REGULAR TOWN COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 1, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pugh at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Town Clerk Avery led the roll call, which was answered by the following:

Mayor Pugh	Present
Vice Mayor Coz	Present
Commissioner Cassidy	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pugh led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Pugh asked everyone to take a moment of silence for the passing of Vice Mayor Coz's brother.

Vice Mayor Coz emphasized that everyone should take control of their own health and thanked everyone for their condolences.

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no additions, deletions, or modifications to the agenda.

Commissioner Coz moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy. Motion carried 3-0.

PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS

a. Proclamation: Municipal Clerks Week – April 30 – May 6, 2023

Mayor Pugh read the proclamation into the record by title. He acknowledged Town Clerk Kelly Avery, Deputy Clerk Katina Pinder, and all other municipal clerks for all their hard work, dedication, and vital services.

b. Proclamation for National Police Week May 15-21, 2023, and National Peach Officers Memorial Day, May 15, 2023

Mayor Pugh read the proclamation into the record by title. He thanked the police department for their hard work and dedication. He also paid respect to all the fallen heroes.

c. Employee of Recognition – For service above and beyond expectations: Susan Ammons-Tate, Billy Armstrong, Kelly Avery, Robert Blanchette, Jean Hallahan, and Nubia Savino

Town Manager Ladner recognized employees for going above and beyond expectations for months considering that the office was short staffed.

Acting Chief Scott McClure recognized officer Michael Parkerson for his hard work and dedication of help removing illicit drugs off the streets during traffic stops.

d. Presentation on Septic to Sewer and Florida Government Utility Authority – Neil Hennigan and Steve Spratt

Neil Hennigan presented a lengthy background of what functioned and did not function relating to the septic and sewer project. He also explained the different systems and costs.

Steve Spratt, Assistant Manager, gave a presentation that explained how Florida Government Utility Authority (FGUA) works and how they can help with the septic and sewer project.

Commissioner Cassidy asked Mr. Spratt about the FGUA, who they worked with and how the process worked. Mr. Spratt answered her questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) The meeting schedule for the month is as follows: Regular Town Commission Meeting Monday, June 5th at 6:00 PM; Town Commission, Budget Workshop Special Town Commission Meeting Monday, June 5th at 2 pm; Special Town Commission Meeting Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting Monday, May 15th at 8:00 AM; Board of Adjustment Meeting Wednesday, May 17th at 9:00 AM. All meetings are held in the Commission Chambers at the Town Hall.
b) Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 29, 2023, in observance of Memorial Day
c) The Town is hosting a blood drive event with One Blood on Friday, May 19th from 9 am – 3pm and Saturday, May 20th from 10 am – 4 pm. The bus will be parked behind the Town Hall. All those who wish to donate blood can sign up through a link posted on the Town's website.
d) Residents who wish to sign up to receive important Town notifications and news through Civic Ready should sign up on the Town's website or call Town Hall for assistance.

Mayor Pugh asked Town Clerk Avery to read the announcements. Town Clerk Avery read the announcements into the record.

PUBLIC COMMENT - (3-minute individual limit)

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Terry Brown – spoke about public records and he also gave Town Clerk Avery a file regarding fees owed by Crown Colony.
Ron Kirn – addressed Mr. Brown's comment.

Mayor Pugh asked staff to research Mr. Kirn's complaint and bring before the Commission at the next scheduled meeting.

Stella Kolb – thanked the applicants for applying for the open positions.
Betty Bingham – asked for clarification regarding the ridge and dunes.
Lisa Ritota – spoke regarding budgeting for staff festivities.

Merilee Lundquist - spoke about private property rights.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Items that do not require discussion)

1. Adoption of the Regular Town Commission Meeting of January 9, 2023
2. Adoption of the Special Town Commission Meeting/Planning & Zoning Joint Meeting of January 11, 2023
3. Acceptance of the Revenue & Expenditure Reports for March 2023
4. Approve the Interlocal Coop Agreement between Palm Beach County and the Town of Ocean Ridge to perform the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Emergency Solutions Program, and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program activities
5. Approval of Third Amendment to Agreement for Iguana Management Services
6. Program for Public Information (PPI) Annual Evaluation Report

Mayor Pugh asked for approval of the Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Cassidy moved to the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Coz Motion carried 3-0.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

7. Appointments to Open Positions on the Board of Adjustment & Planning & Zoning Commission

Mayor Pugh thanked everyone for applying for open positions and for those who participated throughout the years.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Ric Carey – spoke about the 3 incumbents- Kosinski, Hennigan and Marsh.
David Hutchins – spoke regarding Kosinski, Hennigan and Marsh
Terry Brown – also agreed with Mr. Carey and Hutchins regarding the 3 incumbents.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment. He asked for Commission discussion and there was none.

Mayor Pugh suggested they start with the Planning & Zoning Commission.

The results on the Planning and Zoning Commission ballot showed P. Shields Feber, Ferenc Stephen Varga, and Sydney Ray as the Regular Commission members and Marc de Baptiste for the Alternate Commission member.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there was none.

Terry Brown – mentioned he served for over ten years if someone would like to choose him.

The Commission then voted on the Board of Adjustment Commission. The results on the Board of Adjustment ballot showed Betty Bingham and Victor Martel for Regular Commission members and Arthur Ziev for Alternate Commission member.

There was a request that Town Clerk Avery re- read the names and Town Clerk Avery re-read the names into the record.

8. Appointments to Open Positions on the Town Commission

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there were none.

Town Manager Ladner announced that Victor Martel was selected on the Board of Adjustment making him no longer a candidate for selection on the ballot for Town Commission.

The results on the ballot showed Phil Besler and Kenneth Kaleel were selected on the Town Commission.

Town Clerk Avery swore in Commissioners Besler and Kaleel as the newly selected Commissioners.

Commissioner Cassidy thanked everyone for their interest in the open positions.

9. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-14 An Ordinance of the Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida Approving a Zoning Change Request for a Parcel of Land Consisting of 9.13 Acres, More or Less, Located Northwest of Town Hall along the Intracoastal Waterway, West of North Ocean Boulevard, As More Particularly Described Herein, From Single Family Residence (SFR) Zoning District to Preservation/Conservation (PC) Zoning District; and Providing for Changes to the Official Zoning Map, Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances, Severability, and an Effective Date

Mayor Pugh read Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2022-14 into the record by title only.

Attorney Goddeau explained the ordinance.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and Commission discussion and there were none.

Commissioner Kaleel moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-14; seconded by Commissioner Cassidy Motion carried 5-0.

10. Building Permit Refund Request for 5831 N Ocean Blvd Unit D1

Town Manager Ladner gave a synopsis of the building permit refund request**.**

There was discussion regarding the town's costs associated with the building permit.

Commissioner Coz moved to approve the building permit refund in the amount of $1,802.50; seconded by Commissioner Kaleel Motion carried 5-0.

11. Discussion on Beach Sign Ordinance

Attorney Goddeau referred to the backup material provided. She also mentioned the changes that were recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment and there were none.

A discussion ensued regarding the number of days a sign can be posted, applying for a permit, placements of signs, and notices to residents.

There was consensus to consider the same language as the Planning and Zoning Commission and requested two (2) changes to add "toe of" to "seawall" (regarding the allowed location of all beach signs) and to change the amortization schedule to 90-days.

12. Discussion regarding a plan to remove bulletproof protective glass at the counter windows in the Town Hall Lobby – Vice - Mayor Coz

Commissioner Coz gave an update on his meeting with Acting Chief McClure and Town Manager Ladner regarding a plan to remove the bulletproof glass at the Town Hall Lobby. He said that for now, town staff will open the window for every visitor.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Terry Brown – made a comment regarding the security door remaining closed.
Stella Kolb – in favor of protective glass removal because it is not friendly.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment.

13. Discussion regarding a plan to reconfigure Town Hall to eliminate security doors access Town Hall Staff areas and separate Town Hall from Police Department – Vice – Mayor Coz

There was no discussion**.**

14. Discussion regarding raking seaweed from the beach to the toe of the dune to facilitate dune renourishment. – Vice – Mayor Coz

Commissioner Coz briefly spoke about raking seaweed from the beach to the dune. He also asked Town Manager Ladner to look into this and to provide the update.

There was a brief discussion about raking seaweed from Beachway.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Betty Bingham – in favor of raking seaweed into the dune.
Terry Brown – said it is waste of money, the seaweed is continuous.
Robert Sloat – made a comment about the smell of the seaweed.
Polly Joa – made a comment about grant for dune restoration and beach signs.
Ron Kirn – gave the amount he pays for dune restoration.
Stella Kolb – emphasized that they are only trying to build up the dunes.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment and asked for Commissioners discussion.

A brief discussion ensued regarding a hold harmless agreement and estimated costs of beach restoration.

There was consensus directing staff to do research on a beach nourishment easement.

15. Discussion of DRAFT ordinance language for Old Ocean Blvd. Lots between Anna and Corrine Streets – Town Attorney Christy Goddeau

Attorney Goddeau explained the ordinance that she created.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Brett Berish – spoke about adding more space to his home and issues with Ordinance 2020-05.
Mary Ann Emanuel – asked questions regarding setbacks.

Town Attorney Goddeau answered Ms. Emanuel's questions.

Betty Bingham – presented maps from 1997.
Merrilee Lundquist – spoke about property rights and was not in favor of Ordinance 2020-05.
John Shibles – not in favor of Ordinance 2020-05.

Mayor Pugh closed the floor for public comment and asked for Commissioners discussion.

There was discussion regarding repealing Ordinance 2020-05 and giving notice to the residents.

David Lundquist – suggested all ordinances should be effectively studied.

Commissioner Coz asked about the effects of repealing the ordinance completely. Attorney Goddeau answered his question.

There was further discussion regarding rebuilding the current footprint.

Mayor Pugh suggested repealing the ordinance and investigating making the lots conforming rather than non-conforming.

More discussion followed regarding repealing the ordinance.

Alana Berish – emphasized that the ordinance should be repealed.

There was consensus to have Attorney Goddeau to research what effect would occur if the ordinance was repealed.

Further discussion ensued regarding using a consultant for the Comprehensive Plan including Anna and Corrine Streets.

16. Discussion regarding amending Chapter 10 Article II Dogs and Cats following concern of town resident – Commissioner Cassidy

Commissioner Cassidy informed the Commission on what language the Palm Beach County and Gulf Stream ordinance has regarding noisy and vicious dogs. She suggested that the Town soften the current language.

There was discussion regarding changing the specific language of the code and due process.

Mayor Pugh asked Acting Chief Scott McClure if this was an issue. Acting Chief McClure answered his question.

Mayor Pugh opened the floor for public comment.

Virginia Sigety – commented about a dog or mauling someone.
Michael Drifmeyer – spoke regarding due process of law.

There was consensus to have Attorney Goddeau and Town Manager Ladner research and make suggestive changes to the ordinance.

STAFF & COMMITTEE REPORTS

17. Planning & Zoning Commission

Chair Ric Carey said that his report was included in the meeting package.

18. Interim Town Manager Ladner

Town Manager Ladner said that her report was included in the meeting package. She also mentioned that the June meeting will be lengthy and announced that the parking lot was restriped and sealed.

19. Town Attorney Goddeau

Attorney Goddeau had no report.

20. Police Chief

Acting Chief McClure said that his report was included in the meeting package. He also mentioned the memo provided to Town Manager Ladner regarding the Flock Safety Program.

21. Town Engineer & Public Works

There was no report.

22. Building Official

There was no report.

TOWN COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT
Meeting Adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Town Clerk Pinder and adopted by the Town Commission on July 10, 2023.

Geoff Pugh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Avery, Town Clerk