

**MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MAY 23, 2016**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of May 23, 2016 to order at 5:30pm.

Mayor Sears led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Public Services Supervisor John Ernest led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, Councilor Kearney, and Councilor Mabry.

Absent: Councilor Conroy, and Town Clerk Brasher

Also Present: Chief Thomas, Public Services Supervisor Ernest, and Utility Clerk Burke

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the April 11, 2016 Town Council Meeting, and May 9, 2016 Town Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded Councilor Mabry, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as corrected. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Water System Improvements (Rob Ern, BESH)

Rob Ern with Booth, Ern, Straughan & Hiott, Inc gave detailed background on the water system. He said the Town wells have the ability to fight fires. He also said that town staff have worked with the contract operator and have gotten the interconnect valve operational. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Mr. Ern said that there is six (6) foot of water in the ground storage tank that is not being used due to the elevated pumps. BESH has looked into fixing the problem by lowering the pumps about a foot and a half above the concrete slabs totaling about \$50,000. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Councilor Kearney voiced his concerns with the issue that Data Flow still after three (3) months has not fixed the antenna. **Mr. Ern** says that the report from Data Flow will be in on Thursday; the report will tell BESH and the Town if the antennas are in the signal strength parameters that are acceptable.

Mayor Sears said that he spoke with the Lake County Firefighter who was on the engine that fought the fire on 137 E Palmetto Ave and asked him; was there enough pressure, did you have any cycling issues, did the water stop, and the firefighter said there were no problems.

Mayor Sears said then the question was what if there is a fire on the north end of Town? So he had the Lake County Fire Department come out on Tangerine Ave and test the water flow.

Public Services Supervisor John Ernest said that was the concern at Public Services; was whether or not the well could provide enough pressure to fight a fire and not lose pressure in the homes. The test went well, and proved that the well is capable.

Dorothy Keedy, 118 E Magnolia Ave, said she does not have water pressure in her upstairs bathroom. **Mayor Sears** said that he has not received any information about her water pressure issue but will send out Public Services to take a look at it.

Archie Sagers, 109 E Magnolia Ave said that he has had little water pressure in his house since 2008. **Mayor Sears** asked if he had ever contacted the Town to inform them of his water issues. **Archie Sagers** said he had not but was told it was being worked on multiple different times. **Mayor Sears** said that he would have Public Services come out and take a look at the situation.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel asked if Mayor Sears had seen the pictures of the eight (8) junction boxes that are flooded. **Mayor Sears** said that he called the contractor, Tom Clarke from Florida Design Friday afternoon and spoke with him about the junction boxes. **Mayor Sears** said that Mr. Clarke told him that he would stand behind his work and would fix the problem.

Consideration and Approval of Utility Bad Debt Expense in the Amount of \$2,850.79 for the Property Located at 110 N. Florida Ave (Curtis D. Robbins, Sr.)

Mayor Sears said that the amount was negotiated to half.

Councilor Kearney, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, moved to approve the Utility Bad Debt Expense in the Amount of \$2,850.79 for the Property Located at 110 N. Florida Ave (Curtis D. Robbins, Sr.). Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval of Resolution 2016-002, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO FEES FOR ZONING REQUEST LETTERS FOR PROPERTY(S) WITH AND WITHOUT A PHYSICAL ADDRESS; AMENDING THE TOWN'S SCHEDULE OF FEES SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE II, SECTION 30-3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADOPT AND ADD THE FEES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mayor Sears gave background and said that the fees are being increased due to the Town Hall staff time and our Town Planner time.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by Councilor Kearney, moved to approve Resolution 2016-002, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FL PERTAINING TO FEES FOR ZONING REQUEST LETTERS FOR PROPERTY(S) WITH AND WITHOUT A PHYSICAL ADDRESS. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

BOARD REPORTS

Library Board Minutes- No Comments

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Report & Minutes

Parks & Recreation Chairman Ernest said that she is proposing to use the impact fees at

Blevins Park. **Mayor Sears** gave background on impact fees to be used for the Sara Maude Boardwalk by expanding the observation deck but that using the impact fees for Blevins Park would be a great way to use the money.

Parks & Recreation Chairman Ernest voiced her opinion on Mayor Sears' suggestion for the impact fees. **Mayor Sears** replied that spending an extra \$1,000 to make the deck impact fee eligible would have given the Town more money to use towards the Sara Maude Boardwalk.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by Councilor Kearney, moved to approve the use of Park and Recreation impact fees for Blevins Park. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

Planning & Zoning Board Minutes – January 28, 2016

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel said that he did not understand why the vehicle expenditure of \$60,000 for the Police Department vehicles is going through the Planning and Zoning Board?

Mayor Sears said they were approving the Capital Improvement Schedule; that is annually done, that shows police cars over the next 4-5 years out. He also said that Town Planner Harawski presents the Planning & Zoning board with a CIP update and that they were probably approving that capital improvement schedule.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement/Police Department Report- Chief Thomas gave a report on 500 S. Florida Ave. **Mayor Sears** said that he would like a report on how many homes are in compliance with code enforcement on house numbering guidelines.

Finance Report & Impact Fee Balance- No Comment

Library Director Report-None

Public Services Report - Councilor Kearney asked what the progress was on the Sarah Maude Boardwalk. **Public Services Supervisor Ernest** said that by the end of June 2016 the Boardwalk will be open.

Town Hall Report- No Comments

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Mabry-No Comment

Councilor Kearney said he wanted to review what exceptional things the Town Council has done so far this year. One was the official passing of the Personnel Policy, second was the Emergency Management Plan, and lastly getting the Sarah Maude Boardwalk back up and running.

Mayor Pro-tem David Nebel said that he and Mr. Ernest have completed the Tree Ordinance revisions and no changes were made from the last revisions.

Mayor Sears- No Comment

PUBLIC COMMENTS

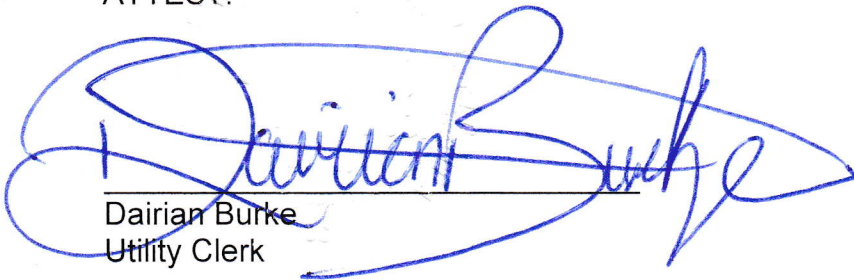
David Kilmartin, 120 E Laurel, voiced his opinion on the Town's electronic Payment System. **Mayor Sears** said that he had received Mr. Kilmartin's emails and called Town Clerk Brasher and asked her to remove the late fee. **Mayor Sears** then explained to Mr. Kilmartin that incidents like this do not occur often but when they do it's because BDS, which is the company who downloads our electronic payments to our system and the customer's electronic payments, have made the error.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.



Chris Sears, Mayor

ATTEST:



Dairian Burke
Utility Clerk