

**THE TOWN OF HOWEY IN THE HILLS TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION
HELD SEPTEMBER 15, 2017**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Special Session of September 15, 2017 to order at 7:30 a.m.

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

Also Present: Chief Thomas, Interim Town Clerk Burke and Public Services Director Ernest.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Council meeting to discuss and take action concerning the collection and disposal of yard debris as a result of Hurricane Irma.

Mayor Sears called the meeting to discuss the two options the Town had regarding storm debris removal. He informed the Town Council that a rough estimate to move all the storm debris in Town would be about \$100,000.00. He then informed them that the Town had an Interlocal agreement with Lake County regarding storm debris pick up. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will reimburse Lake County for all the storm debris removal and the Town won't have to worry about filling any paperwork. He added that there were down falls with both options.

Public Works Director Ernest said that the roads are cleared enough to allow emergency and residential access.

Chief Thomas asked if the Town could clear half and let Lake County clear the rest. **Mayor Sears** replied that Lake County would like to handle all of the storm debris removal.

Mayor Sears said that FEMA would likely reimburse the Town for the storm debris removed so far.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel said that he feels going with the Interlocal agreement is the only option.

Councilor Conroy said that whatever is decided needs to be well communicated with the residents.

Mayor Sears said that to his knowledge Sara Maude Nature Preserve is the only Town property that was damaged.

Public Services Director Ernest informed the Town Council that no late fees will be assessed on the bills this month.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by **Councilor Mabry** moved that the Town enter into the Interlocal Agreement with Lake County regarding storm debris removal and that a letter be sent out to the residents. Motion carried 5-0 with a roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Williams, 210 E Cypress Ave, said that sixty percent (60%) of the storm debris is already gone. He said that the residents can't expect the government to do it for them.

Ed Smith, 308 N. Palm Ave, asked that the Town communicate some type of time table to the residents. **Mayor Sears** said that the time table is out of our control but that we would do our best.

David Kilmartin, 128 E Laurel Ave, said that he agrees with Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel's motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Chris Sears, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dairian Burke
Interim Town Clerk