

**MINUTES
TOWN OF LAKE CLARKE SHORES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 12, 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
Bridget Keating, Council Member
Taylor Materio, Council Member
Christy Maasbach, Council Member

B. Moment of Silence, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Prior to the Roll Call, Mayor Freebold requested a moment of silence for Ronald (Ron) Schack, father of Lt. Dana Fisher and for Carol Ann Brumley Foster, Retired Town Clerk from the Town of Lake Mary. Pastor Stan Sniezek, New Life Alliance Church, gave the invocation, then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken after the conclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Audience Comments

Timothy Daughtry, 1410 Keller Road – voiced his concerns about how the vacant council seats were filled.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Council Member Materio to approve the Agenda, seconded by Council Member Maasbach; Motion approved (5-0).

4. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the February 20, 2024 Town Council Meeting.
- B. Approval of Proclamation proclaiming April 2024 as “Water Conservation Month”.
- C. Approval of Proclamation proclaiming March 2024 as “Florida Bicycle Month”.
- D. Approval of two Temporary Access, Construction and Usage Easements for Oak Drive Asphalt Repaving Project.
- E. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Task Order 23-01 Utility Vulnerability Assessment with Jones Edmunds & Associates, Inc. conditional upon review and approval for legal sufficiency by the Town Attorney.

- F. Approval of an additional forfeiture funds expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00 for the Police Department to purchase additional items relating to Drug Awareness & Anti-Bullying Education to be given out during the March 17, 2024 Town BBQ.

Motion made by Council Member Keating to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Maasbach; Motion approved (5-0).

5. Presentations

- A. Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics – Rhonda Giger, General Counsel

Ms. Giger noted that people need to have faith in their government and the Commission on Ethics was created to help with that. She discussed the various ethics training that they provide and noted that there are state and county ethics training classes that members of the Town Council are required to attend each year. She noted that training is available online or in person, but live training sessions provide more in-depth information and people can ask questions.

Mayor Freebold thanked her for her presentation and for coming to the meeting.

6. Quasi-Judicial Proceedings

- A. None

7. Public Hearing

- A. None

8. Unfinished Business

- A. None

9. New Business

- A. Approval to declare the following miscellaneous items as surplus and allowing these items to be sold or disposed:

Rebar; metal pipes and fittings; PVC pipes; metal signs; batteries; ice machine; fire hydrants; 12 broken Keller Gate arms; outdated electronic speed signs and miscellaneous pieces of metal

Mayor Freebold noted the items that were included in the list.

Council Member Maples discussed the 12 broken Keller Gate arms. He noted the cost of the gate arms and stated that the Town should move away from using the gates and install a speed table instead.

Council Member Materio noted that when she was on the Code Enforcement Board they would hear cases where people broke the gates because they drove through them instead of waiting for them to rise. She stated they were charged for breaking the gates and if they did not pay they went before the Code Enforcement Board. She asked if this was still taking place.

Chief Smith noted that they are still sending the notices, but not enough money is recovered using this method. He noted that there are cameras in place that record the vehicles as they are crossing the bridge. He said that he and Mr. Lo Bello have been discussing the possibility of removing the Keller gate arms and installing a speed table instead.

Mr. Schoech gave a brief explanation of the history behind the gates on Keller Road bridge.

Timothy Daughtry, 1410 Keller Road – noted that the gates have been broken 2 times over the last 4 days. He noted that the outbound gates are the ones that are broken most often. He stated that he has gone out a number of times to release the gates to prevent them from damaging vehicles. He stated that vehicles speed on Keller Road so a speed table would be needed to slow the traffic if the gates are removed.

Council Member Maples asked for this issue to be placed on the April agenda for discussion.

10. Status Report

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 33 seconds.

He noted there is a lot of good information about PBC Fire Rescue on social media and referenced a story about a woman who was revived because of the hard work of the PBC Fire Rescue and PBSO personnel who responded to the scene. He also noted the high rate of cancer among firefighters due to the nature of the job.

Chief Smith – noted that all the police vehicles have defibrillators in them. He 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 checked by the various cameras in Town and the number of vehicles that crossed the Keller Bridge. He noted that the new body cameras purchased from forfeiture funds are in use. He discussed the new tasers and how they work with the new body camera system.

Council Member Maasbach noted the number of assists to the Village of Palm Springs and asked the Chief how they reciprocate. Chief Smith noted that Palm Springs provides dispatch services to the Town at great savings to the residents and their police department assists the Town when we need them to do so. He noted the good standing relationship between both municipalities.

Council Member Maples noted that the body cameras and tasers were purchased with forfeiture funds. How the Town receives forfeiture funds was also discussed.

Mr. Schoech – noted that the State mandates what Towns can and cannot do regarding home-based businesses. He explained that the Town cannot prohibit businesses from operating out of homes, but certain guidelines must be met. He noted in the case of the photography studio, the homeowner was wanting to have a photographer come into her home and take photos of his clients. It was determined that this was not allowed because this type of arrangement does not meet the requirements for home-based businesses.

Mr. Lo Bello – noted the next two Town Council Meetings will be back on the normal schedule. He reminded everyone about Movie Night on March 15th, the BBQ on St. Paterick's Day and noted that \$17,500 was donated towards the BBQ. He noted the Presidential Preference Primary on March 19th and the Senior's Club meeting on March 20th. He also noted the Fishing Tournament and the Great American Clean-up in April.

He gave an update on the sewage spill, He noted that testing shows that the water quality is improving, but residents are still under an advisory to not swim or use the water in the canal or lake for irrigation.

He discussed the Pine Tree Bridge bid opening that took place on March 7th and noted that engineers will be attending the April Town Council Meeting to answer questions about the bridge replacement.

He noted that the company that the Town hired has begun the process of changing the faulty water meters and thanked everyone who attended the Pickle Ball Grand Opening on March 20th.

11. Council Comments

Council Member Massbach – thanked Mr. Lo Bello for the information he provided about the sewage spill and for keeping everyone up to date. She noted that Palm Springs is still aerating the water in the canal to help clear the water. She noted that the smell is 95% better than before. She also noted that her car bottomed out on a speed bump as she was driving around the lake. She noted that many of the residents will need to detour around the lake when the bridge is closed and asked if the Town could convert the existing speed bumps to speed tables so that vehicles will not bottom out as they drive over them.

She thanked staff for helping her get set up as a Council Member and the behind the scenes information that she received about the workings of the Police Department.

She discussed the coconut trees that were trimmed in Pine Tree Park and asked if the Town has an arborist to help with the trees in the parks. She also noted that the Town entrance signs need to be pressure cleaned. Mr. Lo Bello noted that Pine Tree Park will be used as a staging area during the bridge replacement, so damage to the park's vegetation may happen during that time. He also noted that the entrance signs will be taken care of once the flowers planted in front of the signs die out.

Council Member Materio – offered her condolences to Lt. Fisher and her family on the passing of her father.

Council Member Keating – also offered her condolences to Lt. Fisher. She thanked staff for keeping her informed of the various things that have taken place throughout the Town.

Council Member Maples – thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He noted that David Aagaard sent a letter to Commissioner Michael Barnett about the trash that is accumulating along the I-95 exit ramp and the other issues taking place in that area. He noted that changes are taking place but encouraged anyone who is concerned about what is happening there to contact Commissioner Barnett with their concerns.

He also noted that he would like to have a discussion on planning a septic to sewer charrette/workshop added to the May agenda. Council Members Keating and Materio noted that they would like to have the workshop discussion on the April agenda instead of waiting until May.

Council Member Maples noted the Town BBQ on March 17th and invited everyone to attend. He also gave his condolences to Lt. Fisher.

Additional Audience Comments:

Cathy Jarmakowicz, 1432 Beta Court – asked how long Pine Tree Bridge will be closed during construction and if the new water meters will have a shut off at the meter as they did in the past. She also noted that the roadway near her house fills with water when it rains.

Mr. Lo Bello noted that the timing of the closure will be discussed when the Town meets with the contractor that will be performing the bridge construction once the bid has been awarded. He noted that the new meters should have a shut off valve, but residents should also have a shut off valve at their house to turn the water off and on when needed to make repairs. He also noted that the faulty meters are being replaced at no charge to the Town or residents.

Michelle Bobrowski, 7501 Pine Tree Lane – asked how much the Town paid for the traffic study to be done.

Mayor Freebold reminded Mr. Lo Bello that the traffic study was done at the request of the residents living along the areas where speeding was taking place.

Mr. Lo Bello noted that it cost roughly \$16,000 – \$17,000 for the study. He noted that while some drivers are speeding, the study showed that 85% of the drivers traveling in Town were not, which is in compliance with traffic engineering standards.

Council Member Keating noted that she disagrees with the results of the study. She noted that she sees people speeding all the time when she is walking her dogs and that the vehicles do not move over as they should when pedestrians are walking along the edge of the street. She also noted that there needs to be more in place to deter speeding along Pine Tree Lane.

Mayor Freebold noted that drivers tend to speed more when there are speed humps or speed tables along the roadways because they are under the impression that they lose time when they are having to slow down to go over the speed humps or tables.

Jennifer Chrzanowski, 7130 Pine Tree Lane – noted that drivers may not be moving over for the pedestrians because of the yellow markings in the roadway.

Mayor Freebold – reminded everyone of the Town BBQ on March 17th and wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick’s Day. He closed the meeting with an Irish blessing.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Council Member Keating to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM, seconded by Council Member Maasbach; Motion approved (5-0).

Gregory Freebold, Mayor

Mary Pinkerman, Town Clerk