

# MINUTES

Workshop of the Town Commission

Tuesday, July 10, 2012

**Present:** Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch, Vice Mayor Schoppe, Cmsrs. Busha, and Luger, and Town Manager Kellogg, Chief Cerniglia and Building Official Adams

**Absent:** Cmsr. Bausch

1. **Call to Order** - Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch called the Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Schoppe, seconded by Cmsr. Busha to approve the agenda as noted. All in favor. (4-0)

**In Favor:** Busha, Luger, Schoppe and Thurlow-Lippisch

**Opposed:** None

2. **Comments from the public on topics not on the agenda** - Residents: B. J. Escue had to call "911" for the first time ever and thanked Officer Steere for his assistance in helping his wife who was having difficulty breathing with oxygen, prior to the arrival of the EMTs. He said if it hadn't been for Officer Steere he wasn't sure what would have happened. He also suggested giving him a medal for Meritorious service. Ella Ford said recently her street had been paved and questioned who does the inspection before the company is paid. Responding, Mr. Kellogg said the micro-sealing had been done and the company was coming back to reinspect - due to the hot weather, the micro sealant did not cure as expected. He went on to say the Town has a bond for \$25,000 and will address any/all concerns.

### 3. Discussion

- a. Proclamation - Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch read the Marine Debris Awareness Month proclamation, noting conversation with Capt. Voss and the clean-up efforts made to date.
- b. Discussion of Proposed Ordinance, Traffic and Vehicles (trucks), Amend - Cmsr. Luger noted separating the two ordinances in hopes of making it clearer. Height would be the same, weight did not change, campers, etc. would still not be allowed - vehicles less than 7' can be parked in front of the house during the night time. Vice Mayor Schoppe said there was conversation about having trucks back into the driveway; not included, said Cmsr. Luger, but easy to do so. He asked Chief Cerniglia if this was reasonable to enforce. Weight was the determining factor, said Chief Cerniglia. Residents: Vinnie Barile asked if this will be enforced, saying he sees trucks now over 7' and currently, it is complaint-driven. Phil Goodman objected to trucks and suggested defeating both the truck/van ordinances. Scott Wade said if we are going to have a policy, it needed to be enforced. Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch concluded by saying she does not support any changes. Town Manager Kellogg said he will bring back to the Commission, making modifications for first reading.
- c. Discussion of Proposed Ordinance, Traffic and Vehicles (vans), Amend - Cmsr. Luger said changes were outlined on page 3 and noted additional language under Restricted Vehicles. Vice Mayor Schoppe asked to include "rear windows" as it was more aesthetically pleasing. Residents: Vinnie Barile questioned why vans could be over 7'; responding, Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch said because of the Mercedes. He went back to trucks are not allowed to be over 7'. Bill Addeo said, Rules are rules, but "... we cannot measure or weigh when it became human." He went on to say "human takes a different kind of handling." Steve Vitale thanked the Commission for the work put into this endeavor. He said it would be unfair to pass the truck ordinance, and not pass the van ordinance. Cmsr. Luger thanked everyone for coming and said this will be brought back at the next meeting.
- d. Discussion of Appointment to Board of Zoning Adjustment - To be discussed at next meeting.
- e. Update on AIA Project/Street Lights - Sternberg Lighting was considered, said Town Manager Kellogg but the size of the fixture was a concern for the engineer/contractor as it was too large. He showed an alternate which was 21" which would not be as costly at the Sternberg. Conversation continued around the placement of the lights so as not to be haphazardly done.

- f. Discussion of Gas Tax Distribution - Town Manager Kellogg explained the distribution formula was about to expire and the County proposed a new formula which would reduce the Town's percentage of funding from 2.33% to 0.086% - approximately a loss of between \$120,000 to \$140,000 in revenue. He said Jupiter Island and Stuart believe this is unrealistic, and conversation is continuing. He will keep the Commission updated.
- g. Discussion of proposed change to Maintenance Ordinance re. rights-of-way/swales - Town Manager Kellogg said two changes were being made requiring vegetation be placed out at curbside no earlier than 24 hours prior to pickup, and requiring property owners to maintain the swale in the public right-of-way. This, he said, was a result of a recent Code Enforcement Board hearing where the property owner claimed he did not have to maintain the right-of-way, as it wasn't his property.
- h. Discussion of Storm Water Grant Funds - Town Engineer Capra said the cost of this project would be \$92,000; currently storm water runoff goes directly into the St. Lucie River causing considerable erosion and sedimentation (in the River); and, explained the need to upgrade the existing storm water drainage system.
- i. Discussion of Security System - Town Manager Kellogg indicated he had contacted a number of vendors for a security system with costs ranging from \$30,000 to \$200,000. He hopes to narrow the choices down to two or three and will bring back to the Commission. Resident Scott Wade suggested rethinking whether or not two more police officers were needed or changing how things are being done. Cmsr. Busha agreed and said we need to "pump up what we have." Vice Mayor Schoppe said, "We are always reassessing, crime is not going down, cameras are not the solution." Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch said she would like to see the numbers at the next meeting. Concluding, Cmsr. Luger said there needed to be discussion around the budgetary needs for next year, and would like to talk about ways in which the Police Department could run more efficiently.
- j. Discussion of "Special Events Permit" - Town Manager Kellogg said he met in June with Rusty Sedlock and gave a schedule re. notifying the Town of when applications would be filed and allow us to have input re. bridge closings. Also discussed was the Town's permitting process, and possibly incorporating both. There are several events happening in the fall and he will bring back a check list for review.
- k. Discussion/Update of Visioning Goal-Setting - Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch said it was important to look at what goals had been discussed more than once during the year, and reviewed them with the Commission.
4. **Comments from Commissioners on topics not on the agenda -**
- Cmsr. Busha - make sure lighting is done correctly, and new trees are not root bound.
  - Cmsr. Bausch - there are a number of trees in the Park and Town Hall that need to be removed.
  - Cmsr. Luger - appreciated input from all on the Pocket Parks
- Question of a date for the August meeting came up with the decision to go with August 14-Meeting/Workshop and August 28-Regular Meeting.
- Mayor Thurlow-Lippisch - commended staff and volunteers for their efforts at the July 4<sup>th</sup> event.
5. **Adjourn** - A motion was made by Vice Mayor Schoppe, seconded by Cmsr. Luger to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. All in favor. (4-0)
- In Favor:** Busha, Luger, Schoppe, and Thurlow-Lippisch
- Opposed:** No

Respectfully submitted,

Ann-Marie S. Basler, Town Clerk