

MINUTES OF THE HOWEY IN THE HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD MARCH 26, 2018

Mayor Sears called the work session to order at 5:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION

Rob Ern, with Booth, Ern, Straughan and Hoitt (BESH) Engineering

Mayor Sears said that the Mid-Year Budget review would be on the April 09, 2018 Agenda.

Mayor Sears said that he was waiting on Troy Mitchell to show up and discuss sewer but that they could get started.

Councilor Scott said that he thinks the Town should wait for more development to come in so that the Town could pay for it using impact fees instead of getting a loan.

Mayor Sears said that 1.2 million dollars is the cost for the entire sewer system. He said that the Town already has \$400,000 from the state if the Town also gets the \$400,000 from the St. Johns Water Management Authority Grant we would only need \$400,000 more. The Town could Budget \$100,000 and get a loan for the remaining \$300,000.

Councilor Scott said that he doesn't think the Town should get another loan.

Mayor Sears said that Booth, Ern, Straughan and Hoitt (BESH) set the lift station deep enough to accommodate seventy-five percent (75%) of the Town. He also said that he doesn't want to force residents to hook up to sewer.

Councilor Mabry asked at what point does the Town lose the money from the State. **Mayor Sears** replied June, 2019.

Councilor Scott asked how much money is collected from sewer in Venezia. **Mayor Sears** said \$46.00 a month. The Central Lake Development District gets \$24.00 and the Town gets \$22.00.

Mayor Sears said that the Council in 2004 decided the Town would get into the sewer business.

Councilor Conroy said that the lake is an asset. He said that in the long run the payback to the Town will be the quality of the lake.

Councilor Scott asked how much debit was the Town willing to go into for it.

Mayor Sears said that the Town could get a state revolving fund loan but would pay less interest with a bank loan.

Councilor Scott asked what happens if we don't get the money from St. Johns Water Management Authority.

Troy Mitchell, Booth, Ern, Straughan and Hoitt (BESH), said that the State doesn't like septic tanks on the lake. The Town could also ask the State for another appropriation.

Councilor Conroy asked how many septic tanks were in town and the ages of them. **Troy Mitchell** said he didn't know but to call the Lake County Health Department.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel said that he uses a bacteria compound in his own septic that is used in restaurants to break down grease. He said that it works great.

Mayor Sears said that he would like to get a politician to back up the Town's idea.

Councilor Scott asked if Town Attorney Ramos could write a letter of support from the Town Council as well.

Sal Gallelli, 1104 N Tangerine Ave, said that maybe the Town could also submit a letter of support from business and residents who want to hook into the sewer if available.

George Lehning, P&Z Member, asked if maybe the Town could find someone to build and finance the project and have the Town pay them back.

Troy Mitchell said that the water master plan would be done in about two weeks and after that they would start working on the sewer master plan.

The work session adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of March 26, 2018 to order at 6:20 p.m.

Mayor Sears led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sears led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, Councilor Scott, Councilor Mabry and Councilor Conroy

Also Present: Library Director Hall, Lt. Roman, Public Services Director Ernest and Town Clerk Burke

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the March 12, 2018 Town Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by Councilor Mabry, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Update on Library Grant. (Councilor Scott).

Library Director Hall said that she is applying for a County and State grant. She is asking for \$250,000 each. The grants are due May 01, 2018. **Councilor Scott** asked when would the results be in. **Library Director Hall** replied that the County is sometime in July and the State is in September.

Discussion: Update on Town Website. (Councilor Scott).

Town Clerk Burke said that the administrators had a training session a couple weeks ago and would be having a couple more with all personnel who would have access to the Website.

Consideration and Approval to repave Central Avenue Parking.

Councilor Conroy asked if Mayor Sears had talked to Dr. Clark. **Public Services Director Ernest** said that he had a meeting with Mrs. Clark and she was excited to get the project going.

Mayor-Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by Councilor Scott moved to approve repaving Central Avenue Parking. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

Consideration and Approval to appoint Tahsia O'Keefe to the Library Board.

Library Director Hall said that she would be a great addition.

Tahsia O'Keefe introduced herself to the Town Council.

Consideration and Approval of Resolution 2018-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE TOWN'S SCHEDULE OF FEES AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE II, SECTION 30-3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilor Mabry, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel moved to approve Resolution 2018-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE TOWN'S SCHEDULE OF FEES AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE II, SECTION 30-3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion: Town License Plates.

Town Clerk Burke said that she would have samples at the next meeting.

BOARD REPORTS

Library Board Minutes

Library Director Hall said that at the last meet the artist there were over 100 guest.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Report & Minutes- No Comment

Planning & Zoning Board Minutes- None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement/Police Department Report-No Comment

Finance Report-No comment

Impact Fee Balance-No Comment

Library Director Report-No Comment

Public Services Report-No Comment

Town Hall Report-No Comment

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sears-No Comment

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel said that raising fees during the Budget should be the Departments responsibility.

Councilor Scott-No Comment

Councilor Conroy-No Comment

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rebecca, Blue Gem Road Howey in the Hills, said that she heard a rumor of a shopping center and housing on N. Buckhill Road. **Mayor Sears** said that there is a development coming in on N. Buckhill that will be about ninety lots.

Marie Gallelli, 1104 N Tangerine, asked if the anhinga or heron was going to be the Town bird. **Town Clerk Burke** replied heron.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Chris Sears, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dairian Burke
Town Clerk