

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020**

1. Call to Order

A. Mayor Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:33 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

Mayor Rodriguez requested a moment of silence for the thousands of people who have died from COVID-19 and for those injured and killed in the blast in Beirut. Pastor Stan Sniezek, Pastor of the New Life Alliance Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 July 14, 2020 Budget Workshop.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the July 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting.

C. Approval of Resolution 2020-14 – Declaring the need for a new battery backup system for the Police Department that is required for the continuous operations of the Police Department as an emergency; Authorizing the emergency purchase of the equipment from Vetted Security Solutions in an amount not to exceed \$12,615.00; Authorizing a budget transfer of \$12,615.00 in unappropriated funds from 56228 Boat Lift to 54600 Repair and Maintenance to pay for the equipment.

D. Approval of Resolution 2020-15 – Expressing appreciation to Ken Phillips for his service as a member of the Code Enforcement Board and the Parks and Recreation Committee.

- E. Authorizing the Town Manager to sign an Engagement Letter with Nowlen, Holt & Miner, P. A. for consulting services for fiscal years ending September 30, 2020 and 2021.
- F. Motion to direct the Town Manager, voting delegate to the League of Cities for the Town, to vote in favor of the resolutions brought forth by the Florida League of Cities Resolutions Committee during the League of Cities Virtual Business Session on August 13, 2020.
- G. *Approval of the Police Department Collective Bargaining Agreement.*

Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to approve the Consent Agenda after moving Agenda Item G to New Business, seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).

4. Presentations

- A. Richard Pinsky – 2021 Legislative Session

Mr. Pinsky thanked the Town Council for being given the opportunity to discuss the upcoming legislative session. He noted that the Legislative Delegation for PBC will be changing due to term limits of some of the members and the possible changes caused by the election. He provided dates for the various elections and Legislative Sessions. He noted some of the issues that will be discussed during the 2021 Legislative Session. He also noted the issues that are important to Lake Clarke Shores: Annexation, Septic to Sewer Funding and the C-51 Boat lift. He noted that the Town will continue to explore options to annex properties. He noted that grants for water quality improvement funding have been included in the state budget under the Department of Environmental Protection and the Town will look into these options to help fund the design phase of the possible Septic to Sewer conversion. He stated that the application for the Blueway Trail State Trail Designation as a paddling trail has been submitted. He noted that it should take approximately one month to receive the designation. Once the designation is obtained, Blueway Trails Inc. will apply to various avenues for funding.

The Town Council thanked Mr. Pinsky for his presentation, for all of the work that he has done for the Town and noted that they are looking forward to continuing to work with him on these issues.

5. Quasi-Judicial Proceedings

- A. None

6. Public Hearing

- A. None

7. Unfinished Business

A. FDFC Donation discussion – Vice Mayor Shalhoub

Vice Mayor Shalhoub noted that the motion on what to do with the \$4,500 donation that the Town received from Florida Development Finance Corporation (FDFC) was tabled from the July 14, 2020 Council Meeting. He noted that the original motion was to add the money into the budget for beautification of the lake and for security cameras in the same manner as the money collected from Code Enforcement fines and liens.

Mr. Clark noted that he would like to have \$2,000 of the donation earmarked for the purchase of air filter/fan devices to be placed in offices within the Town Complex. He noted that since COVID-19, the Town has placed plexiglass wall dividers in the front office of Town Hall causing problems with air circulation. The air filters would alleviate this situation and also purify the air within each office, which could stop the spread of COVID-19 and other germs.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to earmark \$2,000 for the purchase of the air filter/fans and the balance be used for lake beautification projects, seconded by Council Member Freebold; Motion approved (5-0).

8. New Business

A. Approval of the Police Department Collective Bargaining Agreement – moved from Consent Agenda Item G

Vice Mayor Shalhoub noted that he would like clarification on the grievance procedure portion of the Collective Bargaining Agreement before making his decision.

Mr. Schoech noted that grievance procedures are uniform in all police bargaining agreements and that the wording is the same in the agreement that the Town currently has in place.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Shalhoub to table this issue until the September 8, 2020 Town Council Meeting, seconded by President Pro Tem Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).

B. Approval to appoint the following as members of the Auditor Selection Committee:

Linda Strump
Greg Dunham
Mayor Valentin Rodriguez, Jr.

Mr. Clark noted that new procedures have been put into place by the state that require municipalities to appoint one person from the Town and other people that are not associated with the municipality to the committee to select new auditors. He noted that

he asked City Managers Ms. Strump and Mr. Dunham if they would be interested in serving on this committee, since he served on their selection committees when their cities were looking for a new auditor.

He noted that the committee will meet to set the criteria to select an auditor before the Town can go out for bids. The committee will participate in the bid opening process, choose the top three firms and provide their recommendation to the Town Council.

Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to appoint Linda Strump, Greg Dunham and Mayor Valentin Rodriguez, Jr. to the Auditor Selection Committee, seconded by Vice Mayor Shalhoub; Motion approved (5-0).

9. Audience Comments

A. Emailed Questions/Comments – None

B. Written Questions/Comments

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

Mr. Clark noted the process needed to make changes to the zoning codes. He also noted that Dodi Glas, Director of Planning at Gentile, Glas, Holloway, O' Mahoney & Associates, Inc., has been retained to assist the Town with this.

C. Verbal Questions/Comments –

(Note: Verbal comments were taken before the written comments. Minutes reflect order of the agenda)

William Steele, 7410 West Lake Drive – asked about the purpose for the Auditor Selection Committee. Mr. Clark noted that the Town needs a new auditing firm since Ronald Bennet, from Nowland, Holt and Minor, will be transitioning to become the Town's Finance Director.

Nicole Kirchoff-Sargent, 2054 Palmetto Road – noted that the septic to sewer conversion is an extremely important issue. She stated that she is a board member of the American Water Security Project and would like to have someone from the board do a presentation to the Town Council regarding funding for wastewater upgrades that might benefit the Town. It was noted that Mr. Clark will contact her to set up the presentation for the September 8th Town Council Meeting.

Robert Gonzalez, 1420 South Lake Drive – thanked the Town Council for continuing the virtual meetings. He also asked about the poles that are being replaced along Pine Tree Lane. Mr. Clark noted that FPL was replacing some of the power poles, but looks like they have completed this phase of work. He noted that he will check on this.

10. Status Report

Mr. Schoech – noted that he advised the Town that we do not have the ability to deny a request for a solicitation permit during the pandemic. It was noted that this issue came up during the last Town Council Meeting.

Chief Smith – it was noted that the Marine Unit was in the waterways for 25 hours in July. The Officers also performed seven traffic surveys, made 4 traffic arrests along with other arrests. He also noted that Code Enforcement issued 51 violations. He stated that Officers are following procedures in all areas.

He noted the FDLE Report for the Town for January through June 2020. He stated that the overall numbers are down. He noted that this is one of the best FDLE reports that he has seen in the 21 years that he has been with the Town.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub asked about car burglaries. Chief Smith noted that in Palm Springs and the surrounding areas in Palm Beach County have had problems with people breaking into vehicles, but there has not been that many car burglaries within Town. He urged residents to remove any personal items from their vehicles and to make sure their vehicles are locked.

Mr. Clark – noted that FEMA will not be reimbursing municipalities for Hurricane Isaias unless the expenses were for sheltering or evacuation.

He stated that the 2020 Census will be closing in September. He noted that the Town is number two in the State with 78.4% of Lake Clarke Shores' households having already responded to the 2020 Census questionnaire. He reminded the Town Council Members to encourage their friends and neighbors to complete their 2020 Census questionnaire before the September 30th deadline.

President Pro Tem Shalhoub asked about the status of the damaged Keller gates, the “click to open” device that Fire Rescue requested and the 12” water main. Mr. Clark noted that while the insurance claim has been filed against FPL and Asplundh Tree Service for causing the approximately in \$10,000 damage, he has not heard anything from them yet. He noted that the “click to open” device will cost about \$7,500.00 plus \$1,500.00 to install. He also noted that design changes have been made so that the 12” pipe will go over the canal instead of underneath the canal saving the Town approximately \$50,000.00.

Mr. Clark noted that automated garbage collections will take place when the new contract with Waste Management begins in October. He noted that the Town will be issuing 96 gallon containers to all residents for them to use on a trial basis for 60 days. There is a smaller container that residents can trade for if the 96 gallon container is too large for their needs. He noted that residents will have the option of purchasing additional containers, if they need them. The costs for the contained is still being determined. He also noted that the trash containers that the residents are currently

using can be used for vegetation, but residents will have to use the automated containers for the household trash. He noted that the recycling containers will remain the same. It was noted that vegetation should not be placed in the roadways or dumped into the canals or waterways in Town.

11. Council Comments

Council Member Pavon – noted that Mr. Clark is doing an amazing job.

Council Member Freebold – noted that this will be a difficult budget year, but that the Town will work through it. He wished everyone well and reminded everyone to stay safe.

President Pro Tem Shalhoub – asked Mr. Clark if he has contacted the University of Florida regarding the vegetation in the lake. Mr. Clark noted that he checked their website to see if they had any additional information of removing weeds, but the information was the same. President Pro Tem Shalhoub asked Mr. Clark to give them a call instead.

He noted that he would like to see Census information reach more people. He suggested that information on the Census deadline be placed on the Friends of Lake Clarke Shores website or Facebook page.

He thanked Mr. Schoech for his explanation on the PBA Agreement. He also noted the blast that took place in Beirut.

Vice Mayor Shalhoub – he wished Mr. Bill Murphy a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Rodriguez – noted that Mr. Clark works very hard keeping the Town Council up-to-date on all issues.

He noted the face masks that Palm Beach County provided to all residents and reminded everyone of the importance to use face coverings and follow CDC guidelines to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

He reminded everyone to vote on August 18th and noted that the Town will have town Council Meetings in September.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by President Pro Tem Shalhoub to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM, seconded by Council Member Freebold; Motion approved (5-0).

Signature of Valentin Rodriguez, Jr., Mayor

Signature of Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk