

January 13, 2021

Village Council Meeting

Attendance:

Mayor Nelson
Mr. Neal
Mrs. DiCarolis
Mrs. Bruener
Mr. Hodgson
Mr. Fulmer
Mr. Tomlinson
Mr. Barry

Also:

Sean Swartz
Jim Hickey
Starr Paton

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

The minutes from the December 9, 2020 council meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Tomlinson. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson reviewed the accounts payable for January. All the bills were ordinary and necessary. Motion made by Mrs. DiCarolis and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the accounts payable for January. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson reviewed the financial statement ending December 31, 2020. Page one shows the asset balance sheet. Cash balance at the end of December was \$2,203,000, reflecting our ad valorem tax receipts of \$1,077,000. This doubled our cash balance which will need to last us through the end of this year. On the list of revenue items, building permit fees were \$65,000 in December and \$107,000 year to date. Expense accounts are in line with the budget. Motion made by Mrs. DiCarolis and seconded by Mr. Fulmer to approve the December 31, 2020 financial statement. Motion passed unanimously.

Police Report:

Mayor Nelson asked the Chief to report the typical issues and we will discuss the security during new business.

Chief O'Brien stated we had 3 incidents of unauthorized entry over the last 2 weeks. The first involved stolen automobiles, both of which have been recovered. The second entry was by a person who docked his kayak behind 34 Minnetonka Rd. The suspect was apprehended and there was no criminal intent. The third incident involved a person who was seen in the village, jumped the wall to exit and was chased over the bridge. There was no crime committed.

Traffic continues to be heavy in the village with construction and deliveries of food, Amazon, groceries. Chief discussed 8 a.m. entry issues. We do have some of the bigger jobs completing shortly but new jobs are ready to start.

Code Compliance Report:

Mario Sotolongo was not able to join the meeting. Council members were provided with a list of code cases in their packets. Mario reviewed both submitted landscape plans and both are compliant.

Public Comments:

Mr. Hodgson thanked the Chief and his department for their assistance in the recovery of his SUV following the theft.

Mr. Bryan Phegley of 10 Winnebago Rd. commented on the entries at 8:00 a.m. at the gate. Public comments closed.

New Business:

Mayor Nelson asked the council to consider the landscape plan for 3 Saranac Rd. Mario Sotolongo reviewed the plan and it is compliant to the code. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Barry to approve the landscape plan for 3 Saranac Rd. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Nelson asked the council to consider a revision to the approved landscape plan for 19 Gatehouse Rd. Mario Sotolongo reviewed the plan and it is compliant to the code. Motion made by Mr. Neal and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the landscape plan revision for 19 Gatehouse Rd. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Nelson opened the public hearing for the second reading of the ordinance 2020-01 amending the comprehensive plan. Mr. Jim Hickey discussed the background for the need for the ordinance and the need to incorporate a coastal and flood element into our existing plan. One concern from the state that surfaced was the need to update our 10-year water supply plan which has been addressed. With these changes, we are consistent with the state requirements, while not being more restrictive than the state.

Public comments opened:

Mr. Bryan Phegley stated the additional flood language can be a problem for home renovations, sometimes requiring the base floor elevation to change. Mr. Hickey stated the Florida Building Code has required that for some time and the change in the comprehensive plan is not affecting that issue.

Public comments closed.

Sean Swartz read the ordinance by title only. Motion made by Mr. Tomlinson and seconded by Mr. Fulmer to approve Ordinance 2020-01 amending the Village's comprehensive plan and adopting the evaluation and appraisal report (EAR) based amendments. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Nelson opened the public hearing for the second reading of ordinance 2020-02 providing for the adoption of a 10-year water supply work plan pursuant to the subsection 163.3177 (6) (c), Florida Statutes. The South Florida Water Management District has advised us on adopting the City of Ft. Lauderdale's 10-year water supply plan to meet the requirements of the State of Florida.

Public comments opened. There were none. Public comments closed.

Sean Swartz read ordinance 2020-02 by title only providing for the adoption of a 10-year water supply work plan pursuant to sub-section 163.3177 (6)(c), Florida Statutes. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Fulmer to approve Ordinance 2020-02. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Nelson asked the council to consider the first reading of ordinance 2021-01 providing for local implementation of the South Florida Water Management District water conservation rules for landscape irrigation. Mr. Swartz stated this ordinance gives the Village the ability to enforce and grant variances and allows the village to maintain authority over enforcement. The ordinance allows for the least restrictive language the SFWMD allows. Mayor Nelson discussed the reasons to be compliant with the State's rules. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mrs. DiCarolis to approve ordinance 2021-01 on first reading. The roll was called. Mr. Barry voted against, Mrs. DiCarolis, Mrs. Bruener, Mr. Neal, Mr. Fulmer, Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Tomlinson voted to approve the ordinance. Motion passed 6-1.

Mayor Nelson opened a discussion regarding village security. There were three unauthorized entries over the last several weeks. Mayor Nelson would like the council to discuss what actions they might consider implementing and how to balance security with convenience of ingress and egress for residents. The Beach Club is looking at installing 4 cameras on the street light poles at key intersections which could be tied to the active feed of cameras at the gate. These could be motion sensitive. The Chief is looking at adding the possibility of additional patrols. Mr. Neal asked if the police routines vary from daytime to night patrols. The Chief responded yes. Chief stated the unauthorized entries were not connected to the gate. We have relocated and repositioned a few cameras and have 2 more being installed. Currently the gate personnel monitor 31 cameras showing views of the village entrance, beach club and plaza. We have sensors which alert gate personnel when any pedestrian passes through the highlighted areas at the entrance/exit areas. Mr. Tomlinson and Mrs. DiCarolis both discussed issues with the wall. The Village has ownership of the wall and Mrs. DiCarolis pointed out that there are 4 areas of easier access which could be addressed with preventative measures. The wall is 8 feet in most areas. There was discussion of increasing the wall height or addition of some type of railing to discourage climbing or access. The Chief recommended more judicious use of the cameras system, targeting spots and overlapping of patrols so that 2 officers are on overnight. Mrs. DiCarolis discussed more patrol and visibility inside the village in the overnight hours. Chief stated we do give attention to the plaza in the evenings as well as there are the seasonal homeless issues and a halfway house is now located within Lauderdale by the Sea's city limits next to the plaza which has been an issue as well. Residents Mr. John Castellano, Mrs. Kathy Thomas, Mrs. Maria Elena Nelson, Mrs. Alicia Sobchak and Mr. Scott Baust gave

suggestions and comments on security, cameras and additional lighting. Mayor Nelson and the Chief discussed cost factors of additional lighting at the gatehouse area along with additional monitored cameras. Mr. Elias Zenkich suggested forming a security committee to expose issues and gather input from all sides for a reasonable cost-effective solution. Mr. Alex Soto discussed the NIXLE system used by the Village for alerts and the need to get information out to residents. The Chief discussed some of the constraints of the system. Mayor Nelson asked if we could have some standardized messages which would be easy for staff to send quickly.

Mayor Nelson discussed forming a committee comprised of 1 council member, 1 Beach Club member, the Chief and concerned citizens to gather information and report back to the council. Motion made by Mr. Neal and seconded by Mrs. DiCarolis to form the committee. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mrs. DiCarolis to appoint Brendan Barry to represent the council in the committee. Motion passed unanimously.

The February meeting will be held on February 10, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn.