

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 14, 2020**

***Immediately Following the Community Redevelopment Agency  
Board Meeting***

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**1. Call to Order**

A. Mayor Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 7:16 PM.

The following officials were present:

Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Mayor  
Paul R. Shalhoub, Vice Mayor  
Robert M. W. Shalhoub, President Pro Tem  
Gregory Freebold, Council Member  
Albert Pavon, Council Member

B. Moment of Silence, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation

Moved to the beginning of the Budget Workshop

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to approve the Agenda, seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).**

**3. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the June 9, 2020 Town Council Meeting.
- B. Approval of Resolution #2020-13 – Honoring Joseph Bobrowski on his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
- C. Approval of Daniel Clark as the Town’s designated voting delegate during the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida League of Cities, Inc. Conference.
- D. Approval of Land Use Permit – Marissa O’Brien, 1412 Arabian Road E – reconstruct seawall.
- E. Approval of Land Use Permit – Paulo Santos, 7423 Pine Tree Lane – new dock.
- F. Approval of Land Use Permit – Michael Schweitz, 7721 Pine Tree Lane – new dock, boathouse & boatlift.

G. Approval of Land Use Permit – Gualberto Angel Gonzalez, 7730 Edgewater Drive – new dock & two (2) boatlifts.

**Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).**

#### **4. Presentations**

*Note: Ms. Savietto gave her presentation before Mr. Bennett. The minutes reflect the order of the agenda, not the order of the meeting.*

A. Presentation of 2018/2019 Fiscal Year Audit – Ron Bennett, Senior Manager, Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P.A.

Mr. Bennett noted that he appreciated the opportunity to present the Town audit for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

He discussed the four various reports included in the audit. He also noted the revenues and expenditures in each of the Town's four funds. Mr. Bennett noted that the audit shows that the Town is in good financial shape.

It was noted that Noland, Holt and Miner has been hired as the Town's financial consulting firm so they will no longer be performing the Town's audits. The Town will be seeking for a new auditing firm before the end of September.

Mr. Bennett noted that his firm is excited about working with the Town in this new capacity.

B. Virginia Savietto – Candidate for School Board District 2

Mayor Rodriguez noted that another candidate running for this seat spoke during the June 9<sup>th</sup> Town Council Meeting. He welcomed Ms. Savietto to the meeting.

Ms. Savietto stated that she is a Candidate for School Board District 2. She noted that she has lived in District 2 for thirty-two years and has two sons that attend schools in the area. She noted that she is a certified teacher and she also taught English as a Second Language to adults in the area. She noted that she has worked for Greg Weiss and other Palm Beach County Administrators, so she has knowledge of issues that the School Board will face. She also noted that she provides Census 2020 presentations to the Hispanic community about the importance of completing the census forms. She noted that she has a great passion for people and that she has a lot to offer to the position that will be vacated by Chuck Shaw.

Council Member Freebold asked for her thoughts about the reopening of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Savietto noted that while children need to socialize with their teachers and classmates, the health of the teachers and students is very important. Holding virtual classes, even for a little while, would help prevent the spread of this disease.

Mayor Rodriguez thanked her for her participation in the meeting.

## 5. Quasi-Judicial Proceedings

A. None

## 6. Public Hearing

A. None

## 7. Unfinished Business

A. None

## 8. New Business

A. Presentation of Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

- 2019/2020 Millage Rate – 6.2798
- Setting Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 – 6.2798
- Rolled Back Millage Rate – 6.0388
- Date for the First Public Hearing (September 8, 2020) on the proposed Millage and Budget
- Date for Second Public Hearing (September 22, 2020) to adopt Millage and Budget.

Mr. Clark reviewed the above information regarding the proposed 2020/2021 Budget.

The following motions were made and approved as noted:

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to confirm the 2019/2020 Millage Rate of 6.2798, seconded by President Pro Tem Shalhoub; Motion approved (5 - 0).**

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to set the Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 at 6.2798, seconded by Council Member Freebold; Motion approved (5 - 0).**

**Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to certify the Rolled Back Millage Rate of 6.0388 seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5 - 0).**

**Motion made by Council Member Freebold to set the date of the First Public Budget Hearing for Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:30 PM and the date of the Second Public Budget Hearing for Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 6:30 PM seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5 - 0).**

Mayor Rodriguez thanked Mr. Clark for his presentation.

## **9. Audience Comments**

### **A. Emailed Questions/Comments**

Danielle Faivus, 8401 Pine Tree Lane – noted the weeds in Lake Clarke and asked if there was another way to remove the weeds since spraying the weeds is not working.

Mr. Clark noted that about 5 years ago the Town contacted a company to demonstrate a machine that would cut and remove the hyacinth from the waterways. The device did not work. A few years later the company demonstrated their improved machine which seemed to work better. The Town looked into purchasing this machine, but declined due to the cost associated with maintenance of the equipment, barge and tender costs, manpower to operate, and the costs for disposal of the weeds.

### **B. Written Questions/Comments**

Victoria Prinzi, 1411 Carandis Circle – requested an update on Blueway Trail.

Mr. Clark noted that Blueway Trail Inc. has submitted an application for designation of the Palm Beach County Blueway Trail as an official State of Florida paddling trail to the Department of Environmental Protection and although there have been some challenges with the application, the designation should be made soon.

Tom McGinnis, 1811 Antigua Road – asked for an update on the status of the property located at 6900 West Lake Drive.

Mr. Clark noted that information regarding this property will be up for discussion during the August 11, 2020 Town Council meeting.

Jennifer Chenowski, 7310 Pine Tree Lane – requested an update on the septic to sewer conversion.

Mr. Clark noted that modifications made to the master plan, which may save millions of dollars for the project, are under review. The Town should know more about this in approximately four months. It was noted that although the \$230,000 the Town was to receive from the State was vetoed by the Governor, the Town will try to get funding assistance during the next legislative session.

### **C. Verbal Questions/Comments**

Adam Myron, Candidate for Circuit Court Judge – noted that he is a candidate for Circuit Court Judge. He stated that he has been an attorney for eighteen (18) years. He encouraged everyone to research all of the candidates before placing their vote on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub thanked him for his remarks and noted that he has endorsed his candidacy.

Pat Boyer, 1437 Mediterranean Road E – asked about the change in auditors.

Mr. Clark noted that the person that was hired as the Town's Financial Director no longer holds that position, and the firm of Nowlan, Holt and Miner was hired to take over those duties. Since they are unable to both manage and audit the Town's money, the Town will be going out for bids for a new auditing firm.

Scott Faivus, 8401 Pine Tree Lane – noted the problem with weeds at the south end of the lake.

Mr. Clark noted that there are excessive weeds in the waterways at this time because it is the growing season for weeds. He noted that it is difficult to treat the weeds when the wind is high or when it is raining. It was noted that the Town contacted the University of Florida for assistance with the weed problem in the past. The Town will contact them again to see if they can come up with a solution.

## **10. Status Report**

Chief Smith – it was noted that the Marine Unit was in the waterways for 44 hours in June. Officers also performed speed checks along the roadways. They issued eight speeding tickets and gave verbal and written warnings to others depending on the speed they were traveling.

Mayor Rodriguez noted the newest Police Officer hired and the presence of an officer at the boat ramp on July 4<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the Chief for all he and his officers do to keep the Town safe.

Mr. Schoech – solicitation and holding garage sales during COVID-19 were discussed. It was noted that the Town cannot prohibit solicitation during the pandemic or place a moratorium to prevent garage sales unless the Town plans on changing the ordinance. It was determined that residents can hold a garage sale if they so choose.

Mr. Clark – noted that the Keller gates were damaged and need to be replaced. An insurance claim has been filed against FPL and Asplundh Tree Service for causing approximately in \$10,000 damage. Fire Rescue is requesting that the Town have a “click to open” feature when replacing the gates.

Council Member Freebold noted that FRED recognized Mr. Clark for his work on the Board. They donated \$4,500.00 to the Town.

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to put the money towards beautification of the lake and for security cameras, seconded by Council Member Freebold for discussion.**

President Pro Temp Shalhoub asked Mr. Clark if he had any thoughts on how to use the money. Mr. Clark noted that he thought about using it to cover some of the costs associated with COVID-19.

After further discussion, a **motion was made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to table this issue until the August 11, 2020 Town Council Meeting, seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion to table approved (5-0).**

## **11. Council Comments**

Council Member Freebold – no comments at this time.

Council Member Pavon - no comments at this time

President Pro Tem Shalhoub – noted that all residents should note Lake Clarke Shores instead of West Palm Beach as part of their mailing address.

He noted that he would like to see the Marine Unit patrol the waterways near the end of the lake.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub – no comments at this time.

Mayor Rodriguez – noted the importance to use face masks and follow CDC guidelines to help keep people safe. He noted that this pandemic is very serious business and everyone needs to come together to prevent the continued spread of the coronavirus.

He noted the length of the meeting and thanked everyone for their participation.

## **12. Adjournment**

**Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM, seconded by President Pro Tem Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).**

Signature of Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Mayor

Signature of Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk