

**MINUTES OF THE HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 26, 2015**

Mayor Sears called the Town Council Meeting of October 26, 2015 to order at 5:45 p.m.

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

Mayor Sears asked for a moment of silence.

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

Also Present: Transportation Engineer Lassiter, Police Chief Thomas, Library Director Hall, Public Services Supervisor Ernest (*arrived at 6:00 p.m.*) and Town Clerk Brasher.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held October 12, 2015

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, seconded by Councilor Mabry, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

BOARD REPORTS

Library Board Minutes – No comments

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Report and Minutes – No comments

Planning & Zoning Board Minutes- **Mayor Pro-Tem Nebel** asked if the height of accessory structures has been discussed. **Town Clerk** Brasher said a recommendation would be coming back for accessory structures to be no higher than the home.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

TOWN BUSINESS

Discussion: Traffic Issues

Central Ave Parking Layout Engineering, MPO Update, Traffic Calming Project and Central Ave Alley

Transportation Engineer Lassiter and the **Town Council** discussed the following:

- Pavers will be used on the sidewalks and asphalt paving
- There is no loading zone on E. Central Avenue included in the design plans. The plans will need to be redone and a pedestrian ramp will need to be constructed. A lengthy discussion ensued
- Pedestrian signal on SR 19 and seek funding from FDOT
- Cost proposal for the alley and a survey will need to be done
- Traffic calming
- Continuity of parking on both sides of E. Central Avenue

- Attendance at the MPO Meetings. *It was the consensus of the Town Council for Lassiter Transportation Group not to attend the MPO Meetings unless otherwise directed to do so.*

Mayor Sears said Lassiter Transportation Group will provide an update at the November 9, 2015 Town Council Meeting.

Discussion: Proposed Personnel Policy to replace the Current Personnel Policy; Chapters I thru V

Mayor Sears have background on the proposed Personnel Policy. **Town Clerk Brasher** said she would email the “word” version out as only PDF are on the website. Discussion ensued.

It was the consensus of the Town Council to obtain the whole Personnel Policy and begin reviewing at the November 9, 2015 Town Council Meeting. This would be the only item on the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No 2015-006, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA RELATING TO THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICER’S RETIREMENT TRUST FUND; AMENDING CHAPTER 34, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ARTICLE II, POLICE OFFICERS’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS; AMENDING SECTION 34-6.1, DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 34-6.4, FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT; AMENDING SECTION 34-6.6, BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND ELIGIBILITY; AMENDING SECTION 34-6.15, MAXIMUM PENSION; ADDING SECTION 34-6.29, SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFIT COMPONENT FOR SPECIAL BENEFITS; CHAPTER 185 SHARE ACCOUNTS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Sears read by title only, Ordinance No. 2015-006.

The Public Hearing was opened. As no one wished to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

Councilor Mabry, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, moved to approve Ordinance No. 2015-006. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2015-007, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HOWEY-IN-THE-HILLS, FLORIDA PERTAINING TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE; AMENDING SECTION 127-3 OF THE TOWN’S CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE THAT EXCESSIVE OR UNTENDED GROWTH OF VEGETATION IS A NUISANCE AND IS PROHIBITED IF THE VEGETATION HEIGHT EXCEEDS 12 INCHES; AMENDING SECTION 92-8 TO ALLOW FOR RECREATIONAL FIRES IN A FIRE-PIT STYLE CONTAINER NOT TO EXCEED 35

INCHES IN DIAMETER FOR RESIDENTIAL USE AND 48 INCHES IN DIAMETER FOR COMMERCIAL USE AS LONG AS EXCESSIVE SMOKE AND A NUISANCE ARE NOT CREATED; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Sears read by title only, Ordinance No. 2015-007.

The Public Hearing was opened. As no one wished to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

Councilor Mabry, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel, moved to approve Ordinance No. 2015-007. Motion carried 4-0 with a roll call vote.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Code Enforcement/Police Department Report – Police Chief Thomas said Richard Roman has been promoted to Lt.

Finance Report – Mayor Sears thanked Finance Technician Casson for his timely finance reports.

Library Director Report – No comments

Public Services Report / Service Order Report – Public Services Supervisor Ernest said there are homes in Venezia being built without a water meter installed.

Utility Report/ Water Valve Maintenance Report – Councilor Conroy asked if Public Services is working with URE. Public Services Supervisor Ernest said they are and URE is very professional and qualified. Councilor Conroy asked if the person has been hired to back-up and replace Public Services Supervisor Ernest. Public Services Supervisor Ernest said he needs until the first of the year before he hires anyone.

Town Hall Report – Town Clerk Brasher said the part-time Utility Clerk is leaving so she is seeking the replace the positon.

Safety Committee Minutes- No comments

Fourth Quarter Council Goals – No comments

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Sears said he will be meeting with Senator Hays on November 9 to request funding for the wastewater project for Central Avenue.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel asked who put the signs up that say “No Pets Allowed” in Griffin Park. Public Services Supervisor Ernest said the signs are very unfriendly and the signs should say “Clean up after Your Dog or No Pets Allowed in the Playground Area”. A lengthy discussion ensued.

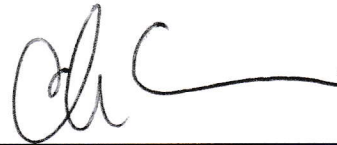
Councilor Conroy asked if anything is happening at the Howey Mansion. **Police Chief Thomas** gave an update.

Councilor Mabry asked about the time frame for filling the open Town Council seat. **Mayor Sears** said applications will be accepted until December 9th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Kilmartin congratulated Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel on his position. He also voiced his concerns on the transportation project and safety concerns. He recommended a street light be installed between Croton Way and Laurel Avenue. He offered his services to attend the MPO Meetings. **Mayor Pro-Tem David Nebel** said a resident can take notes but cannot participate in their meetings or vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.



Chris Sears, Mayor

ATTEST:



Brenda Brasher, MMC
Town Clerk