

December 12, 2024

## Village Council Meeting

### Attendance:

Mayor Yardley

Mr. Tomlinson

Mr. Hodgson

Mr. Borshchukov

### Also:

Sean Swartz

Starr Paton

The roll was called, and a quorum was determined.

The minutes from the November 14, 2024, village council meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Borshchukov to approve the November 14, 2024, minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson reviewed the accounts payable. All the bills were ordinary and necessary. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Borshchukov to approve the December accounts payable. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson discussed the upcoming audit with Grau and Associates. This company was chosen as they provide audit services to Lauderdale by the Sea and Hillsboro and were significantly lower than the bid from Citron Cooperman. Mr. Tomlinson met with the auditors in person here in the village hall, so they were able to get a concept of our operation and begin a planning process for the audit. They will examine our internal controls as well as those of our CPA firm, Hinkle, Richter, and Root. Grau provides a dropbox, Suralink, so that requested documents can be requested and uploaded.

Mr. Tomlinson discussed October 31, 2024, financial statement. The cash balance at the end of October was \$2,168,000. Mr. Tomlinson reviewed the cash and investment accounts with the council. We received \$522,000 in the first ad valorem receipt at the end of November. Mr. Tomlinson transferred additional funds to the Florida Prime and FMIVT investment accounts as these accounts are earning a rate of approximately 5% in short term funds. Mr. Tomlinson wants to keep \$2,000,000 in the cash account so that we do not need to transfer funds back and forth. The new budget numbers have not been uploaded by Tiffany on this financial statement. Hopefully, we will have that in place for next month. Mr. Tomlinson discussed the police costs and the increased security measures that are in place. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Borshchukov to approve the October 31, 2024, financial statement. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Police Report:

Chief O'Brien stated Mr. Tomlinson reported on most of his items. Seneca Road currently has at least four construction projects underway. Parking is being monitored by police personnel and contractors have been put on notice regarding vehicle parking. We are on track for a replacement for our phone system – it is the same as our existing one which has speed dial capability, but updated equipment. Our current system is at the end of useful life. The annual boat parade is on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> and there are many parties in the village. The Chief has personnel scheduled to assist with parking. Mr. Yardley stated the new gate is working well and we have had no complaints. The Chief stated the gate personnel have the capability to adjust and extend the hours as needed. The plaza has been very busy with snowbirds and the homeless population. We have had no further incidents of the same shoplifters as last month.

#### Public Comments opened.

Mr. Bryan Phegley of 10 Winnebago Road asked about the possibility of building the north wall higher. Mr. Tomlinson replied the north wall is constructed of block and increasing the height would be structural issue. It is an 8-foot wall other than by the dock and boat slips at Ocean Bay Club.

Public Comments closed.

#### New Business:

Mr. Yardley asked the council to consider the second reading of Ordinance 2024-02 increasing the maximum hedge height to fifteen feet. Mr. Swartz read the ordinance by title only. The council discussed the reasons for the height increase. Mr. Borshchukov asked how the height of fifteen feet was determined. Mr. Hodgson responded that most of the hedges in the village are mature and are already at that height or higher. Mr. Borshchukov stated he believes this height restricts residents air and light, especially for those with ranch style homes. Mr. Tomlinson also stated the majority of hedges exceed 15 feet and this allows residents more privacy as well. Mr. Yardley stated he thinks fifteen feet is more reasonable than 8 feet. Public comments were opened. Mr. Phegley requested trimming of the sea grapes. Public comments closed. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Tomlinson to approve ordinance 2024-02 on second reading. The roll was called and the motion passed 2-1, with Mr. Borshchukov voting against.

Mr. Yardley asked the council to consider the second reading of Ordinance 2024-03 providing for additional restrictions for lot subdivisions. Mr. Swartz read the ordinance by title only and gave additional information regarding frontage size of existing lots in the village. Mr. Yardley stated he felt that the ordinance as read was sufficient to accomplish the additional restrictions the village wanted. Public hearing was opened. Public hearing was closed. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Tomlinson to approve Ordinance 2024-03 providing for additional restrictions for lot subdivisions. The roll was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Yardley asked the council to consider the first reading of Ordinance 2024-04 addressing excessive outdoor lighting. Mr. Swartz read the ordinance by title only. Mr. Swartz stated we are looking to have a standard for the lighting within the community. Motion made by Mr. Borshchukov and seconded by Mr. Tomlinson to approve the ordinance on first reading. The roll was called and the motion passed unanimously.

The January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn