

**MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD DECEMBER 14, 2015**

**Mayor Sears** called the Town Council Meeting of December 14, 2015 to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Cub Scout & Boy Scout Troop No. 254** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Public Services Supervisor Ernest** led the Invocation.

Present: Mayor Sears, Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel, Councilor Mabry

Absent: Councilor Conroy (excused)

Also Present: Town Planner Harowski, Police Chief Thomas, Public Services Supervisor Ernest, Library Director Hall and Town Clerk Brasher

**PRESENTATION**

**Services provided by Children and Elder Services of Lake County**

**Rebecca Foley-Kearney**, Manager of Children and Elder Services of Lake County gave detailed background on the services and resources that are available. She handed out brochures and left brochures on the table in Town Hall.

The Town Council thanked Mrs. Foley-Kearney for the presentation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Town Council Seat No. 5 Applicants: John Scott, Scott Kearney, Ronald Maffia and Edward Smith**

Each applicant gave a detailed presentation on their background and why they wanted to hold the open seat. The Town Council discussed at length the great qualities of all the applicants.

**Councilor Mabry, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, moved to appoint Scott Kearney to Town Council Seat No. 5. Motion carried 3-0 with a roll call vote.**

**Swear In Appointed Town Councilor to Seat #5**

**Mayor Sears** swore Scott Kearney into Town Council Seat No. 5

**Consideration and Approval of Lake Hills PUD Development Review Schedule**

**Mayor Sears** gave background on this item. **Town Planner Harowski** provided details of the schedule for the Lake Hills PUD Development review schedule. No action was taken on this item.

**Discussion: Boondocks Land Development Code Amendment**

**Mayor Sears** gave background on this item and continued this item to the January 11, 2106 Town Council Meeting.

**Discussion: Land Development Code Modifications of Residential Floor Areas**  
**Mayor Sears** gave detailed background on this item.

**Councilor Mabry** said he feels the Town Council should consider changes. **Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel** voiced his concerns with allowing smaller home sizes and said the Variance process is available. **Councilor Kearney** said the Town should be flexible due to the small lot sizes and people retiring in Town do not want a 2-story home with the stairs. **Mayor Sears** said the Variance process is available people do not want to go through that process. **Councilor Mabry** said it sounds like the Variance process discourages people and the Town should be open to smaller homes. A lengthy discussion ensued.

***It was the consensus of the Town Council to bring this item back.***

**Set Work Session for Personnel Policy (January 11, 2016 from 5:00 – 6:00)**  
No action was taken on this item.

#### **Police Pension Nomination**

**Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel**, seconded by **Councilor Mabry**, moved to appoint Bill Herrington and Trey Purser to the Police Pension Board. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

**Library Advisory Board Appointee**  
**Library Director Hall** gave background on this item.

**Councilor Mabry**, seconded by **Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel**, moved to appoint Pat Vacherlon to the Library Advisory Board. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

**Consideration and Approval of Resolution Updating the Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of the Lake-Sumter MPO**

**Councilor Mabry**, seconded by **Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel**, moved to approve the Resolution Updating the Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of the Lake-Sumter MPO. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**First Reading of Ordinance No. 2015-005, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, LAKE COUNTY FLORIDA, ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN FOR THE LAKE HILLS MIXED PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE 2011-008; PROVIDING CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**Mayor Sears** read by title only, Ordinance No. 2015-005.

**Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel**, seconded by **Councilor Kearney**, moved to continue Ordinance No. 2015-005 until the January 11, 2016 Town Council Meeting. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.



## **OLD BUSINESS –None**

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Mayor Sears** said the weekly Department Director Meetings will begin again. He gave background on the ISBA and gave details.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel** said he was so proud of the Town for all of the Christmas Festival Events.

**Councilor Mabry** welcomed Councilor Kearney. He also asked if the letter from the former employee who felt wrong information had been sent to the State had been addressed. **Town Clerk Brasher** said she emailed the response to the Town Council last month but she will re-email the response out with the information.

**Councilor Kearney** thanked John Ernest for the excellent Christmas Festival.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**John Scott, 503 N. Palm Ave.** discussed requesting the developers build a Fire Department in the Town. **Mayor Sears** said the developers always want something in return and it can be discussed with Lake County.

**Public Services Supervisor Ernest** said the Town obtained a price of \$84,000 to repair Sarah Maude Nature Preserve. He has obtained quotes which are in the \$300,000 price range.

**Mayor Sears** said the Town has a \$42,000 matching grant from the Federal Government and it takes years to get through the grant process when the Federal Government is involved. He said the Town will have some decisions to make in the near future.

**Town Planner Harowski** said when the grant was submitted, it was to repair sections of the boardwalk, and it was not to replace the whole boardwalk.

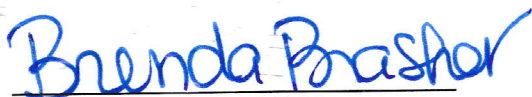
**Public Services Supervisor Ernest** said the builders are afraid of the Baker Act requirements.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Chris Sears, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



Brenda Brasher, MMC  
Town Clerk