



Town Commission Meeting
Tuesday February 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE

TOWN COMMISSION	TOWN STAFF
Keith Waters, Mayor ✓	Linda Stumpf, Town Manager ✓
Simone Bonutti, Vice Mayor ✓	Carmen Mattox, Chief of Police ✓
Stewart Satter, Mayor Pro Tem X	Lisa S. Petersen, Town Clerk ✓
Hank Siemon, Commissioner ✓	Erika Petersen, Deputy Clerk ✓
Richard Granara, Commissioner ✓	Keith Davis, Town Attorney ✓
Chauncey Johnstone, Commissioner ✓	Matthew Pritchett, Ass't. Town Attorney ✓
John Deese, Commissioner ✓	Brent Watson, Water Plant Supervisor ✓

PUBLIC: Lanelda Gaskins (Highland Beach Clerk), Nicolbe Hernandez, Katie Mendoza (PBA), Rebecca Romero (35 Audubon), Fred & Catharine Peterson (63 Curlew), Niki Peterson (65 Curlew), Tracey Merritt, Larry Barszweski (Coastal Star), Frank Mennella (1940 SOB), Robert Schemel (1500 SOB), Debbie Lynott, and John Shahzade (1940 SOB contractor)

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Commission called to order at 10:00 a.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Special presentation honoring Town Clerk Petersen was made by Lanelda Gaskins, the Town Clerk for Highland Beach and the Florida Association of City Clerks (FACC) Southeast Region Director for Region 3. The resolution was presented on behalf of the FACC with Retirement Resolution honoring Town Clerk Petersen with her 18 years of service to the Town and 12 years of dedicated service as Town Clerk.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Minutes January 25, 2022 Town Commission Meeting**
- 2. Police Department Report and Fire/Rescue Response Time Report for January**

Commissioner Deese made a motion to **approve** the Consent Agenda. Vice Mayor Bonutti seconded the motion which prevailed by the following vote:

YES: Vice Mayor Bonutti, Commissioner Granara, Commissioner Siemon, Commissioner Johnstone and Commissioner Deese.

REGULAR AGENDA:

RA. 1 Discussion of Salary Adjustments:

Town Manager Stumpf requested the Town Commission to consider increasing the starting police salary by \$4,700 to \$55,000 to place them in the mid/high range as other comparable communities. She also suggested an immediate 2% raise across the board for all staff in the Town due to the cost of living and inflation increases. She stated that the PBA contract will automatically provide 3% raises for staff in October and that an attorney from the PBA was in attendance and would most-likely speak on the matter. Town Manager Stumpf also indicated she had received an email from Commissioner Siemon regarding his support for a 3% raise effective immediately with further consideration of adjusting again in October. Town Manager Stumpf also stated that she had heard from Commissioner Granara who supported a 3% raise and Commissioner Deese who supported a 5% raise and that she would let them speak on behalf of those views.

The Mayor had some questions regarding the police salaries for the Town Manager. He also inquired to the remaining length of the PBA contract, to which the Town Manager answered one year.

Commissioner Deese commented on steps his Credit Union made to stymie the staffing issues they faced with salary increases. He suggested a 5% across the board salary increase for all Town employees with the understanding that further increases could be made in October depending on the state of the economy.

During public comments, Police Benevolent Association attorney Katie Mendoza spoke providing information on police starting salaries in other coastal communities in the area. She encouraged a starting salary for officers in Manalapan at \$55,000.

Commissioner Deese made a motion to **approve** the salary adjustment of 5% increase across all departments both full time and part time employees effective immediately and starting police salary at \$55,000 also effective immediately. Vice Mayor Bonutti seconded the motion which prevailed by the following vote:

YES: Vice Mayor Bonutti, Commissioner Granara, Commissioner Siemon, Commissioner Johnstone and Commissioner Deese.

RA. 2 Town Manager Stumpf's Report

Code Enforcement: Town Manager Stumpf directed the Commissioners to refer to the Case Log included in their packets. She stated code enforcement continues to be active in the Town.

COVID Update: The latest from the department of Health include 76% of the eligible population was vaccinated. There were 360,277 positive cases with an 25.7% positivity rate in the state. 1,736,600 people were vaccinated in Palm Beach County. New case positivity was only 6.1% in Palm Beach County.

Temporary Statues: Town Manager Stumpf explained our Town code allows temporary statues but the Mayor suggested prohibiting temporary statues while allowing already existing temporary statues to remain. Holiday

decorations would not be affected by the proposed change. Town Attorney Davis explained we would need to take an inventory of existing statues in Town in order to properly enforce going forward.

Sub-basement Code Language Update: Town Manager Stumpf indicated staff was continuing to work on code language and would have something next month to present.

Utility Update: Town Manager Stumpf has received the signed contracts from Mock Roos and they are currently working to setup a pre-construction meeting in 3-4 weeks.

Town Manager Stumpf reminded the commission about the Season Opening Party and Lisa Petersen's Retirement Party on February 24th from 6pm-8pm.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Ordinance #383 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF MANALAPAN, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES AT CHAPTER 152. BUILDING REGULATIONS. BY CREATING AN ENTIRELY NEW SECTION 152.113. CONSTRUCTION MARKERS. TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR PLACEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MARKERS ON STREETS, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND DRIVEWAYS WITHIN THE TOWN; PROVIDING THAT EACH AND EVERY OTHER SECTION AND SUBSECTION OF CHAPTER 152. BUILDING REGULATIONS. SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT AS PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AUTHORITY TO CODIFY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (First Reading)

Town Attorney read by title.

The Mayor requested adding to prohibit the concrete prism markers people place in the grass on their swales as well. Commissioner Granara inquired if there was any consideration for people with new sod on their swales, in those instances he suggested giving them an additional 30 days to allow the grass to germinate and keep the stakes to prohibit cars from parking.

Town Attorney Davis to make adjustments and Ordinance #383 will come back for first reading next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The owner of 35 Audubon Causeway, Rebecca Romero, addressed the commission regarding her code enforcement lien on her property. The Mayor explained that the commission cannot re-litigate the case and directed Ms. Romero to request a fine reduction if she desired to. Ms. Romero did not request the reduction as she had a disagreement with the Town regarding the full lien amount.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

**These minutes were presented to the Town Commission
on Tuesday March 22, 2022 for approval.**

Keith Waters, Mayor

Date Signed

Erika Petersen, Town Clerk

Date Signed