town to include the printed Ordinance directly in the mailer so people know it is the law.

Councilman Autrey inquired if any more thought had been given to traffic and how many entries the church had.

Reverend Lyerla responded two driveways.

Reverend Lyerla requested that the Council consider the Houses of Worship in the Groves in their visioning process.

Vice-Mayor Herzog mentioned that there are 9 congregations that meet on Okeechobee.

Councilman Louda said he had been disturbed by the story in the Post on December 11, 2007 about the rally in Jupiter leading to an arrest.

Reverend Lyerla said that he represents the church that has the separate entity "Buena Fae" on the property. He said it won't work without the help of the Town. He said that his church will provide the service but it is a huge Congressional issue that has not been settled yet. He then thanked Vice-Mayor Herzog for helping pass out dinners to the workers on Thanksgiving Day. He mentioned that bicycles had been ordered for the workers who don't have them and that they want to do whatever they have to do legally to make this happen.

#### **14. C.E.R.T. Update (*Ken & Pat Johnson*)**

Ken and Pat Johnson, the founders of the CERT team spoke about the program.

They highlighted the following:

- currently have 26 trained and certified members
- 14 future volunteers waiting for training (needs to get to 20)
- 8 licensed ham operators
- drive going on to recruit volunteers for classes starting in Mid-January
- drive going on as a fundraiser to raise money to buy needed medical supplies and equipment-
- selling raffle tickets for prizes that have been donated by local area businesses

Mr. Johnson went on to explain a major disconnect in the mapping of the Groves.

He said the following were mapping problems they had found:

- roads incorrectly named on maps
- roads shown on maps with no names listed
- roads shown on maps that don't exist
- roads that have two names but only one is shown

Mr. Johnson said that the fire department map had over 30 errors on it.

He mentioned other related problems:

- missing road signs
- road signs not reflecting both road names

Councilman Lipp asked if the Town has the ability to rename a road.

Town Attorney Tolces said he could look into who the right entity is for the Town to contact.

Town Clerk Lippman said that he had just received the County tax roll and in working with the LGWCD for the gas tax they will cover the whole Town.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if Mr. Johnson would be working with Mr. Lippman and Mr. Saunier.

Mr. Johnson said he had spoken with Kelly Rachinsky who is the coordinator for PBC GIS System (Geographic Information System) and that he is the key in this because other agencies draw off his data.

Town Clerk Lippman said we can move immediately on this based on what you found out.

The Town Council thanked Mr. Johnson.

Councilman Autrey said he wants to make sure we don't make something worse in an attempt to fix it.

Town Clerk Lippman said that Town Staff would collect information and not change anything until it was brought back to the Council.

#### **15. Okeechobee Road Meeting Update (*Dennis Lipp*)**

Councilman Lipp said his meeting with George Webb was short and to the point and they had discussed what a round-about might look like but that could be addressed in the visioning process. He said they had designed one that could even handle 18 wheelers.

#### **16. Approval of Town Meeting and Office Calendar for 2008 (*Matthew Lippman*)**

**Councilman Louda MOTIONED to approve the Town Meeting and Office Calendar for 2008, SECONDED by Vice-Mayor Herzog and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

Town Clerk Attorney Tolces said that someone else from his firm would be at the two January Town Council Meetings because he had conflicts with his schedule.

#### **17. Authorization to re-issue RFP 2007-002 Solid Waste Services (extend until January 15, 2008) (*Matthew Lippman*)**

Town Clerk Lippman said he recommends the Town re-issue the RFP for Solid Waste Services. He said the County process would be decided on December 20, 2007 and that could affect the bids. He also said that it would only be extended until January 4, 2008 since the County decision would be made this week.

**Councilman Louda MOTIONED to re-issue RFP 2007-002 Solid Waste Services and extend until January 4, 2008, SECONDED by Councilman Lipp and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

Councilman Autrey asked if we sent out a new version of the RFP with answers to the questions from the first one.

Town Clerk Lippman responded yes that it was amended and the amended one will be sent out.

## **18. Water Utility and Conservation**

### **a. Water Utility Discussions with Palm Beach County (update) (*Irv Rosenbaum*)**

Town Manager Dr. Rosenbaum said that Palm Beach Utilities requested to come before the Council and be on a future Agenda and with your approval I will invite them to a future meeting.

Vice-Mayor Herzog asked if they would be explaining where they are proposing the gray water line for the FP& L plant.

### **b. Water Utility Application Approval (s):**

- i. Mr. & Mrs. Wozniak**
- ii. First Holiness Church**

Town Attorney Tolces said that any entity that is adjacent to the County water lines may request approval from the governing body (Town).

Town Clerk Lippman said that First Holiness Church had not turned in their request so only i. Mr. & Mrs. Wozniak needed approval.

Town Clerk Lippman explained the 3 step approval process for anyone who wants to hook up to County water. He said if they are along the lines and no other property would be disturbed then they could follow the process.

The process is:

1. Go to the County and fill out a request application
2. Application will be forwarded to the Town Clerk
3. Application is brought to Town Council for vote

After this, the applicant can go to the County and pay the fee. The Town will get their monies once the agreement is put back in place.

Vice-Mayor Herzog inquired if this was only for water and not sewer.

Councilman Lipp asked if LGWCD would have to permit the right of ways.

**Clete Saunier-LGWCD-** Mr. Saunier explained that the landowner still needs to get a permit for construction from the LGWCD.

Councilman Autrey asked if there was a fee for that.

Mr. Saunier responded \$75 and that pays for the recording of the permit at the County.

Mayor Browning asked if in the future these requests could be part of the Consent Agenda.

**Councilman Autrey MOTIONED to approve the County water hook up request for Mr. & Mrs. Wozniak's property located at 14176 North Road, Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

**c. Appointing a "team" to communicate with SFWMD relating to the issues from the Water Workshop (*Dave Autrey*)**

Town Clerk Lippman said that staff had a good discussion with Mr. Saunier and it was indicated at the meeting that LGWCD would ask for a variance from SFWMD. He asked the Council to appoint a member to be present at discussions with Town Staff and LGWCD.

Mr. Saunier said the variance application is filled out but just needs some final calculations. He said the letter will be forwarded to them this week.

**John Ryan, 3508 A Road-** Mr. Ryan said needs to attend a SFWMD Board Meeting where approval is an Agenda item. He said after staff approves the application they make it an Agenda item for the Board. I think we should have as much participation from the Council and LGWCD supervisors as possible.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said that The League of Cities has pointed that out also. They said you have to have someone from your Council there to get your issues addressed.

Mr. Ryan asked the Council and Staff for a letter of support to go with it.

Councilman Lipp asked Staff to research municipalities in the State who are solely dependent on well water.

Town Clerk Lippman said mostly on the Western Region and that he could get that information and forward it to everybody.

**Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to approve the Mayor signing a letter requesting the variance from SFWMD, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

Councilman Autrey said that at the Drought Impact Solutions Workshop he was under the impression that Mr. Saunier said that LGWCD hands were tied and they were requesting help from the Town. He said now it appears that LGWCD is taking the active role back and wants the Town just to write a letter of support for that. What has changed between then and now.

Mr. Ryan said that LGWCD was not getting a good level of attention to the previous variance request and SFWMD had required them to present the variance on a week to week basis. He said that Fred Rapach-SFWMD had a better understanding of our needs after that Workshop meeting. He explained the meeting had been beneficial to LGWCD.

Councilman Autrey said he had submitted a Public Records Request to LGWCD for the variance request and would still like to get the information.

Town Clerk Lippman said what we are asking at this time is for the Council to authorize a member to work directly with me and Mr. Saunier.

Mr. Saunier handed Councilman Autrey the paperwork he had requested for the record.

**Vice-Mayor Herzog MOTIONED to have Dave Autrey represent the Council at meetings with Town Staff and the LGWCD, SECONDED by Councilman Louda and the MOTION passed unanimously 5-0.**

Councilman Louda requested that Staff put on a future Agenda the adoption of a Resolution from the Town that the County not give the water to the FP & L plant and divert the 22.5 million gallons a day to irrigation.

Town Manager Dr. Rosenbaum said that we should have them come in and talk to us. He said he thinks reclaim water is a resource the Town could use to recharge its canals. He said we need to find out what they are doing and have a discussion on it.

**19. Presentation of certificates for the completion of the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials certification (*Matthew Lippman*)**

- a. Marge Herzog**
- b. Dennis Lipp**
- c. Dave Autrey**

Town Clerk Lippman said he wanted to recognize that we received a letter from the Institute to officially recognize the 3 individuals who completed the course for the Public Record. He said their certificates are currently being framed.

**20. Public Comments**

**William Parker, 15563 Collecting Canal-** Mr. Parker said he wanted to express his frustration that it is always someone outside of the Town trying to change the Town.

Mayor Browning responded that never in history has the Town been prepared to fight in until now.

Vice-Mayor Herzog responded that she thinks people are listening to the Town now.

## **21. ADDITION OF AGENDA ITEM-DIRECTION FOR GAS TAX**

Town Clerk Lippman said the Town was in receipt of local gas tax revenues and he and Clete Saunier-LGWCD had had initial discussions regarding this. With the ILA that is in place between the Town and the LGWCD I am looking for direction as to where the Council would like the funds distributed.

**Clete Saunier-LGWCD-** Mr. Saunier reinforced that the first years distribution of the gas tax monies would be based on population and not lane miles. There is a paragraph in the ILA that outlines if the Town wishes for the gas tax money to be used on non district roads, there needs to be a separate amendment drawn up. He also mentioned that in the past the County had purchased the signs for the Groves, he said now this responsibility was the Towns, but the District could do so on their behalf. He said he recommended sending a Council member to a District meeting to suggest this.

Town Clerk Lippman said he needed a Council member to work with him and Clete on this issue and the Councilman Autrey volunteered.

## **22. Town Clerk Comments**

Town Clerk Lippman said Happy Holidays and Happy New Year and he loves working in this Town.

## **23. Town Attorney Comments**

Town Attorney Tolces said ditto.

## **24. Council Member Comments**

Councilman Lipp said ditto.

Councilman Autrey said ditto.

Vice-Mayor Herzog said ditto and mentioned that there were poinsettias for the Council and Town Staff to take home with them.

Councilman Louda said that he would like to see on a future agenda a resolution for vegetative waste and for the Town to consider partnering with the SWA.

