



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

Meeting audio available in Town Clerk's Office

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor El-Ramey called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor El-Ramey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor El-Ramey led a prayer.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lisa El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Marge Herzog, Councilmembers Laura Danowski, Phillis Maniglia and Robert Shorr, Town Manager James Titcomb, Assistant Town Manager Francine Ramaglia, Town Attorney James Brako, Public Works Director Larry Peters, and Town Clerk Lakisha Burch.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

Town Manager Titcomb could item 4 approval of the renewal of the Palm Beach Aggregates Master Agreement be pulled from this agenda and be brought back for the February 16th meeting stating the legal department would like to take an additional look at the agreement before moving forward. Councilmember Shorr asked if the appendix could be added when this agreement comes back before Town Council. Town Manager Titcomb responded sure. Town Manager Titcomb also stated for housekeeping purpose if Capitan Turner and Ms. McNichols could speak during public comments to give monthly reports.

Vice Mayor Herzog asked could item 5 Presentation of FY 2018-2019 (FY19) Audits for the Town of Loxahatchee Groves Certified Annual Financial Report (CAFR) - from Terry Morton from Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A. be moved to be heard before the Consent Agenda.

Motion was made by Councilmember Maniglia seconded by Vice Mayor Herzog to pull item 4 approval of the renewal of the Palm Beach Aggregates Master Agreement from the agenda and move item 5 presentation of FY 2018-2019 (FY19) Audits for the Town of Loxahatchee Groves Certified Annual Financial Report (CAFR) - from Terry Morton from Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A. be moved to be heard before the Consent Agenda; it was voted as follows: Aye: Mayor El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Herzog, Councilmembers Danowski, Maniglia and Shorr. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Danowski stated that she may have to leave due a problem at home and she would have her phone on the dais.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mary McNichols from Sluggett and Associates gave an update regarding Palm Beach Days being cancelled, she stated she recommends saving travel for mid-April and that she will continue to be actively involved but also being very creative. She also stated she recommends that Town Council please support the Village of Wellington's local bill regarding restricting usage of fireworks to just the Equestrian Preserve area and she will work with Town Clerk and Town Attorney to get a resolution to send to the Village of Wellington and the local legislative. She also stated that we were successful removing a proposed Okeechobee corridor from the Palm Beach County Transportation Plan. Ms. McNichols also stated that she requests that a "Thank You" be sent to County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay.

Captain Craig Turner of the Palm Beach County Sheriff Office gave an overview to Town Council of the stats for 2021 stating that the Town is averaging about two crimes per week. He stated that a stabbing, a stolen car, and burglary had been reported and arrest were made. He also mentioned that the yearly report for 2020 had been sent to Town Manager Titcomb and will be presented at the March's Town Council meeting and that there were changes made to reflect suggestions that were given by Town Council. He spoke about Deputy being on letter roads and continuing to use motor vehicles on those roads.

Councilmember Maniglia asked were there any luck getting the four-wheelers. Captain Turner responded that he will be receiving two four-wheelers and he is waiting to get some other officers through school. He also stated that once more Deputies are certified he would put them on the road- but he does have some Deputies that he can put in the area. He stated that his expectant time is about 2-3 weeks.

Councilmember Danowski congratulated Captain Turner on his promotion then asked about when Deputies are on the letter roads and Collecting Canal are there pros/cons of having unmarked cars verses marked cars. Captain Turner responded by stating there isn't but the issue he has is putting Deputies in unmarked vehicles that may have to respond to a call. He prefers for them to be in marked cars. Councilmember Danowski also asked Captain Turner about the uptick in underage aggressive riders on dirt bikes, what can be done. Captain Turner responded that when the Deputies catch them, they make sure they feel the pain of what they had done but they have a policy that they will not case if they run and a majority of them run. But if they are found they are citted.

Vice Mayor Herzog asked is there legal places where they can ride. Captain Turner responded by stating there are really not a park where kids can ride the dirt bikes, there are not a decent area to ride. There was further discussion among Vice Mayor Herzog and Captain Turner regarding underage kids riding dirt bikes.

Councilmember Maniglia asked if BMX track on Okeehlee Park be open to the motor bikes. Captain Turner stated he would have to find out that information.

Ryan Johnston of Johnston Group Development and Construction spoke about the use of Groves Medical Plaza building. He asked for feedback from Town Council about the proposal of changing the zoning of Groves Medical Plaza building from medical to medical/professional.

Alex Torres Chief Financial Officer of J & J Produce also address the Town Council in regard to their consideration of changing the zoning for Groves Medical Plaza building from medical to medical/professional.

Jo Siciliano addressed Town Council with concerns regarding the traffic circle on "B" Road at the Aldi/Publix intersection and speed limit on Okeechobee.

Katie Lakeman addressed Town Council about trails status now that the Aldi is open. She also passed out two pictures that she asked Town Council to receive and file.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes.
 - a. January 21, 2020 Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
 - b. February 18, 2020 Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
 - c. September 22, 2020 Town Council Final Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes
 - d. October 6, 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
 - e. October 20, 2020 Town Council Workshop/Special Meeting Minutes
 - f. November 3, 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
 - g. November 17, 2020 Town Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
 - h. December 1, 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
 - i. December 15, 2020 Town Council Workshop/Special Meeting Minutes
 - j. January 5, 2021 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Shorr asked that the approval of Meeting Minutes be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion. There was discussion and review of all meeting minutes. Town Clerk Burch noted and will correct all Scrivener's errors.

Motion was made by Councilmember Maniglia seconded by Councilmember Danowski to make audio recordings of all the Town Council meetings a permanent record; it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Herzog, Councilmembers Danowski, Maniglia and Shorr. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Shorr seconded by Councilmember Danowski to approve the meeting minutes item 1 with corrections to Scrivener's errors; it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Herzog, Councilmembers Danowski, Maniglia and Shorr. Motion passed unanimously.

PROCLAMATION

2. Proclamation- Village of Wellington's 25th Anniversary of Incorporation.

Councilmember Danowski read the proclamation into the record. There were two corrections made in the proclamation. Town Clerk Burch stated that corrections will be made before presenting to the Village of Wellington at their upcoming meeting.

There was consensus that the date would be February 2nd as the date by the Town Clerk to the proclamation for the Village of Wellington's 25th Anniversary of Incorporation.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. Approval of Resolution No. 2021-04 authorizing the entry by the Town into agreements with Vendors for goods and services utilizing other Government Agency Contracts; authorizing the mayor to execute necessary documents in forms acceptable to the Town Manager and Town Attorney to take necessary action to implement such Cooperative Purchasing Agreements.

Town Manager Titcomb presented the item. Assistant Town Manager Ramaglia gave further information stating that this is the Palm Beach County version of the Wellington and Palm Beach Gardens contracts that was approved. She also stated that this contract did not include Community

Asphalt so another contract would be coming forth from Palm Beach County which included Community Asphalt on it.

Motion was made by Councilmember Maniglia seconded by Vice Mayor Herzog to adopt Resolution No. 2021-04 authorizing the entry by the Town into agreements with Vendors for goods and services utilizing the Palm Beach County Annual Pathway & Minor Contract for Project # 2020055; authorizing the Mayor to execute necessary documents in forms acceptable to the Town Manager and Town Attorney to take necessary action to implement such Cooperative Purchasing Agreements; it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Herzog, Councilmembers Danowski, Maniglia and Shorr. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the renewal of the Palm Beach Aggregates Master Agreement. **PULLED FROM AGENDA TO BE HEARD AT THE FEBRUARY 16TH TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING.**
5. Presentation of FY 2018-2019 (FY19) Audits for the Town of Loxahatchee Groves Certified Annual Financial Report (CAFR) - from Terry Morton from Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A.- **MOTIONED TO BE HEARD BEFORE THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Town Manager Titcomb introduced the item.

Anita Kane, Finance Audit and Advisory Committee (FAAC) Chair addressed Town Council. Ms. Kane stated the following:

- FAAC met last night and will meet on March 8th at 6:00 p.m.
- Fund balances are up in all funds except Capital-not at 25%.
- Current Audit late due to the management change and finance software. But 2020 should be on time.
- Over budget- last minute payment to Underwood Management.
- Significant amount of FEMA payments from Hurricane Irma.
- Business Tax Registration
- Spoke about communications regarding regular meetings.

Councilmember Danowski asked who would be answering questions regarding the audit, Ms. Kane, Chair of the Finance Audit and Advisory Committee or Mr. Morton from Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A. Mayor El-Ramey responded that Town Council can wait until presentations are over and come back if needed. Councilmember Danowski are up but what are the ones besides Capital that is not up. Assistant Town Manager Ramaglia responded to her question. There was additional conversation among Councilmember Danowski and Ms. Kane. Town Manager asked that the auditor get an opportunity to present the audit before further questions are asked.

Assistant Town Manager Ramaglia continued to speak about fund balances. Terry Morton, Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A. presented the audit. Mr. Morton asked was there any questions specific questions that Town Council wanted him to address.

Councilmember Maniglia asked was there any money missing. Mr. Morton stated that all monies have been accounted for.

Town Manager Titcomb expressed his thanks to Assistant Town Manager Ramaglia, Town Clerk Burch and Desiree Rice, Accounting Technician for their work that was done and is being done on the Town's finances.

Town Attorney

- **Update of 143rd**

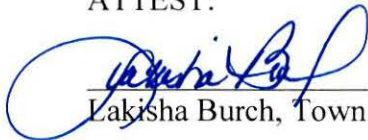
Public Works

ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES
FLORIDA**


ATTEST:



Lakisha Burch, Town Clerk



Mayor Robert Shorr




Vice Mayor Laura Danowski




Council Member Margaret Herzog

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:



Elizabeth Lenihan, Town Attorney



Council Member Phillis Maniglia



Council Member Marianne Miles

Mayor El-Ramey that the FAAC committee and staff for the work being done with the Town's money.

Assistant Town Manager Ramaglia also spoke about the Business Tax Receipts (BTRs).

Motion was made by Councilmember Maniglia seconded by Vice Mayor Herzog to receive and file the Town of Loxahatchee Groves FY 2019 audit reports Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR); it was voted as follows: Ayes: Mayor El-Ramey, Vice Mayor Herzog, Councilmembers Danowski, Maniglia and Shorr. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

Phillis Maniglia, Councilmember (Seat 1)

- Answering of Town Hall phones
- Adding canals to Road and Trails committee
- Bollards (on B Road- never completed)
- Committees (asked if anyone wanted to be on the Roads, Equestrian Trails & Greenway Committee please contact her)
- Water truck (would like to see it out more often)
- Monthly maintenance report

Laura Danowski, Councilmember (Seat 2)

- Agenda preparation regarding Committees
- 5-day work week
- Consideration for what business will go into the plaza across from Town Hall
- Temporary CO for Aldi

Lisa El-Ramey, Mayor (Seat 3)

- Meeting with RETGAC (make sure sign language)
- Consensus when did Solar Sport come before Town Council to change shape of
- Insurance
- Seniors (vaccine)

Robert Shorr, Councilmember (Seat 4)

- Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TPO)
- Permit process
- Traffic circle on B Road

Marge Herzog, Vice Mayor (Seat 5)

- Temporary CO (Aldi) and Paintball place
- Flags (replacement)
- Repair work being done on the equipment

TOWN STAFF COMMENTS

Town Manager

- Florida League of Cities and Legislative has changed protocols.
- Interviews for Public Works
- Spoke about Little Turtle Creek