

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

1. Call to Order

A. Mayor Freebold called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The following officials were present:

Gregory Freebold, Mayor
Jon Maples, Council Member
Taylor Materio, Council Member

B. Moment of Silence, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Hunter, Emmanuel Baptist Church gave the invocation, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Oath of Office was administered to

Council Member Group 3 – Bridget Keating by her fiancé Gary Acquaviva

Council Member Keating joined the other Council Members on the dais after being sworn in.

2. Audience Comments

Rita Jordan, 8100 West Lake Drive – discussed the prospect of the Town holding a yearly art festival to showcase the artwork of residents of the Town. She noted some of the other artists in the audience that are also interested in this taking place. She suggested that the Town create a committee to help organize this event.

Timothy Daughtry, 1410 Keller Road – liked the idea and noted that the Lake Worth Street Painting Festival will be taking place February 24th and 25th.

Katheryn Workman, 8031 Pine Tree Lane – noted the Palm Springs sewer line break and asked what steps are being taken to alleviate the situation.

Mr. Lo Bello noted that the spill was caused when a 13" force main crossing the L-9 canal ruptured. He noted that Palm Springs will continue with repairing the line and then start remediation efforts to clean the waterways involved. He noted that the C-51 Canal is discharging water to the east due to the planned Lake Okeechobee discharge.

He also noted that the Town sent notification on the situation to residents using the CodeRed notification system and that he and Mr. Gammons, Lake Clarke Shores Utilities Supervisor, spoke to the residents that live along the L-9 canal to let them know of the situation. He also noted that residents should not irrigate their lawns using water from the L-9 canal or Lake Clarke at this time. He noted that Palm Springs is keeping the Town informed of the situation. It was noted that the Palm Beach County Health Department, the Florida Department of

Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission have been notified and are also involved.

Claudine Vasseur, 6900 Venetian Way – discussed the condition of the tap water from her faucets. She noted that the water was very scaly and hard. She asked if anything had changed.

Mr. Lo Bello noted that he would check into this.

She thanked the Police Department for their quick response to an accident at Pine Tree Lane and Forest Hill Blvd and noted the number of women currently serving on the Town Council.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Council Member Maples to approve the Agenda, seconded by Council Member Materio; Motion approved (4-0).

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Town Council Meeting.
- B. Approval of a Proclamation proclaiming the week of March 4 – 10, 2024 as Flood Awareness Week.
- C. Approval of the TD Commercial Plus Card Master Agreement and the Commercial Card Solutions Rebate Schedule.
- D. Approval of forfeiture funds expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 for the Police Department to sponsor Drug Awareness & Anti-Bullying Education during the March 17, 2024 Town BBQ.
- E. Approval of forfeiture funds expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 for the Police Department purchase of a command center board for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- F. Approval of Land Use License - Alexander Sanchez, 7721 West Lake Drive, for seawall/bulkhead.

Motion made by Council Member Maples to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Materio; Motion approved (4-0).

5. Presentations

- A. Thank you to Vanessa Zarzycki and PetSmart for generous donation of stuffed animals – Chief Smith

Chief Smith had asked Mayor Freebold to present the letter of commendation to Ms. Zarzycki and PetSmart on his behalf. Mayor Freebold noted that PetSmart had donated stuffed animals this past holiday season that were given to residents for the children and pets of

Lake Clarke Shores and Palm Springs. He thanked PetSmart and Ms. Zarzycki for their generous donation.

Lt. Fisher noted that this is the third year that PetSmart has donated to the Town. She noted that over 600 stuffed animals were donated this year alone.

B. Distinguished Volunteer Award to Officer Edward Manak – Chief Smith

Mayor Freebold noted Officer Manak's accomplishments over the past year. He noted that the Police Department receives numerous accolades and acknowledgements of Officer Manak's dedication from residents and others that he has interacted with. He noted that Officer Manak volunteers his time to the Town, saving the Town over \$60,000 last year. He then presented Officer Manak with the commendation. Chief Smith presented him with a plaque and a ribbon.

Mr. Lo Bello noted that Officer Manak is a major asset to the Town and thanked him for his service.

6. Quasi-Judicial Proceedings

A. None

7. Public Hearing

A. None

8. Unfinished Business

A. Town Council Vacancies

Mr. Schoech explained that the Town's Charter allows the Town Council to appoint members when a vacancy occurs, but the appointment is only for the unexpired portion of the original Council Member's term. He noted that the Town Council would have to appoint new Council Members to Groups 4 and 5 or reappoint the sitting Council Members in Groups 4 and 5 during the April Town Council Meeting. He noted those Council Members would only hold office for one year. He also noted that candidates will be qualifying for four Council Seats in November for the 2025 election. Winning candidates for Groups 4 and 5 will serve for one year (until April 2026). Winning candidates for Groups 1 and 2 will serve their normal two-year terms (until April 2027).

Council Member Maples asked for clarification that a person appointed during the meeting tonight would only be serving until April 2024.

Mr. Schoech noted that he was correct, but the same person could be reappointed in April to hold office until the next election. He noted that anyone appointed would be able to qualify for the seat in November, if they chose to remain on the Council.

Council Member Maples noted that Christy Maasbach spoke of her interest in serving on the Town Council during the January Town Council Meeting. He stated that she is still willing to serve on the Town Council. He asked her to reintroduce herself.

Christy Massbach, 7071 Pine Tree Lane – noted that she thinks that Lake Clarke Shores is heaven and wants to keep it that way. She noted her financial background and that she currently manages rental properties. She stated that it would be an honor and delight to serve the residents of Lake Clarke Shores.

Council Member Maples asked Ms. Maasbach if she understood that Council Members are required to complete Form 6, if she was willing to complete this form and if she would run for re-election when the time comes.

Ms. Maasbach noted that she understood the requirements of Form 6 and that she will run for election if the residents want her to.

Council Member Keating noted that she likes Ms. Maasbach's background and feels that she would be a good fit on the Town Council. Council Member Materio agreed.

Motion made by Council Member Maples to appoint Christian (Christy) Maasbach to complete the remaining term of Council Member Group 5, seconded by Council Member Materio; Motion approved (4-0).

Ms. Maasbach was sworn into office by her son, Winston F. Maasbach, at 7:10 PM. Council Member Maasbach then joined the Council Members on the dais.

Council Member Maples noted that Lake Clarke Shores is known as a family-oriented community, so it was very nice to see her son swear her in.

Mr. Schoech noted that he has represented the Town for over 30 years, and this is the first time in all those years that the majority of the Council is female.

9. New Business

A. None

10. Status Report

Chief Smith – provided statistics regarding the number of calls, assists and citations that the Police Department handled during the last month. He also noted the number of vehicles check by the various cameras in Town, He also noted that the Department will be receiving additional forfeiture funds.

Council Member Maples asked Chief Smith about the past problems with the jet skiers. Chief Smith noted that there has not been many jet skiers out on the water lately.

Chief Craig Spiegelhalter, PBC Fire Rescue – provided statistics for the Fire Rescue responses in the Town for the past month and noted the average response time starting from the time that the call was made to when the unit arrived on scene is 7 minutes 28 seconds.

He noted that their 50th station opened in the Boynton Beach area and that there will be 3 more stations opening soon. He noted that the new station on Lake Wort and Lyons Road will be a larger station with more staff and equipment due to the growth in that area of Palm Beach County. He also noted that over 140 patients have received whole blood due to the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Whole Blood Pilot Program.

Mr. Schoech – did not have anything additional to report.

Mr. Lo Bello – noted that the Town deployed the CodeRED system and used social media posts to inform residents about the sewer break in Palm Springs. He noted that he and Damon Gammons were out talking to residents living along the L-9 canal and answering questions regarding the situation.

He noted the Pine Tree Bridge bid opening will take place on March 7th. He also noted that the Town is trying to get additional funding from the state to help pay the bridge replacement costs.

He noted the Pickle Ball Grand Opening taking place on March 20th. He noted that staff is getting quotes to have lighting throughout Community Park and will bring this to the Council once all the quotes have been received.

He noted that the faulty water meters will be replaced within the next two to three months. He also noted that the Town received a grant to cover the full cost of checking for lead pipes throughout the Town's water system.

He reminded everyone of the upcoming Town Council Meetings. He noted the Valentine Food Truck event was a success. He also noted the BBQ on St. Paterick's Day and that volunteers are still needed.

11. Council Comments

Council Member Massbach – noted that she is delighted to be a part of the Lake Clarke Shores Town Council.

Council Member Materio – thanked staff for how quickly they responded to the sewer break. She welcomed Council Member Keating and Council Member Maasbach to the Town Council and noted that she is looking forward to working with them.

Council Member Keating – thanked the staff for their work and noted that she met with Mr. Lo Bello and Chief Smith. She noted that she is looking forward to working with the others on the Town Council.

Council Member Maples – thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He noted that the printed version of the Buzz was available and was very well done. He reminded everyone to sign up for the monthly updates.

He also encouraged residents to contact the members of the Town Council if they have any concerns.

Mayor Freebold – noted that he and Mr. Lo Bello went back to Tallahassee at the end of January for Legislative Days. He stated that they were able to spend more time with legislators to discuss Town issues during this trip than when they went during Palm Beach County Days at the beginning of January.

He noted that the Town hosted the Palm Beach County League of Cities District 3 Meeting and the speaker for the meeting was from the Palm Beach County Engineering Department. They discussed the traffic situation along Forest Hill Boulevard and noted that the lights are on timers which resets every time there is a train. He stated that FDOT will look into this to see if the timing can be changed to alleviate the situation.

He reminded everyone of the BBQ on March 17th and discussed the Fishing Tournament on April 6, 2024. He noted that the tournament is limited to 30 boats. He stated that the tournament began as one of the Town's 50th Anniversary events and has been held every year since.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Council Member Keating to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM, seconded by Council Member Materio; Motion approved (5-0).

Gregory Freebold, Mayor

Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk